

SUGGESTED SUMMER READING - JUNE 2008 - GRADES 3 AND 4

Here are some books that you will enjoy reading this summer. Join the Summer Reading Program at your library.

Atwater, Richard and Florence **Mr. Popper's Penguins**

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar region (Newbery Honor, 1939).

Avi **The Secret School**

In 1925, fourteen-year-old Ida Bidson secretly takes over as the teacher when the one-room schoolhouse in her remote Colorado area closes unexpectedly.

Baker, E.D. **The Frog Princess**

After reluctantly kissing a frog, a fourteen-year old princess finds herself a frog too and so the adventure begins. Follow into princess fantasy and read the whole series (Dragon's Breath Once Upon a Curse and No Place for Magic).

Barry, David and Pearson, Ridley **Peter and The Starcatcher**

Peter, an orphan boy and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep their secret safe. (Often seen as the prequel to Peter Pan.) Continue flying with the sequel Peter and The Shadow of Thieves followed by Peter and The Secret of Rundoon.

Birdsall, Jeanne **The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy**

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother (sequel: **The Penderwicks on Gardam Street**).

Blume, Judy **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing**

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother, Fudge, an ever-increasing problem. Follow the antics of Fudge in **Superfudge**, **Fudge-a-mania**, and **Double Fudge**.

Christopher, Matt **On The Track With...Jeff Gordon**

Jump on the fast track and discover why a famous Nascar driver gets car sick. Matt Christopher has done it again by creating a new line of kid-friendly biographies about famous people in sports.

Clements, Andrew **Room One: A Mystery or Two**

Ted Hammond, the only sixth grader in his small Nebraska town's one-room schoolhouse, searches for clues to the disappearance of a homeless family. Remember, **Frindle**, **Holiday Concert**, **Lunch Money**. You will love them all!

Dahl, Roald **BFG**

Kidnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant) who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie makes a plan with the giant to save the world from nine other man-gobbling giants. Find a quiet spot to enjoy all of Roald Dahl's books.

Davis, Kenneth C. **The 50 States**

Provides assorted facts about each of the fifty states in question and answer format.

DiCamillo, Kate **The Tale of Despereaux** (Newbery Medal Winner 2004)

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin. Also enjoy reading **Because of Winn-Dixie** (a Newbery Honor Book) and her latest **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**.

DiTerlizzi, Tony **The Spiderwick Chronicles**

When the Grace children go to live at their Great Aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures, and begin to have some very unusual experiences.

Estes, Elanor **The Moffats**

Relates the adventures and misadventures of the four Moffat children living with their widowed mother in a yellow house on New Dollar Street in the small town of Cranbury, Connecticut. Also read **Ginger Pye**.

SUMMER READING - GRADES 3 AND 4 (CONTINUED) 2008

Funke, Cornelia

Dragon Rider

After learning that humans are headed toward his hidden home, Firedrake, a silver dragon, is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find the legendary valley known as the Rim of Heaven. Don't forget Inkheart, Inkspell, and The Thief Lord.

Levine, Gail Carson

Fairy Dust and the Quest for the Egg

Come and meet the newest fairy in Never Land and join her in her adventures with Captain Hook and the evil dragon. A must-read sequel: Fairy Haven and the Quest for The Wand.

Lewis, C.S.

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe

Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan the golden lion to triumph over the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter. Enjoy all of the adventures in the chronicles of Narnia.

Martin, Ann

The Doll People

A family of porcelain dolls that has lived in the same house for one hundred years is taken aback when a new family of plastic dolls arrives and doesn't follow The Doll Code of Honor. Also read, The Meanest Doll in the World.

Nimmo, Jenny

Midnight for Charlie Bone

Charlie Bone's life undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking. Don't let the adventure end; read the whole Red King series.

Norton, Mary

The Borrowers

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock. If this was a winner, continue with The Borrowers Afield and The Borrowers Afloat.

Osborne, Mary Pope

Afternoon on the Amazon

Come join Jack and Annie as they travel in their tree house to the Amazon Rainforest where they encounter giants ants, hungry crocodiles, and wild jaguars. Once you are hooked, you will want to read them all.

Rodda, Emily

Rowan of Rin

Because only he can read the magical map, young, weak and timid Rowan joins six other villagers to climb a mountain and restore their water supply. Come along on the journey. You will want to read them all.

Schwartz, David M.

Millions to Measure

Marvelosissimo the Magician explains the development of standard units of measure, and shows the simplicity of calculating length, height, weight, and volume using the metric system.

Selznick, Brian

The Invention of Hugo Cabret

A novel in words and pictures. An orphan thief must decipher his father's last message (Caldecott Medal Winner 2008).

Silverstein, Shel

Don't Bump The Glump! and Other Fantasies

First published in 1964, a collection of hilarious poems featuring unusual, silly, and scary creatures (only book published in full-color art).

Wallace, Rich

The Roar of the Crowd

After years of playing nothing but soccer in Hudson City, New Jersey, Manny has to work very hard to play on the middle school football team, using determination, speed, and smarts to make up to being small and inexperienced. Read the whole series.

White, E. B.

Charlotte's Web (3 Apples Book Award Winner for 2007)

A lovable pig named Wilbur is rescued from a cruel fate by a beautiful and intelligent spider named Charlotte. A classic story by the author of Stuart Little and The Trumpet of the Swans

Yep, Laurence

The Dragon Prince: A Chinese Beauty and the Beast Tale

A poor farmer's youngest daughter agrees to marry a fierce dragon in order to save her father's life.

Yolen, Jane

The Young Merlin Trilogy

Young Merlin is orphaned by a fire and joins a traveling pair of magicians who help him begin to discover his true powers. Start with Passager, then Hobby and finally Merlin.