

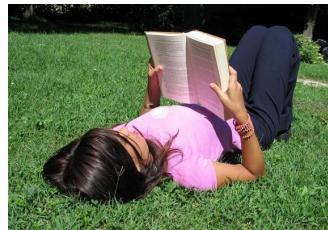
Summer Reading Ideas from the MTPS Libraries: K-8th Grade

These books are **SUGGESTED** by the Moorestown Township Public School librarians.

MTPS does not have required summer reading lists; these are just some suggestions to get you started. Please feel free to help your student select titles that catch his or her interest.

Here are some tips for parents to help your elementary school reader:

- Let your student read to you some nights, or alternate pages: you read a page, they read a page.
- Please remember that even when your children read successfully on their own, they still like to curl up next to you and hear a great story.
- Make it a treat to read in bed. Go to bed early some nights and have a reading marathon. Break the 'rules' some nights and read after lights out. Provide a little reading light that can be smuggled under the covers.
- Pitch a tent in your living room on rainy days. Have a reading 'camp-in' complete with popcorn.
- Let your children see you reading. They will do as you do. Have books all over the house, including the bathrooms. :)
- Limit summer TV viewing and "screen time" in general.
- Have rainy day read-ins.
- Help your child create a library in his/her room.
- Join the summer reading program at the public library.
- A magazine subscription is an excellent gift. Your child will be excited to get mail.
- Read a chapter book together. Finish each evening at a cliff-hanging spot in the book. Read above your child's reading level; listening level is higher than reading level.
- Get books on CD to listen to on long car trips.
- Read books to plan a vacation or summer excursion.
- Don't forget to read non-fiction. Pick books to satisfy your and your child's interests.
- Make sure to mix in some fabulous picture books for your summer reading. You can have wonderful, meaningful conversations about picture books that aren't possible to have with beginning chapter books.



MTPS Summer Reading List for Rising K-2

SERIES

Elephant and Piggie by Mo Willems

Two best friends have 25 zany adventures.

Bad Kitty by Nick Bruel

Sassy kitty takes a bath, meets family, and causes all sorts of mischief.

Mr. Putter and Tabby by Cynthia Rylant

A cat and his owner have many fun adventures with a neighbor and her dog, Zeke.

Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin

Great pictures and words you can read/sing

Heidi Heckelbeck by Wanda Coven

An eight-year-old with magical powers!

Mercy Watson by Kate DiCamillo

Fun with a pig and her human family

The Princess in Black by Shannon Hale

When trouble strikes, Princess Magnolia is there to defeat it!

Black Lagoon by Mike Thaler

Laugh with creatures from the Black Lagoon.

Ling and Ting by Grace Lin

Early reader series starring twins

Diary of a... by Doreen Cronin

The hysterical adventures of a worm, a spider, and a fly told in diary form

Captain Awesome by Stan Kirby

Second graders act as superheroes.

Nikki and Deja by Karen English

The adventures of two best friends

FICTION

This is Not My Hat by Jon Klassen

A fish steals a hat. Does he keep it?

Mr. Tiger Goes Wild by Peter Brown

Mr. Tiger stops being proper and goes wild.

Zen Shorts by Jon J. Muth

A bear tells three stories with messages.

Goldilocks and Just One Bear by Leigh Hodgkinson

A sequel to the old favorite

The Stinky Cheese Man by Jon Scieszka

Familiar fairy tales told with a new twist

You Read to Me, I'll Read to You by Mary Ann Hoberman and Ed Emberley

Fairy tales to read with a partner

Are We There Yet? By Dan Santat

A boy on a long car trip goes back in time.

Finding Winnie by Lindsay Mattick

The story behind the Winnie-the-Pooh story

Interrupting Chicken by David Stein

Bedtime at the Chicken household

The Book with No Pictures by BJ Novak

Hilarious book to read over and over...

7 ate 9: The Untold Story by Tara Sagan

Solve the case!

Assorted titles written/illustrated by

Jerry Pinkney

Peter Brown

Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Kevin Henkes

Laurence Anholt

NON-FICTION

Prehistoric Actual Size by Steve Jenkins

Prehistoric creatures depicted life-sized with many foldouts and facts

Becoming Babe Ruth By Matt Tavares

Picture book biography of "The Babe"

The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps by Jeanette Winter

A picture book biography

Flying Frogs and Walking Fish by Steve Jenkins

Surprising ways that animals move

Jackie Robinson: American Hero by Sharon Robinson

Sharon Robinson's biography of dad

Creature Feature by Steve Jenkins

25 animals explain their looks.

The Hole Story of the Doughnut by Pat Mueller

The amazing life of the inventor of the doughnut

Nic Bishop Snakes by Nic Bishop

Great pictures and facts galore

National Geographic Readers

Magnificent pictures , interesting text

Giant Squid by Candace Fleming

Probe the mystery of life underwater.

We March By Shane W. Evans

The story of Dr. King's historic speech

Muhammed Ali: A Champion is Born

Biography by Gene Barrett

MTPS Summer Reading List for Rising 2-3

PICTURE BOOKS

***This is a Moose*, Richard T. Morris**

Action-packed and hilarious, this book reminds us to dream big!

***Each Kindness*, Jacqueline Woodson**

"Each kindness -- done and not done..." A deeply affecting book about the power of small actions, and inaction

***Mesmerized: how Ben Franklin solved a mystery that baffled all of France*, Mara Rockliff**

The true story of Benjamin Franklin's involvement in the early development of the scientific method

***Ten rules you absolutely must not break if you want to survive the school bus*, John Grandits**

"Seasoned bus riders, and anyone who has been misguided by an older sibling's advice, will certainly enjoy this outrageously humorous, well-told story." (SLJ)

***Little Dog Lost*, Monica Carnesi**

This true story made international news in 2010 when Baltic was rescued from the icy sea near Poland. Perfect as a read-aloud for younger children, satisfying for new readers.

***The Three Ninja Pigs*, Corey Rosen Schwartz**

All ages will appreciate this twist on "The Three Little Pigs," a rhyming martial-arts version.

***Scaredy Squirrel series*, Mélanie Watt**

Scaredy Squirrel is afraid of so many things, but he manages to have adventure through bravery or accident. Silly, witty, poignant fun!

***Look at That Building!* Scot Ritchie**

Five friends set out to build a doghouse and do it right. Budding engineers and architects may be inspired to start their own building project!

SERIES

***Binky*, Ashley Spiers**

"Perfect for kids who are transitioning from easy readers to early chapter books, while the dry humor will also keep stronger readers engaged." (Booklist)

***Nate the Great*, Marjorie Sharmat**

Young detectives have been enjoying this series for over thirty years, and it's still going strong. Many second-graders will find this to be just right for growing those reading muscles!

***Katie Woo*, Fran Manushkin**

Spunky, sassy, stylin' Katie deals with family, life, and growing up in these beginning chapter books perfect for newly independent readers.

***Clementine*, Sara Pennypacker**

Third-grader Clementine is a funny, lovable character whose perspective and experiences are very realistic. A quality series that is wonderful for reading aloud or for children who are ready for chapter books.

***My Weird School (also My Weirder School, My Weird School Daze, etc.)*, Dan Gutman**

This entertaining series about 2nd and 3rd grade has dozens of selections, due to popular demand! The narrator may claim to hate school, but plenty of young readers sure love to read about it.

***Pinky and Rex*, James Howe**

"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." (ABDO Publishers)

***Violet Mackerel*, Anna Branford**

Early-chapter book series featuring a charming, upbeat heroine who thinks outside the box.

BIOGRAPHY

***Barnum's Bones*, Tracey Fern**

This highly-acclaimed book about the eccentric fossil-hunting professor who brought us *T. rex* is a captivating read!

***Life in the Ocean: the Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle*, Claire Nivola**

This picture book biography draws the reader into an ocean world with quotes and insight from South Jersey native, celebrity marine biologist Sylvia Earle.

***Looking at Lincoln*, Maira Kalman**

A quick, intimate biography that's full of appealing illustrations and details, such as the President's dog and favorite cake.

***Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine*, Laurie Wallmark**

Did you know that the very first computer program was written by the daughter of a famous poet?

***Margaret and the Moon*, Dean Robbins**

A mathematician's computer code helped put a man on the moon!

***She Persisted*, Chelsea Clinton**

"Profiles the lives of thirteen American women who have left their mark on U.S. history..."--OCLC.

***Ordinary People Change the World*, Brad Meltzer**

"Lively, fun biography series"

MTPS Summer Reading List for Rising 3-4

NON-FICTION

The Case of the Vanishing Honeybees-Sandra Markle- Examines why the honeybee population is decreasing and discusses how scientists and beekeepers are working to answer this question.

A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin-Jennifer Bryant-A self-taught painter from humble beginnings was, despite many obstacles, ultimately able to do what he loved, and be recognized for who he was as an artist.

Locomotive-Brian Floca- This Caldecott Medal winner details what the first passengers experienced as they traveled West on the transcontinental railroad in the summer of 1869.

Never Smile at a Monkey-Steve Jenkins- Presents an illustrated discussion of what not to do around various dangerous animals, with warnings about petting a platypus, touching a tang fish, or pulling a python's tail.

Miss Paul and the President-Dean Robbins-Cheerfully illustrated story tells of [local girl!] Alice Paul's struggle to win the support of President Woodrow Wilson and gain women the right to vote. Grit, perseverance, and triumph!

The Music of Life-Elizabeth Rusch-All around the world, people can play the most intricate music of their lives, thanks to Bartolomeo Cristofori's marvelous creation: the piano.

CHAPTER BOOKS

The Year of Billy Miller-Kevin Henkes- Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and a lot of worries, but by the end of the year he has developed good relationships with his teacher, his little sister, and his parents and learned many important lessons.

Sadie & Ratz-Sonya Hartnett- Hannah and her hands, named Sadie and Ratz, regularly get into trouble, especially when younger brother Baby Boy is around.

Frindle-Andrew Clements- When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control. (slightly more challenging)

Tua and the Elephant-R.P. Harris- In Chiang Mai, Thailand, nine-year-old Tua releases an abused elephant from its chains--can she complete the rescue by getting it to an elephant refuge without being caught herself?

Alvin Ho: allergic to girls, school and other scary things-Lenore Look- A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.

The Gold-Threaded Dress-Carolyn Marsden- When Oy and her Thai American family move to a new neighborhood, her third-grade classmates tease and exclude her because she is different.

Earwig and the Witch-Diana Wynne Jones- Earwig enjoys life at St. Morwald's, where she manages to make everyone do her bidding, until she is taken in by foster parents--who are actually a witch and a demon--and struggles to turn the situation to her advantage.

Akimbo and the Snakes-Alexander McCall Smith- Akimbo goes to the snake park with his Uncle Peter and has an adventure with a deadly green mamba snake. (Series)

My Haunted House-Araminta Spookie-Angie Sage- Araminta Spookie lives in a wonderful old haunted house, but her crabby aunt Tabby wants to move. Aunt Tabby is determined to sell their house—Araminta has to stop her! (slightly more challenging)

SERIES

Who Is --?/What Was --?/Where Is --? "Exciting, illustrated series perfect for children who are beyond easy-to-read books, but not quite ready for thick, long" nonfiction. (Follett)

MTPS Summer Reading List for Rising 4-6

the UES

Summer Scoop



served to you by Mrs. Herb

Happy Summer! Continuing to read over the summer is important to keep up your reading skills, and it's just plain fun.

My best advice to you is to read what you are interested in! But, if you would like some ideas, here are a few of my favorites to get you started. (Remember, they are just suggestions, they are NOT required reading!)

***Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* by Laura Atkins**

When the U.S. government was requiring people of Japanese ancestry to move to internment camps during WWII, one boy refused to go. "This story of Fred Korematsu's fight against discrimination takes us through the life of one courageous person who made the United States a fairer place for all Americans." (back cover)

***Revolution* by Deborah Wiles**

Sunny and her brother sneak into the local pool, and their lives are forever changed when they are caught. With actual song lyrics, newspaper clippings, and photos, Sunny's fictional story comes to life.

***Star Wars: Jedi Academy* by Jeffrey Brown**

Did you think that Jedi Knights are always selected at birth and are completely devoted to their training? Well, you might be wrong. A great book for fans of Graphic Novels or Star Wars.

***Zane and the Hurricane: A Story of Katrina* by Rodman Philbrick**

Zane and his dog, Bandy, are stranded in the attic, with floodwaters from Hurricane Katrina closing in on them. Salvation comes in the form of Mr. Tru and Malvine, who float by in a canoe. Will they make it to safety?

***Wonder (the 2013 UES Read-It-Forward book)* by R. J. Palacio**

What's a kid to do when he feels and acts just like any other kid, but looks nothing like them? Auggie finds true friends and realizes that standing out isn't always as bad as he thought it would be.

***The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate**

Ivan, a great gorilla, has lived in a circus-themed mall for years, and he has grown accustomed to his life there. All that changes when Ruby, a baby elephant, joins their sad little zoo and show.

***Granny Torelli Makes Soup* by Sharon Creech**

Rosie is mad at Bailey, but Granny Torelli, her wisdom, and her soup seem to work wonders in mending hurt feelings.

***A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck**

One thing is certain...Joey and Mary Alice will never, ever, forget the summers they spend with their grandmother. From corpses that move to finding the sheriff in his underwear, Grandma Dowdel keeps life interesting all summer long.

***Saving Zasha* by Randi Barrow**

In post-WWII Russia, owning a German Shepherd could cost you dearly, but that didn't stop Mikhail from taking in Zasha.

***The Seer of Shadows* by Avi**

Ghosts seeking revenge, and a photography apprentice determined to find out the truth, will keep you in suspense - and maybe hiding under your covers!

***Fablehaven* (series) by Brandon Mull**

After learning that their grandparents' house is actually a sanctuary for magical creatures, Seth and Kendra find themselves deep in the middle of a struggle between good and evil.

***Swindle* (series) by Gordon Korman**

Griffin Bing and his band of middle-school friends refuse to let the bad guy win. Showing no fear (or at least not much), and using their wits, they manage to solve case after case.

***Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream* (non-fiction) by Tanya Lee Stone**

Long before Sally Ride became the first American female in space, thirteen amazing women trained for the honor of becoming a U.S. astronaut.

Need more ideas? Try these:

***Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass**

***Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli**

***Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea**

***Running Out of Time* by Margaret Peterson Haddix**

***Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt**

***Go! A Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design* (non-fiction) by Chip Kidd**

***Courage Has No Color: The True Story of Triple Nickles, America's First Black Paratroopers* (non-fiction) by Tanya Lee Stone**

MTPS Summer Reading List for Rising 7-8

WAMS Suggested Summer Reading

<i>The Great Greene Heist</i> Varian Johnson	<i>Legend</i> Marie Lu
<i>Winger</i> Andrew Smith	<i>Not a Drop to Drink</i> Mindy McGinnis
<i>Swagger</i> Carl Deuker	<i>Shackleton: Antarctic Odyssey</i> Nick Bertozi
<i>The Testing</i> Joelle Charbonneau	<i>The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die</i> April Henry
<i>The Clockwork Scarab</i> Colleen Gleason	<i>This is What Happy Looks Like</i> Jennifer E. Smith
<i>Invasion</i> Walter Dean Myers	<i>The Eye of Minds</i> James Dashner
<i>Geeks, Girls and Secret Identities</i> Mike Jung	<i>Monster on the Hill</i> Rob Harrell
<i>Ghost Knight</i> Cornelia Funke	<i>Out of the Pocket</i> Bill Konigsberg
<i>Bruised</i> Sarah Skilton	<i>In the Shadow of Blackbirds</i> Cat Winters
<i>The Nightmare Affair</i> Mindee Arnett	<i>Far Far Away</i> Tom McNeal
<i>Tankborn</i> Karen Sandler	<i>Soccerland</i> Beth Choat
<i>There Will Be Bears</i> Ryan Gebhart	<i>Pointe</i> Brandy Colbert
<i>Witness</i> Karen Hesse	<i>Steelheart</i> Brandon Sanderson
<i>These Broken Stars</i> Amie Kaufman	<i>Another Little Piece</i> Kate Karyus Quinn
<i>Ash</i> Malinda Lo	<i>Noggin</i> John Corey Whaley

WAMS Suggested Summer Reading, cont.

<i>Rose Under Fire</i> Elizabeth Wein	<i>Ball Don't Lie</i> Matt de la Pena
<i>Game (Jasper Dent Series Book II)</i> Barry Lyga	<i>The Promise of Amazing</i> Robin Constantine
<i>The Blood Guard</i> Carter Roy	<i>Stolen Songbird</i> Danielle L. Jensen
<i>The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi</i> Neal Bascomb	<i>Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong</i> Prudence Hicks & Faith Erin Hicks

Note to parents and guardians:

Please understand that the Young Adult umbrella covers a wide age range (12-18 years) and may deal with bullying, racism, addiction, sexuality and gender identification issues, and violence. Only titles that we believed to be appropriate for 7th and 8th grade students were included. However, we still suggest that you preview any titles your student requests to read to be sure it is, in fact, content with which you are comfortable as well.

Titles from this list may be used for various activities in which the students can choose to participate during Teen Read Week in October as well as Reading Madness in March.