

Hilton Central Schools Summer Reading List Elementary Level (grades 3-4)



***Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal.* By Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Illus. by R. Gregory Christie. Carolrhoda, 2009. Picture book format.**

Former slave Bass Reeves, the first black U.S. Marshal, staunchly defended territorial law in the American West through many remarkable deeds. (The 2010 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner).

***Crow Call.* By Lois Lowry. Illus. by Bagram Ibatoulline. Scholastic, 2009. Picture book format.**

Reunited after serving in the war, a father and youngest daughter begin their journey of reconnection through a hunting shirt, cherry pie, tender conversation, and a crow call.

***The Day-Glo Brothers: The True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer's Bright Ideas and Brand-new Colors.* By Chris Barton. Charlesbridge, 2009.**

Brothers Bob and Joe Switzer had different interests and ambitions but worked together on the dazzling creation of fluorescent colors.

***Emily's Fortune.* By Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Random House Children's Books, 2010.**

From Newbery Award winner Phyllis Reynolds Naylor comes a witty tale of the Wild West filled with comical cliffhangers and featuring a cast of plucky orphans and dastardly villains.

***Everything for a Dog.* By Ann M. Martin. Feiwel & Friends, 2009.**

In this companion to her acclaimed 2005 novel, *A Dog's Life*, Ann M. Martin tells the parallel stories of a stray dog (the brother of the dog featured in *A Dog's Life*), a boy dealing with unspeakable loss, and a boy whose most ardent wish is to own a dog—and everything for a dog.

***Fiona Finkelstein: Big-Time Ballerina!!* By Shawn K. Stout. Illustrated by Angela Martini. Aladdin Books, 2009.**

It would seem that Fiona's dream of being a real ballerina is about to come true when her ballet class is invited to audition for the Maryland Ballet Company's production of the Nutcracker. However, she must overcome a major stumbling block: stage fright.

***Lanie.* By Jane Kurtz. American Girl Today, 2010.**

Ten-year-old Lanie loves science and nature, but she has a problem: she's an "outside" girl with an "inside" family. She longs get out and go camping, but they all want to stay

home. It wouldn't be so bad if her best friend was around, but she's halfway around the world, living out their dream of studying wildlife. But when her favorite aunt comes to stay, Lanie discovers that the wonders of nature are everywhere -- even in her own backyard.

***The Magician's Elephant.* By Kate DiCamillo. Illus. by Yoko Tanaka. Candlewick, 2009.**

A fortune teller's strange prediction and a magician's startling trick lead Peter on an extraordinary journey to find his sister in the kingdom of Baltese.

***Mudshark.* By Gary Paulsen. Random House Children's Books, 2009.**

Mudshark is the go-to guy for any mysteries that need solving. Lost your shoe? Can't find your homework? Ask Mudshark. That is, until the Psychic Parrot takes up residence in the school library and threatens to overturn Mudshark's position as the guy who knows all the answers.

***Scaredy-Cat Catcher.* By Betty Hicks. Roaring Brook, 2009.**

Rocky had all-star catcher potential until a play at the plate broke his arm resulting in his needing help from his friends, coach, and dog to overcome his fear of getting hurt again.

***Stink: Solar System Superhero (Stink Series #5)* by Megan McDonald. Illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds. Candlewick Press, 2010.**

When Stink learns that Pluto has flunked the Planet Test for being too shrimpy, he has no choice but to stand for the sake of little planets (and little people) everywhere.

***Summer According to Humphrey.* By Betty Birney. J.P. Putnam's Sons, 2010.**

When Humphrey hears that school is ending, he panics. What's a classroom hamster to do if he's not in school?

***VACATION: We're Going to the Beach.* By David L. Harrison. Illus. by Rob Shepperson. Boyds Mills Press, 2009.**

45 short poems convey the enthusiasm of the main character (Sam) for a vacation at the beach with his family. Lots of personality (his and his ballerina sister) is shared via the poems & illustrations in this short book.

***Wild River.* By P. J. Petersen. Delacorte, 2009.** When their kayak hits a log and his older brother is seriously hurt, Ryan must overcome his fears and go for help.

***Wishworks, Inc.* By Stephanie S. Tolan. Illus. by Amy June Bates. Scholastic, Inc., 2009.**

Max happens upon a store called Wishworks, Inc., which promises his wish will come true in real life, "guaranteed." He wishes for a real dog to fulfill all his dreams. And then a real dog named Goldie appears on his doorstep . . . but she may be a little more real than Max expects!

***Word After Word After Word.* By Patricia MacLachlan. Harper Collins, 2010.**

Why do people write? To express themselves? To reach others? To inspire? Whatever the reasons, five fourth graders in Miss Cash's class are about to get the lessons of their lives – courtesy of visiting author Ms. Mirabel.