

New Canaan Public Schools
New Canaan, Connecticut

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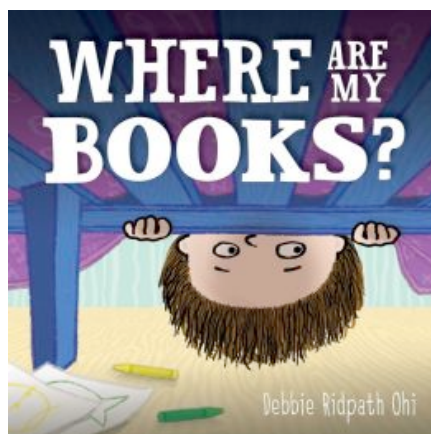
Summer Reading

(For reading *aloud* mostly and independent reading)

2016

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Children Entering First Grade



For a current list of the very best kids' books, go to the following link:
<http://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/childrens-books/6-8-years-old/published/>

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Terrific Recently Published Books!



Wolfie the Bunny by Ame Dyckman
Funny story of a family of bunnies adopting a wolf son

Unicorn Thinks He's Pretty Great by Bob Shea
Very funny and engaging

Sam and Dave Dig a Hole by Mac Barnett
Caldecott Honor Book for 2015

Ten Rules of Being a Superhero by Deb Pilutti
For children who can imagine being a superhero

Scaredy Squirrel series by Melanie Watt
I couldn't pick just one—they are all great. The website is fun, too: www.scaredysquirrel.com

The Thank You Book by Mo Willems
The very last Elephant and Piggy book—a very popular series.
Everything Mo Willems writes is pure gold. Here's his website: www.mowillems.com

Bad Kitty Drawn to Trouble by Nick Bruel
This is a wonderful book for aspiring authors and illustrators, as Nick Bruel shares his process of creating the Bad Kitty books.
Also, a fun website is www.badkittybooks.com

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to School by Benjamin Chaud and Davide Cali
An outrageous tall tale that will make children laugh out loud!

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear by Lindsay Mattick
This is the 2016 Caldecott Award winner, and the words are as good as the illustrations.

More suggestions for new books are at:

<http://booksforkidsblog.blogspot.com>

(A retired librarian's excellent children's book blog)

<http://www.goodreads.com>

(Current reviews and recommendations)

<http://www.ala.org> (American Library Association)

Books About Things that are Important to Kids!

HOW TO BEHAVE

STAGESTRUCK by Tomie DePaola
THE ART LESSON by Tomie DePaola
TROUBLE IN THE BARKER'S CLASS by Tomie DePaola
LILY'S PERFECT PLASTIC PURSE by Kevin Henkes
LILY'S BIG DAY by Kevin Henkes
WEEKEND WITH WENDELL by Kevin Henkes
BEATRICE DOESN'T WANT TO by Laura Numeroff
WHAT ARE YOU SO GRUMPY ABOUT? By Tom Lichtensheld
IT'S HARD TO BE FIVE: LEARNING HOW TO WORK MY CONTROL
PANEL by Jamie Lee Curtis
HOW DO DINOSAURS CLEAN THEIR ROOMS? By Jane Yolen
HOW DO DINOSAURS GET WELL SOON? By Jane Yolen
HOW DO DINOSAURS SAY GOOD NIGHT? By Jane Yolen



WORRYING

WEMBERLY WORRIED by Kevin Henkes
IRA SLEEPS OVER by Bernard Waber
IRA SAYS GOODBYE by Bernard Waber
THE KISSING HAND by Audrey Penn
ALEXANDER, WHO'S NOT GOING TO MOVE by Judith Viorst
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL by Marisabina Russo
MEAN SOUP by Betsy Everitt
SCAREDY SQUIRREL by Melanie Watt
JUNIE B. JONES HAS A MONSTER UNDER HER BED by Barbara Park



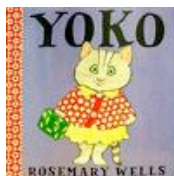
FRIENDS

MY BUNNY DIARY by Dora Cottontail (Tracy Dockray)
BEST FRIENDS FOR FRANCES by Russell Hoban
A BARGAIN FOR FRANCES by Russell Hoban
A SPECIAL FRIEND, INDEED by Suzanne Bloom
ELLA THE ELEGANT ELEPHANT by Carmella and Steven D'Amico
CHESTER'S WAY by Kevin Henkes
TOOT & PUDDLE by Hollie Hobbie
THE TREASURE TREE by John & Cindy Trent, Gary & Norma Smally
MR. PUSSKINS by Sam Lloyd
THE ENGLISH ROSES by Madonna
THE PEANUT-FREE CAFÉ by Gloria Koster
ENEMY PIE by Derek Munson
PINKALICIOUS and PURPLICIOUS by Victoria Kann



SCHOOL

YOKO books by Rosemary Wells
HOPSCOTCH HILL SCHOOL books by Valerie Tripp
CHRYSANTHEMUM by Kevin Henkes
KINDERGARTEN ROCKS by Katie Davis
THE SECRET SCIENCE PROJECT THAT ALMOST ATE THE SCHOOL
By Judy Sierra
MISS MALARKEY DOESN'T LIVE IN ROOM 10 by Kevin O'Malley
ANNABELLE SWIFT, KINDERGARTNER by Amy Schwartz
RECESS QUEEN by Alexis O'Neil
THE BRAND NEW KID by Katie Couric



EARLY CHAPTER BOOKS

(These are more advanced than easy readers, but not too long or difficult.)

HOPSCOTCH HILL SCHOOL SERIES by Valerie Tripp

Bright, Shiny Skylar

Good Sport, Gwen

Hallie's Horrible Handwriting

Teasing Trouble

Thank You, Logan!

ARTHUR CHAPTER BOOKS by Stephen Krensky

JIGSAW JONES MYSTERIES by James Preller

JUNIE B. JONES SERIES by Barbara Park

MARVIN REDPOST SERIES by Louis Sachar

KIDS OF THE POLK STREET SCHOOL SERIES by Patricia Reilly Giff

NANCY DREW NOTEBOOKS series by Carolyn Keene

NATE THE GREAT SERIES by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

STINK series by Megan McDonald

SOCCER 'CATS series by Matt Christopher

ZACK FILES SERIES by Dan Greenburg

THE ADVENTURES OF THE BAILEY SCHOOL KIDS

by Debbie Dadey and Marcia Thornton Jones

Best Enemies and *Best Enemies Again* by Kathleen Leverich

STEPPING STONES books published by Random House

LITTLE HOUSE CHAPTER BOOKS adapted from

Laura Ingalls Wilder

WEIRD SCHOOL series by Dan Gutman

Miss Small is off the Wall!

Mr. Hynde is out of his Mind!

Ms. Hannah is Bananas! and many more!

CLASSIC CHARACTERS

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These are beloved book characters that should be part of every child's literary background. They are sure to amuse and captivate children!



and sequels by Harry Allard/James Marshall



The Babar series by Jean and Laurent De Brunoff



The Frances series by Russell Hoban



Angelina Ballerina from the series by Katharine Holabird



Martha, from the *Martha Speaks* series



Dr. DeSoto, from the series by William Steig



Lyle Crocodile, from the series by Bernard Waber

Finally, the two characters that everyone seems to remember forever . . .

MIKE MULLIGAN AND HIS STEAM SHOVEL by Virginia Lee Burton



A brief word about “Easy Readers:”

- These are books with carefully controlled vocabulary for children just beginning to read.
- They are usually designated “beginning reader, ““early reader,” or something that let’s you know they have been created for this purpose.
- Books with controlled vocabulary are not usually great literature, although some, like *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss and *Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel, have become classics.
- Most libraries keep the “Easy Reader” books separate, so they are easy to find.
- Many companies assign these books different levels. This just means that you can tell which are the easiest and which are the hardest. The levels don’t generally correlate with the reading levels we use in school.

Some high quality easy readers are:

The *Henry and Mudge* series by Cynthia Rylant



The *Frog and Toad* series by Arnold Lobel



Dr. Seuss: “Bright and Early Beginner Books”

The *Johnny Lion* series by Edith Thatcher Hurd

**Mo Willems’ *Elephant and Piggie* series



**Very popular with first graders!

These are some classic easy readers—there are many more. You can read them aloud, too! Reading aloud gives children the support and confidence they need to try words out on their own.