



K/1st/2nd grade Summer Reading List

Back of the Bus By Aaron Reynolds. Illus. by Floyd Cooper. Philomel. 2010. A young boy and his mother take a familiar ride on a city bus unaware of the historic event they are about to witness: passenger Rosa Parks refuses to move from her seat.

Billy and Blaze: A Boy and his Pony By C.W. Anderson. Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing. Billy gets a pony for his birthday, which he names Blaze. Their simple, country adventures are the stuff of several beginning reader titles.

Chalk By Bill Thomson. Illus. by the author. Marshall Cavendish. 2010. In this wordless picture book, three young children arrive at the park to find a bag of colored chalk that turns their imaginary drawings into something very real.

City Dog, Country Frog By Mo Willems. Illus. by Jon J. Muth. Hyperion. 2010. Unleashed on his visit to the country, a dog meets a new friend in frog and together they experience the seasons and the cycle of life.

Elephants Cannot Dance!, I Am Going!, and Pigs Make Me Sneeze! all written and illustrated by Mo Willems. Hyperion. In Willems's Elephant & Piggie series, Gerald the elephant's whiny curmudgeon character meshes well with perky friend Piggie, as the two participate in smart, funny situations that allow youngsters, on their own, to discover the pleasure of reading a good story.

Henry Aaron's Dream By Matt Tavares. Candlewick. 2010. In this picture book biography, Tavares describes Aaron's rise from a boy who "didn't have a bat" to a baseball star.

Hooray for Summer! By Kazuo Iwamura. NorthSouth. 2010. In this old-fashioned picture book translated from the Japanese, Mick, Mack, and Molly are caught in the midst of one of the most exciting moments of summer: a sudden summer thunderstorm. It can be scary, but for the three squirrel children, safe and dry in a cave, it brings new friends.

My Father's Dragon By Ruth Stiles Gannett. Random House Children's Books. A boy explains how his father, Elmer Elevator, travels to the Wild Island to save a baby dragon. This short novel is a great family read-aloud.

Pond Circle By Betsy Franco. Illustrated by Stefano Vitale. McElderry. 2009. Accompanied by creative oil paintings on wood, Franco's cumulative text builds excitement in this exploration of the food chain in a pond.

Ready for Anything! By Keiko Kasza. Putnam. 2009. Despite the nice weather, melodramatic Raccoon ponders what could go wrong if he and his friend Duck go on a picnic.

Robot Zot! By Jon Scieszka. Illustrated by David Shannon. Simon. 2009. Household appliances become the fierce opponents of Robot Zot during his quest to save his betrothed, a lady toy cell phone.

Rubia and the Three Osos By Susan Middleton Elya. Illus. by Melissa Sweet. Hyperion. 2010. A bouncy, rhyming story about a little golden-haired niña who helps herself to everything in the house of the three bears.

A Sick Day for Amos McGee. By Philip C. Stead. Illus. by Erin E. Stead. Roaring Brook/Neal Porter. 2010. Zookeeper Amos McGee gets the sniffles and receives a surprise visit from his caring animal friends. Caldecott Medal

Sky Magic By Lee Bennett Hopkins. Illustrated by Mariusz Stawarski. Dutton. 2009. Striking and boldly colored images fuel this collection of poetry dedicated to the sky, from day to night.

Thunder-Boomer! By Shutta Crum. Illustrated by Carol Thompson. Clarion. 2009. A satisfying picture book captures all the drama and power of a summer storm even as it rewards readers with a smaller-scale, homey story.

We Are Extremely Very Good Recyclers(Charlie and Lola series) By Lauren Child. Penguin Group. 2009. Big brother Charlie is the epitome of patience and good humor as he deals with his little sister, Lola, in We Are Extremely Very Good Recyclers. Using the characters and mixed media collage style of Lauren Child, this children's picture book provides a good introduction to recycling.

Oh the Things You Can Think! By Dr. Seuss. In this book he has the reader stretch their imagination—anything is possible.