



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST



### STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES K-2

***Things That Float and Things That Don't* by David A. Adler**

An apple floats in a tub of water, but a ball of aluminum foil sinks to the bottom. But wait. If that same ball of foil is flattened out and shaped into a boat, it floats! How can that be? *Nonfiction; Lexile 600*

***Slow Down for Manatees* by Jim Arnosky**

Injured by a passing motorboat, a pregnant manatee is rescued and taken to an aquarium to recover and have her baby in a safe environment. *Picture Book; Lexile 860*

***Ten, Nine, Eight* by Molly Bang**

Numbers from ten to one are part of this lullaby which observes the room of a little girl going to bed. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 550L*

***Oh No!, or How My Science Project Destroyed the World* by Mac Barnett**

After winning the science fair with the giant robot she has built, a little girl realizes that there is a major problem. *Graphic Novel*

***Easy as Pie* by Cari Best**

Jacob watches his favorite television show, "Baking with Chef Monty" and bakes a beautiful peach pie, which he gives to his parents for their anniversary. *Picture Book*

***Scooter in the Outside* by Anne Bowen, illustrated by Abby Carter**

Every day when Lucy takes Scooter for a walk he hopes to go around the corner to see what is there, but when he finally gets his chance to explore on his own, he learns that he is not ready to go there alone. *Picture Book; Lexile 330L*

***The Mitten* by Jan Brett**

One by one, animals in a snowy forest crawl into Nicki's lost white mitten to get warm until the bear sneezes, sending the animals flying up and out of the mitten. On each turn of the page, signature borders inspired by Ukrainian folk art hint at what animal is coming next. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 840L*

***Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown**

Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 360*

***Just Being Audrey* by Margaret Cardillo, illustrated by Julia Denos**

Short biography of actress Audrey Hepburn. *Biography; Lexile 740*

***Too Busy Marco* by Roz Chast**

Marco the bird does not want to take the time to prepare for bedtime because there are so many more important things for him to do. *Picture Book; Lexile 290L*

***I Face the Wind* by Vicki Cobb**

Introduces the characteristics and actions of the wind through simple hands-on activities. *Nonfiction; Lexile 540*

***I Took a Walk* by Henry Cole**

A visit to woods, pasture, and pond brings encounters with various birds, insects, and other creatures of nature. Flaps fold out to reveal the animals on each two-page spread. *Picture Book; Lexile 190L*

***Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin**

A young worm discovers, day by day, that there are some very good and some not so good things about being a worm in this great big world. *Picture Book; Lexile 360*

***The Voyage of Turtle Rex* by Kurt Cyrus**

Follows the life of a giant prehistoric sea turtle. *Picture Book; Lexile 580*

***Just Ducks!* by Nicola Davies**

On her way to school, a young girl spots mallard ducks in the river and enthusiastically describes their appearance, habits, and behavior. Interspersed throughout the pages are facts about ducks. *Picture Book; Lexile 940*

**Stinky by Eleanor Davis**

Stinky, a monster who lives in a swamp, gets upset when a boy named Nick starts hanging around his swamp, so he tries to scare Nick away. *Graphic Novel; Lexile 170*

**The Obstinate Pen by Frank W. Dormer**

Uncle Flood is very pleased with his new pen until he tries to write with it and finds that it writes only what it wants to for him, and the series of people who try it after him, until finally his nephew Horace tries something new. *Picture Book*

**Energy Island How One Community Harnessed the Wind and Changed Their World by Allan Drummond**

It's windy on the Danish island of Samsø. Meet the environmentally friendly folks who, in a few short years, worked together for energy independence, and who now proudly call their home Energy Island. *Nonfiction; Lexile 920*

**Ready for Pumpkins by Kate Duke**

A classroom guinea pig learns about gardening by growing his own pumpkin. *Picture Book*

**Waiting for Wings by Lois Ehlert**

Simple text and bright pictures show how butterflies use flowers and identify several types of butterflies. *Nonfiction; Lexile 160L*

**In the Sea by David Elliott**

A collection of poems for children featuring woodcut illustrations and rhyming text from David Elliot on the characteristics and behaviors of sea horses, sharks, urchins, whales, and other sea creatures. *Poetry*

**Underground by Shane Evans**

A family silently crawls along the ground. They run barefoot through unlit woods, sleep beneath bushes, take shelter in a kind stranger's home. Where are they heading? They are heading for Freedom by way of the Underground Railroad. *Nonfiction*

**Muncha! Muncha! Muncha! by Candace Fleming**

After planting the garden he has dreamed of for years, Mr. McGreely tries to find a way to keep some persistent bunnies from eating all his vegetables. *Picture Book; Lexile 560*

**Oh, No! by Candace Fleming**

A series of animals falls into a deep hole, only to be saved at last by a very large rescuer. *Picture Book*

**Papa's Mechanical Fish by Candace Fleming**

In the summer of 1851, with encouragement and ideas provided by his family, an inventor builds a working submarine and takes his family for a ride. Includes notes about Lodner Phillipis, the real inventor on whom the story is based. *Picture Book; Lexile 480*

**In the Small, Small Pond by Denise Fleming**

Illustrations and rhyming text describe the activities of animals living in and near a small pond as spring progresses to autumn. *Picture Book*

**Underground by Denise Fleming**

Pulp paintings and rhyming text spotlight the underground world of burrowing, tunneling, and digging animals. Includes "Creature Identification" page. *Picture Book; Lexile BR*

**Blue Chicken by Deborah Freedman**

An enterprising chicken attempts to help an artist paint the barnyard and accidentally turns the whole picture blue. *Picture Book; Lexile 270*

**Yucky Worms by Vivian French**

While helping Grandma in the garden, a child learns about the important role of the earthworm in helping plants grow. *Picture Book; Lexile 620*

**Clay Boy by Mirra Ginsburg**

Wanting a son, an old man and woman make a clay boy who comes to life and begins eating everything in sight until he meets a clever goat. *Fiction; Lexile 320*

**Cows to the Rescue by John Himmelman**

After helping the Greenstalk family get to the county fair, the cows busy themselves finding solutions to many other problems that arise during the day. *Picture Book; Lexile 510*

**The Forget-Me-Nots Poems to Learn by Heart selected by Mary Ann Hoberman**

A collection of more than 120 poems for children to learn, including selections from classic and contemporary poets, with tips and tricks from former Children's Poet Laureate Mary Ann Hoberman on memorization and recitation. *Poetry*

**Spike, the Mixed-Up Monster by Susan Hood**

While Spike, a tiny axolotl salamander, practices being the monster he believes he is, other animals call him cute and funny but when a gila monster arrives and the other creatures hide, Spike shows his true nature. *Picture Book*

***The Tooth Mouse* by Susan Hood**

Introduces readers to the Tooth Mouse, France's version of the tooth fairy, and to Sophie, a sweet young mouse who must prove she is brave, honest, and wise enough to take over this important job. *Picture Book; Lexile 530*

***Rocks in His Head* by Carol Otis Hurst**

A young man has a lifetime love of rock collecting that eventually leads him to work at a science museum. *Picture Book; Lexile 440*

***Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson**

Harold goes for an adventurous walk in the moonlight with his purple crayon. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 490*

***Pinkalicious* by Victoria Kann**

A little girl who is obsessed with the color pink eats so many pink cupcakes that she herself turns pink. *Picture Book*

***The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats**

The adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 500*

***Miranda's Beach Day* by Holly Keller**

Miranda and Mama spend a fun day at the beach building castles and catching sand crabs, and Miranda learns that just like the sand and the sea, she and her mother will always be together. *Picture Book*

***Moustronaut Goes to Mars* by Mark Kelly**

A small but plucky mouse named Mike is sure that he can help the Space Shuttle astronauts, and ends up saving the whole mission. Includes facts about NASA and space travel. *Picture Book*

***The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss**

Despite everyone's dire predictions, a little boy has faith in the carrot seed he plants. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 230*

***Water Hole Waiting* by Jane Kurtz**

A thirsty monkey waits as the larger animals drink from the water hole on the African savanna. *Picture Book; Lexile 280*

***The Poky Little Puppy* by Janette Sebring Lowrey**

One night a puppy, who is always late coming home, finds there is no dessert for him. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 640*

***Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin**

An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 530*

***Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin**

A biography of a self-taught scientist who photographed thousands of individual snowflakes in order to study their unique formations. *Biography; Lexile 830*

***Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey**

Mr. and Mrs. Mallard proudly return to their home in the Boston Public Garden with their eight offspring. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 630*

***I'm Dirty!* by Kate McMullan**

A busy backhoe loader describes all the items it hauls off a lot and all the fun it has getting dirty while doing so. *Picture Book*

***Pearl and Wagner Two Good Friends* by Kate McMullan**

Pearl and Wagner, a rabbit and a mouse, work together to build a robot for their science project. *Beginning Reader; Lexile 340*

***See Me Dig* by Paul Meisel**

A group of dogs that loves to dig has a fun-filled day of making mischief, in this easy-to-read story. *Picture Book*

***Over and Under the Snow* by Kate Messner**

During a cross country ski trip through the winter woods, adventurers can discover all sorts of animals living under the snow. *Nonfiction; Lexile 700*

***Pluto Visits Earth!* by Steve Metzger**

Angry at being downgraded to a dwarf planet by Earth scientists, Pluto travels through the solar system, asking other planets along the way for support, in hopes of regaining his planetary status. *Picture Book; Lexile 380*

***Subway Ride* by Heather Lynn Miller**

Follows five children as they ride subways in ten cities throughout the world. *Nonfiction*

***Planting the Trees of Kenya The Story of Wangari Maathai* by Claire A. Nivola**

Tells the remarkable story of one woman's effort to change the fate of her land by teaching many to care for it. An author's note provides further information about Wangari Maathai and the Green Belt Movement. *Biography*

**11 Experiments That Failed by Jenny Offil**

A young child tries a series of wacky experiments, such as seeing if a piece of bologna will fly like a Frisbee and determining whether seedlings will grow if watered with expensive perfume, and then must suffer the consequences of experiments gone awry. *Picture Book*

**Goldie and the Three Hares by Margie Palatini**

When Goldilocks, running from the three bears, falls down a rabbit hole and hurts her foot, a family of hares tries to help but she proves to be a very loud, demanding, and tenacious guest. *Picture Book; Lexile 610*

**The Digging-est Dog by Al Perkins**

Scorned by his new dog friends because he never learned to dig, Sam suddenly discovers his inherent dog talent and turns the countryside into a series of ruts and holes. *Beginning Reader; Lexile 340*

**Think Cool Thoughts by Elizabeth Perry, illustrated by Linda Bronson**

On the hottest night of the hottest part of a very hot summer, Angel, her aunt, and mother drag their mattress to the rooftop to sleep and hope for cooler weather. *Picture Book*

**Seed, Soil, Sun Earth's Recipe for Food by Cris Peterson**

Follows a corn plant from tiny seed to giant plant in an explanation of how air and water combine with seed, soil, and sun to grow food. *Nonfiction; Lexile 1050*

**The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper**

Although she is not very big, the Little Blue Engine agrees to try to pull a stranded train full of toys over the mountain. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 680*

**The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter**

Adventurous Peter Rabbit disobeys his mother and wanders into Mr. McGregor's garden. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 660*

**Robot, Go Bot! A Comic Reader by Dana Meachen Rau**

A young girl makes so many demands on the robot she has constructed that he runs away. *Beginning Reader*

**Mud by Mary Lyn Ray**

As winter melts into spring, the frozen earth turns into magnificent mud. *Picture Book; Lexile 320*

**Creepy Carrots! by Aaron Reynolds**

The carrots that grow in Crackenhopper Field are the fattest and crispiest around and Jasper Rabbit cannot resist pulling some to eat each time he passes by, until he begins hearing and seeing creepy carrots wherever he goes. *Picture Book*

**Seeds by Ken Robbins**

From flowers to fruits, everything begins with a tiny seed. Young readers will learn how seeds grow, and how they vary in shape, size, and dispersal patterns. From cherry pits to exploding pods, to sticktight seeds that cling to your shoes, acclaimed photographer and author Ken Robbins illuminates how wondrous nature springs up throughout the year before our very eyes. *Nonfiction*

**A Leaf Can Be... by Laura Purdie Salas**

In rhyming text and illustrations, explores some of the many things a leaf can be, from tree topper to rain stopper. Includes facts about leaves and a glossary. *Picture Book; Lexile 170*

**Eat Like a Bear by April Pulley Sayre**

Follows a bear from the time she emerges from her den in April after four months without food, through months of eating fish, ants, and huckleberries, to midwinter when the arrival of two cubs interrupts her long winter's rest. Includes facts about brown (grizzly) bears of the Yellowstone National Park/Glacier National Park region. *Picture Book*

**Where Do Diggers Sleep at Night? by Brianna Caplan Sayres**

Illustrations and rhyming text reveal what trucks, tractors, and construction vehicles do to get ready for bed after a hard day's work. *Picture Book*

**Lifetime The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives by Lola M. Schaefer**

An evocative counting primer combines contrasting illustrations with engaging animal facts that invite young children to count a woodpecker's 30 roosting holes, a giraffe's 200 spots and 1,000 baby seahorses. *Nonfiction; Lexile 860*

**Robot Zot! by Jon Scieszka**

On a mission to conquer planet Earth, tiny but fearless Robot Zot and his mechanical sidekick leave a path of destruction as they battle kitchen appliances. *Picture Book; Lexile 390*

**Barnum Brown Dinosaur Hunter by David Sheldon**

The story of a young boy who wanted to grow up a dinosaur hunter and how he built an amazing dinosaur collection for the American Museum of Natural History. *Biography; Lexile 1060*

**Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak**

A naughty little boy, sent to bed without his supper, sails to the land of the wild things where he becomes their king. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 740*

**Swirl by Swirl Spirals in Nature by Joyce Sidman**

Celebrates the shape of a spiral in nature, from rushing rivers to flower buds and even the shape of an ear. *Poetry; Lexile 330*

**Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina**

A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler’s caps while he takes a nap under a tree. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 480*

**Grandpa Green by Lane Smith**

A child explores the ordinary life of his extraordinary great-grandfather, as expressed in his topiary garden. *Picture Book; Lexile 360*

**When No One is Watching by Eileen Spinelli, illustrated by David Johnson**

When alone, a young girl enjoys dancing, singing, growling, and cheering but when anyone other than her best friend is watching, she is quiet and shy. *Picture Book*

**The Great Fuzz Frenzy by Janet Stevens**

When a tennis ball lands in a prairie dog town, the residents find that their newfound frenzy for fuzz creates a fiasco. *Picture Book; Lexile 420*

**Tops & Bottoms by Janet Stevens**

Hare turns his bad luck around by striking a clever deal with the rich and lazy bear down the road. *Fiction; Lexile 580*

**Who Says Women Can’t Be Doctors? The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell by Tanya Lee Stone**

An introduction to the life and achievements of the first American female doctor describes the limited career prospects available to women in the early nineteenth-century, the opposition Blackwell faced while pursuing a medical education, and pioneering medical career that opened doors for future generations of women. *Biography*

**Demolition by Sally Sutton**

This picture book follows the demolition of a building as well as the construction of something entirely different in its place. *Picture Book*

**Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst**

On a day when everything goes wrong for him, Alexander is consoled by the thought that other people have bad days too. *Favorites & Classics; Lexile 970*

**Rocks! Rocks! Rocks! by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace**

Buddy likes looking at and collecting rocks, Mama suggests they visit the local nature center. They hike the Blue Diamond Trail to five rock stops. They meet Roxie, a Rock Ridge Ranger. Buddy learns lots about bedrock, erosion, and how rocks are formed. He finds out many surprising things about rocks. *Picture Book*

**June 29, 1999 by David Wiesner**

While her third-grade classmates are sprouting seeds in paper cups, Becky has a more ambitious, innovative science project in mind. *Picture Book; Lexile 750*

**Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson**

On a cold winter night many animals gather to party in the cave of a sleeping bear, who then awakes and protests that he has missed the food and the fun. *Picture Book*

**Construction Zone by Cheryl Hudson Willis**

Simple text and colorful photographs describe the excitement of a busy construction site. *Nonfiction; Lexile 790*

**Harry the Dirty Dog by Gene Zion**

When a white dog with black spots runs away from home, he gets so dirty his family doesn’t recognize him as a black dog with white spots. *Beginning Reader; Lexile 370*

**Favorite Authors**

Byron Barton	Margaret Wise Brown	Anthony Browne
Eric Carle	Donald Crews	Tomie de Paola
P. D. Eastman	Ed Emberley	Mem Fox
Ezra Jack Keats	Jon Klassen	James Marshall
Robert McCloskey	Jon Muth	Jerry Pinkney
Peggy Rathmann	Dr. Seuss	Maurice Sendak
David Shannon	Williams Steig	David Wiesner
Mo Willems	Karma Wilson	Jacqueline Woodson