



Books & Authors for Summer Reading
Second into Third Grade – Summer 2015
Middletown Public Schools



Reminder to Parents and Guardians
This is only a list of *suggested* titles.
Your children may select others books
of interest **with your approval.**

Second into Third Grade

Fiction

Arthur Chapter Books Series: Marc Brown (Level L) - Your favorite childhood character is all grown up and in third grade! Follow the adventures of Arthur and his gang as they face third grade head on!

Cam Jansen Series: David Adler (Level M/O) - Cam has been a beloved mystery maven of young readers for many years - solving crimes with the help of her best friend, Eric Shelton, and her amazing photographic memory.

Cork and Fuzz Series: Dori Chaconas (Level J) - Cork is a muskrat. Fuzz is a possum. From their first meeting in a hollow log to playing pin-the-tail-on-the-turtle, from collecting rocks to dodging falling pinecones, Cork and Fuzz are always up to something unusual.

Horrible Harry Series: Suzy Kline (Level N) Based on a third grader named Harry, his misadventures are told through the words of his best friend, Doug. Harry's and Doug's friends are Sidney, Song Lee, Mary, Ida, and Dexter.

Madeline: Ludwig Bemelmans (Level J) - The stories take place in a boarding school in Paris. The various books follow Madeline and her classmates in their unique experience of living without parents at school.

Mr. Putter and Tabby Series: (Level J) Cynthia Rylant - Meet Mr. Putter and Tabby, a kind, elderly man and his orange, arthritic cat. They are an unlikely pair with an inseparable bond. They live next door to spunky, gray-haired Mrs. Teaberry and her good bulldog, Zeke.

Pinky and Rex Series: James Howe (Level L) Close neighbors and best friends, Pinky and Rex have been delighting newly independent readers and defying conventional gender stereotypes ever since their first adventure appeared in 1990. Pinky is a boy who loves to collect stuffed animals and whose favorite color is pink. Rex is a sports-crazy girl who is passionate about dinosaurs.

Polk Street School Series: Patricia Riley Giff (Level M) The series details the lives of the students in Mrs. Rooney's Second Grade. Enjoy reading about "Beast", Emily Arrow, and Dawn Bosco.

Aunt Chip and the Triple Creek Dam Affair : Patricia Polacco c1996 (Level N) Ever since the invasion of television, no one can remember how to read.

Ready Freddy Series: (Level J-L) Written by Abby Klein, a teacher and parent, the READY, FREDDY! Chapter book series captures all of the humor, drama, and excitement that kids will recognize from their own lives. In addition to the main story, each book includes puzzle pages and shark tips (since his last name is just like the thresher shark's, Freddy is an expert). Freddy's adventures will have kids laughing, learning, and talking about their own experiences in and out of the classroom.

Sport Stories Series: Matt Christopher (Level M) From soccer, to football, to skateboarding, Matt Christopher's sports stories are fast paced, and action packed sports novels.

Pee Wee Scouts Series: Judy Delton (Level M) - Follow the Members of Troop #23 in their scouting adventures.

Flat Stanley Series (Level N) Follow Flat Stanley in his travels around the world and learn how his unique flat shape allows to him to enjoy wild worldwide adventures.

Magic Tree House Series (Level M) Jack and Annie travel through time and space using literature to help solve historical mysteries.

Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa Series: Silverman (Level J) Two new wranglers have hit the ranch. Read how the west will never be the same again!

Nate the Great Series: Sharmat *mystery* (Level K) Solve each mystery alongside the most popular sleuth in the business.

Ruby's Wish: Bridges (Level M) c2002 *historical fiction, ethnic diversity* - During the 1800s in China, when few girls learn to read and write, Ruby fervently desires to attend university with all the males in her family.

Bones Series: Adler (Level J) series *mystery* - Everyone needs bones. Detective Jeffrey Bones that is. With his bag of detective tools in hand, read how Jeffrey can solve any mystery.

One Green Apple: Eve Bunting (Level K) c2006 *historical fiction, ethnic diversity* Farah is new to the U.S. and her class. She feels alone until she goes on a field trip and realizes things are alike everywhere. a warm welcome from the grown lion.

Math is CATegorical Series: Cleary series *stories in rhyme, mathematics* Mathematical functions are explained in rhyming text and simple, silly cartoons.

Diary of a Fly: Cronin c2007 (Level J) *animal fiction* A young fly discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being an insect, including the dangers of flyswatters and that heroes come in all shapes and sizes.

Adventures of the Bailey School Kids Series: Dadey (Level K) *fiction* - There are some pretty weird grown-ups living in Bailey City.

One Potato, Two Potato: DeFelice c2006 *fairy tale* (Level O) - A very poor, humble couple live so simple a life they share everything, until the husband discovers a pot with magical powers buried under the very last potato in the garden.

Mercy Watson: DiCamillo (Level L) series *animal, fantasy, humor* - Welcome to the wry and endearing world of Mercy Watson, the beloved "pig wonder" of the Watson household.

Dirt On My Shirt: Jeff Foxworthy (Level L) c2008 *poetry* - Comedian Jeff Foxworthy presents more than thirty illustrated poems for children on such topics as friends, bugs, family members, and pretending.

Babymouse Series: Holms (Level K) c2005 *graphic novels, comic books friendship, imagination* - An imaginative mouse learns life lessons while living her life.

Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall, Thin Tale (Introducing His Forgotten Frontier Friend): Hopkins (Level N) c2008 *historical fiction* - In Knob Creek, Kentucky, in 1816, seven-year-old Abe Lincoln falls into a creek and is rescued by his best friend.

Just Like Josh Gibson: Johnson c2007 (Level K) *sports fiction, historical fiction* - A grandmother recounts the story of the day she was allowed to play in a baseball game, even though she was a girl.

Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff: Kerrin (Level 30) c2005 *fiction* - Martin means well, but his ideas don't always turn out as expected. In three stand-alone chapters, Martin deals with issues at home and school.

Marvin Redpost Series: Sachar (Level J-M) series *fiction* - Marvin Redpost encounters hilarious problems with school, family and friends.

The Geronimo Stilton Series: Stilton (Level O) series *mice, fantasy, mystery* - Geronimo Stilton is a mouse newspaper editor and journalist who travels the world to chase important interviews but winds up in the middle of adventures that involve solving intriguing mysteries.

Mailing May: Tunnell c1997 *historical fiction* - Five-year-old May wishes to visit her grandmother, but the train is too expensive. May's father and cousin concoct a clever means of sending the child after all.

Only Emma: Warner c2005 *fiction* (Level M) - Emma's mother loses her job, so Emma becomes the new kid in the school and neighborhood. An only child, Emma's life changes when a four year old comes for a visit.

Jake Drake: Andrew Clements (Level L- N) Jake may not be the biggest kid in his class, but he has big ideas, which he shares with readers in his "self-published memoirs" that show his metamorphosis from first-grade runt to super cool fourth grader.

I Survived Series: Lauren Tarshis (Level N-O) Each book in the series tells a terrifying and thrilling story from history, through the eyes of a boy who lived to tell the tale.

Judy Moody Series: Megan McDonald (Level M) The Judy Moody series follows the humorous adventures of a third-grader both in school and at home with her crazy family.

Stink Moody Series: Megan McDonald (Level K-L) Judy Moody's little brother is now the star of his own series.

Ivy & Bean Series: Annie Barrows (Level L) Ivy (a quiet, intellectual child) and Bean (a rambunctious child) become fast friends despite their differences and their initial reluctance to like each other -- "two friends who never meant to like each other", as the tagline for the series goes. They are both 8 years old, and live on a cul-de-sac in a suburban environment on Pancake Court, in an unnamed town. After they chanced into becoming friends, they get into considerable mischief in each volume.

Non-fiction

Aliens are Coming! by Meghan McCarthy

The Bravest Cat: The True Story of Scarlett, by Laura Driscoll

Bugs for Lunch, by Margery Facklam

Five True Dog/Horse Stories, by Margaret Davidson

Frogs, by Laura Driscoll

Killer Whales, by Seymour Simon (Level K)

Incredible Sharks, by Seymour Simon

Reptiles, by Roger Priddy

Super Storms, by Seymour Simon (Level L)

Abe Lincoln's Hat, by Martha Brenner (Level L)

Don't Know Much About the Presidents, by Kenneth C. David (Level O)

Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs! by Kathleen V. Kolinsky - A look at the mistakes that have plagued humans' understanding of dinosaurs.

Nic Bishop Spiders, by Nic Bishop - Close-up photos and quirky facts about spiders

Penguins, by Penelope Arlon - How penguins eat, sleep, talk, walk and swim, including a digital companion book.

Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau, by Jennifer Berne - A tribute to the oceanographer and champion of the seas Jacques Cousteau

Neo Leo: The Ageless Ideas of Leonardo da Vinci, by Gene Barretta – Learn about modern inventions, including helicopters, first conceived by da Vinci.

Vote!, by Eileen Christelow - Using a town's mayoral election as a model, this introduction to voting covers every step in the process

Mummies, Pyramids, and Pharaohs, by Gail Gibbons - A visit back in time to one of the world's oldest civilizations

The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story of Balt , by Natelie Standiford

Lemonade for Sal , by Stuart J Murphy

There is No Place Like Space; All About Our Solar System, by Tish Rabe

Other Suggested Authors

Fiction

- Joanna Cole
- Tomie DePaola
- Kevin Henkes
- Patricia Polacco
- Jerry Spinelli
- William Steig
- Vera Williams
- Steven Kellogg
- Jane Yolen
- Chris Van Allsburg
- Barbara Cooney
- Robert McCloskey

Non-fiction Authors & Series

- Andrew Clements (Pets to the Rescue Series)
- Joanna Cole
- Discovery for Kids
- National Geographic for Kids
- Rookie Biographies
- Gail Gibbons
- Joy Cowley
- Brian P. Cleary
- Stuart J. Murphy