



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST



PHASE 2: BUILD UP

***Lost and Found Cat* by Doug Kuntz and Amy Shrodes**

When an Iraqi family is forced to flee their home, they can't bear to leave their beloved cat, Kunkush, behind. So they carry him with them from Iraq to Greece, keeping their secret passenger hidden away.

***I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark* by Debbie Levy**

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has spent a lifetime disagreeing: disagreeing with inequality, arguing against unfair treatment, and standing up for what's right for people everywhere. This biographical picture book about the Notorious RBG tells the justice's story through the lens of her many famous dissents, or disagreements.

***Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas* by Lynne Cox**

When a 1,000 pound elephant seal takes up residence in a coastal New Zealand city, will citizens welcome the enormous oceanic animal, or will they send her back to sea?

***Lindbergh* by Torben Kuhlmann**

A mouse must flee from the dangers of his home city in Europe. Can he create a flying machine that will carry him safely across the ocean to America?

***Pugs of the Frozen North* by Philip Reeve**

True winter comes once in a lifetime. Shea and Sika, along with 65 pugs, join zany and fierce competitors in a race to the Snowfather's palace at the top of the world for the prize of their heart's desire.

***Upside-Down Magic* by Sarah Mlynowski, Lauren Myracle & Emily Jenkins**

Nory's magic is a little... wonky. She is sent to a special class with other magical misfits. Together they must learn how to best use their "upside-down magic."

***Wet Cement* by Bob Raczka**

Did you know that poetry can have a physical shape? Check out this fun, varied collection of poems that play with words in more ways than one.

***When the Beat Was Born* by Laban Carrick Hill**

Think you know all about hip-hop? This is the story of DJ Kool Herc, one of the pioneers of hip-hop music in the 1970s South Bronx. DJ Kool Herc's story is the story of hip-hop.

***The Year of Billy Miller* by Kevin Henkes**

Billy Miller starts second grade with a spectacular bump on his head and full of worries. With the help of family, friends and a few poems, Billy ends up with a year filled with surprises and lessons learned.

***Queen of the Diamond* by Emily Arnold McCully**

A picture book biography about Lizzie Murphy, the first woman to play in a major league exhibition game and the first person to play on both the New England and American leagues' all-star teams.

***According to Humphrey Series* by Betty G. Birney**

You can learn a lot about life by observing another species. That's what Humphrey was told when he was first brought to Room 26. And boy is it true! There are always adventures in the classroom and each weekend he gets to sleep over with different students.

Flying Beaver Brothers Series by Maxwell Eaton III

Brothers Ace and Bub have the perfect life on Beaver Island. But when a group of evil penguins schemes to convert the island into a polar-themed resort, their entire way of life is threatened. Suddenly Ace and Bub are the only thing standing between their beloved island and an eco-disaster. Do they have what it takes to save the day?

Skateboard Party by Karen English

Richard can't wait to show off his skills at a friend's skateboard birthday party, but a note home from his teacher threatens to ruin his plans.

Princess Pistachio Series by Maria-Louise Gay

Pistachio has always known she was a princess. When a mysterious gift turns up on her birthday, she's sure it's only a matter of time before her real parents, the king and queen of Papua, arrive to take her away. In the meantime, though, she still has to eat her spinach and get up for school. Her friends still laugh when she wears her new gold crown to class. And her annoying baby sister insists on "Pwying pwincess," too. When Pistachio's angry wish makes Penny disappear, she will need the courage of a true princess to get her back.

Mr. Ferris and His Wheel by Kathryn Gibbs Davis

Capturing an engineer's creative vision and mind for detail, this fully illustrated picture book biography sheds light on how the American inventor George Ferris defied gravity and seemingly impossible odds to invent the world's most iconic amusement park attraction, the Ferris Wheel.

Princess in Black Series by Shannon Hale

Who says princesses don't wear black? When trouble raises its blue monster head, Princess Magnolia ditches her flouncy dresses and becomes the Princess in Black!

Shelter Pet Squad Series by Cynthia Lord

In this charming illustrated chapter book series by Newbery Honor author Cynthia Lord, the Shelter Pet Squad kids find the perfect homes for animals in need!

Mr. Pants Series by Scott McCormick

Meet Mr. Pants! It's the last day of summer, which means the last chance for fun, and he really, *really* wants to play laser tag. But his sisters have other ideas—the Fairy Princess Dream Factory? Gah! Good thing Mr. Pants knows how to get what he wants—and have a blast doing it.

Ranger in Time: Rescue on the Oregon Trail Series by Kate Messner

Meet Ranger! He's a time-traveling golden retriever who has a nose for trouble . . . and always saves the day! Ranger has been trained as a search-and-rescue dog, but can't officially pass the test because he's always getting distracted by squirrels during exercises.

Phineas L. MacGuire Gets Cooking Series by Frances O'Roark Dowell

Phineas L. MacGuire—scientist extraordinaire—has a new chore: cooking dinner every night. He may be a genius, but he knows nothing about following a recipe. A pinch? A dash? A smidge? This doesn't seem very scientific. A pound of spaghetti? Salt on brownies? Lemon in biscuits? Why, these recipes look a little funky. But he'd better learn quickly if he and his friends are going to win the \$10,000 Bake-Off prize.

One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia by Miranda Paul

Plastic bags are cheap and easy to use. But what happens when a bag breaks or is no longer needed? In Njau, Gambia, people simply dropped the bags and went on their way. Isatou Ceesay found a way to recycle the bags and transform her community. This inspirational true story shows how one person's actions really can make a difference in our world.

Quinny and Hopper by Adriana Brad Schanen

Two polar-opposite eight year olds who become summer best friends find their friendship threatened by the uncertainties of a new school year.

Winter Bees and Other Poems of the Cold by Joyce Sidman

Celebrates the animals who hibernate and survive in the cold during the winter months.

Lulu's Mysterious Mission by Judith Viorst

When Lulu's parents go on vacation, the formidable Ms. Sonia Sofia Solinsky comes to babysit and Lulu behaves as badly as possible to get her to leave until Ms. Solinsky reveals her secret.

Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth by Judd Winick

When a mysterious boy falls from the sky, friends D.J. and Gina must discover the secrets of his identity and help him save the world.

Hamster Princess Series by Ursula Vernon

Sleeping Beauty gets a feisty, furry twist in this hilarious new comic series from the creator of Dragonbreath. Harriet Hamsterbone is not your typical princess. She may be quite stunning in the rodent realm (you'll have to trust her on this one), but she is not so great at trailing around the palace looking ethereal or sighing a lot. She finds the royal life rather . . . dull. One day, though, Harriet's parents tell her of the curse that a rat placed on her at birth, dooming her to prick her finger on a hamster wheel when she's twelve and fall into a deep sleep. For Harriet, this is *most* wonderful news: It means she's invincible until she's twelve!

Who Was, What Was, Where Is Series

Who Was? series offers a detailed account of a famous figure's life. What Was? series offers a detailed account of an important historical event. Where Is? series offers a detailed account of famous locations and landmarks around the world.