



Recommended Summer Reading List 2014 for Students Entering Grade 3 and Grade 4

Applegate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan*. When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find a better life. Newbery Medal 2012.

Axelrod, Amy. *Pigs in the Pantry*. This is a series of fun math books.

Barber, Tiki and Ronde, with Paul Mantell. *Go Long*. Simon & Schuster, 2008. After Coach Spangler leaves their junior high, thirteen-year-old twins Tiki and Ronde wonder if his replacement, history teacher Mr. Wheeler, can coach the Eagles to another winning football season. Series

Barton, Chris. *The Day-Glo Brothers: The True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer's Bright Ideas and Brand-New Colors*. Charlesbridge, 2009. Brothers Bob and Joe Switzer had different interests and ambitions but worked together on the dazzling creation of fluorescent colors.

Bauer, Marion Dane. *Little Dog, Lost*. Atheneum, 2012. A dog without a boy, a boy without a dog, and an elderly gentleman without a sense of belonging follow their star-crossed paths and find that love, compassion, and charity can cure loneliness and restore balance to their lives.

Beccia, Carlyn. *I Feel Better With A Frog In My Throat: History's Strangest Cures*. Houghton Mifflin, 2010. Many of today's most reliable cure-alls have their roots in some very peculiar practices, and so relevant connections can be drawn from what they did then to what we do now.

Becker, Bonny. *The Magical Ms. Plum*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2009. Each of the students in Ms. Plum's third grade classroom receives a visit from a magical creature that comes out of her supply closet just for him or her.

Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks on Gardam Street*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him. Series

Birney, Betty G. *Mysteries According to Humphrey*. Putnam's 2012. After learning about Sherlock Holmes, Humphrey the classroom hamster follows clues to try and discover why Mrs. Brisbane is gone and Mr. E., a fun but not very educational substitute, is taking her place in Room 26 at Longfellow School. Series

Bishop, Nic. *Nic Bishop Snakes*. Scholastic, 2012. Naturalist Nic Bishop provides an in-depth examination of snakes, including details on the characteristics, habitats, and abilities of various species of reptiles.

Brown, Don. *A Wizard From the Start: The Incredible Boyhood and Amazing Inventions of Thomas Edison*. Houghton Mifflin, 2010. This picture book shows that young Thomas Edison was a hard worker who was curious about everything, read a lot of books, studied diligently for years, and was passionate about inventing.

Buckley, Carol. *Tarra & Bella: The Elephant and Dog Who Became Best Friends*. Putnam's, 2009. This photo essay recounts the true story of Tarra, an elephant who befriends a stray dog named Bella at the Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. *The Case of the School Ghost*. Whitman, 2012. When Buddy, a therapy dog, attends the fourth grade sleepover in the school's library, he solves the mystery of the school ghost. Series

Cowley, Joy. *Chicken Feathers*. Philomel, 2008. This is the tale of Josh's summer when his mother is in the hospital awaiting the birth of his baby sister, and his pet chicken Semolina, who talks only to him, is almost killed by a red fox.

Cronin, Doreen. *The Legend of Diamond Lil: A J.J. Tully Mystery*. Balzer + Bray, 2012. The search and rescue dog named J.J. is ready for a bit of rest and relaxation after solving the mystery of the missing chicks; but there is a new dog next door who is stealing the attention of Moosh and her chicks, and the threat of a roaming possum keeps J.J. on the alert. Series

Davies, Jacqueline. *The Bell Bandit*

Siblings Evan and Jessie must solve the mystery of a missing cherished family treasure while coming to terms with their beloved grandmother's unsettling behavior. The Lemonade War series.

Davies, Jacqueline. *The Lemonade Crime*. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. Following The Lemonade War, Scott Spencer, an alleged thief, is put on trial by his classmates who construct an authentic tribunal to determine his fate and end up surprising themselves with their verdict. Series

Dowson, Nick. *North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration*. Candlewick, 2011. This book follows animals such as gray whales, terns, wolves and caribou as they journey north to the Arctic where they will join the polar bear, arctic hare, and fox to feed and breed all summer.

Durand, Hallie. *Dessert First*. Atheneum, 2009. Third grader Dessert's love of treats leads to a change in her large family's dinner routine, then to an awful mistake, and later to a true sacrifice after her teacher, Mrs. Howdy Doody, urges students to march to the beat of their own drums. Series

Fleming, Candace. *The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary*. Schwartz & Wade, 2007. Fourth Grade teacher extraordinaire, Mr. Jupiter, takes his energetic students on a wild and woolly ride through the school year.

Foxley, Janet. *Muncle Trogg*. Scholastic, 2012. Bullied and despised for being human-sized, a young giant demonstrates his bravery and cleverness in a series of adventures. Series

Freeman, Martha. *The Case of the Piggy Bank Thief*. Holiday House, 2012. Tessa and her sister Cammie, daughters of the first female U.S. president, explore the mystery of the gold that is found on the White House property and are further perplexed because Tessa's piggy bank has disappeared. Series

Gherman, Beverly. *First Mothers*. Clarion, 2012. Discover everything you ever wanted to know about the lives of the mothers of U.S. presidents, including facts about their sons.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Gingersnap*. When her Navy cook brother goes missing in WW II, Jayna leaves upstate NY accompanied by a turtle and a ghost to try to find their grandmother.

Graff, Lisa. *Sophie Simon Solves Them All*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010. Third-grader Sophie Simon ignores her parents' concerns over her lack of friends and continues to focus on getting a graphing calculator so that she can study calculus on the bus to school.

Grisham, John. *Theodore Boone: The Activist*. Aspiring lawyer Theodore Boone take the stand to protect his political and environmental freedoms. Theodore Boone series.

Gutman, Dan. *Mission Unstoppable*. Harper, 2011. On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files. Series

Gutman, Dan. *Nightmare at the Book Fair*. Simon & Schuster, 2008. Fifth-grader Trip Dinkleman, who does not like to read very much, is hit on the head by a book fair traveling book case and becomes a character in a series of different books including a horror story, an adventure, and a fantasy.

Harley, Avis. *African Acrostics: A Word in Edgeways*. Candlewick, 2009. Entertaining acrostic poems about African animals provide readers information both about the animals as well as the various forms of acrostic poems.

Harper, Charise Mericle. *Just Grace and the Double Surprise*. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. In the seventh book of the series, Grace's best friend, Mimi, is surprised to get an adopted brother instead of a sister; a double surprise is that Grace's parents finally say yes to getting a dog. Series

Hopkinson, Deborah. *Annie and Helen*. Schwartz & Wade, 2012. Expressive and inspired illustrations combine with poetic text in this poignant story of the relationship between Helen Keller and her teacher Annie Sullivan, with personal citations by Annie from her letters home.

Kelly, Mark. *Mousetronaut: Based on a (Partially) True Story*. Simon & Schuster, 2012. A small but plucky mouse named Mike is sure that he can help the Space Shuttle astronauts and ends up saving the whole mission.

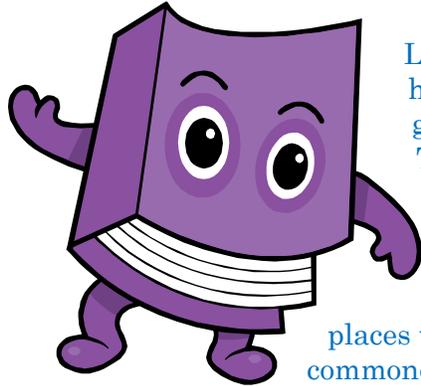
Klise, Kate. *The Phantom of the Post Office*. Harcourt, 2012. Seymour Hope and his friend Wy Fye must expose the mysterious, troublesome individual who is determined to close the Ghastly post office that will ultimately sever the connection of the mansion's ghostwriters with their fans. Series

Korman, Gordon. *Ungifted*. Due to an administrative mixup, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to a special school for gifted and talented students after pulling a major prank in middle school.

Krosoczka, Jarrett. *Lunch Lady and the Field Trip Fiasco*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. Superhero Lunch Lady and the Breakfast Bunch save the day from art thieves in this fun graphic novel set in an art museum. Series

Leedy, Loreen. *It's Probably Penny*. 2007. This is a great math fun series.

, J. Patrick. *Last Laughs: Animal Epitaphs*. Charlesbridge, 2012. The pictures and poetry are a little dark; but the droll, tongue-in-cheek humor of these last poems for animals will make you chuckle.



Lin, Grace. *Dumpling Days*. Little, Brown, 2012. Pacy and her family fly to Taiwan to visit family, celebrate her grandmother's 60th birthday, and learn what it means to be Taiwanese even without speaking the language. Series

Lowry, Lois. *The Birthday Ball*. Houghton Mifflin, 2010. Princess Patricia Priscilla is not looking forward to her birthday when she has to choose a suitor, so she switches places with her chambermaid so she can attend school with the commoners.

Markel, Michelle. *Tyrannosaurus Math*. 2009. Introduces ten basic math skills through the description of a tyrannosaurus rex that adds, subtracts and multiplies.

Markle, Sandra. *Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories*. Millbrook, 2009. Nine riveting tales share examples of animals saving humans, along with photos and extra information and insights into animal behavior.

McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *The Cats in the Doll Shop*. With World War I raging in Europe, 11-year-old Anna is thrilled to learn that her cousin is coming from Russia to stay with them on the Lower East Side of New York.

Nobleman, Marc Tyler. *Bill, the Boy Wonder: The Secret Co-Creator of Batman*. Charlesbridge, 2012. Although Bob Kane is featured as the creator of Batman, a second, unsung, anonymous architect of the superhero by the name of Bill Finger worked steadfastly as designer, writer, and costumer of the Caped Crusader and was only acknowledged for his contributions through the efforts of his friends after his death.

O'Connor, Barbara. *The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010. After Owen captures an enormous bullfrog, names it Tooley Graham, then has to release it, he and two friends try to use a small submarine that fell from a passing train to search for Tooley in the pond it came from, while avoiding nosy neighbor Viola.

O'Malley, Kevin. *Once Upon a Royal Superbaby*. Walker, 2010. A boy and a girl, having created a story for school, must use their talents to come up with a new story of what happens to the Dude, his fair maiden, and their royal superbaby after they are captured by an evil wizard. Series

Patterson, James. *Middle School: Get Me Out of Here!* The adventures of Rafe when he moves to the big city and gets accepted to an amazing school where all the kids are super smart snobs.

Peck, Richard. *Secrets at Sea: A Novel*. Dial Books, 2011. In 1887, the social-climbing Cranstons travel by ship from New York to London, where they hope to find a husband for their awkward older daughter who is secretly accompanied by Helena and her mouse siblings.

Peirce, Lincoln. *Big Nate Flips Out*. When Nate's sloppiness gets out of hand, Francis is in serious trouble. 2011. In addition to interesting facts about the world of art, step-by-step instructions and examples are provided for using inkblots to spark creativity.

Primavera, Elise. *Libby of High Hopes*. Simon & Schuster, 2012. When ten-year-old Libby Thump stumbles upon High Hopes Horse Farm and finds her dream horse, Princess, a prize-winning jumping horse that has been put out to pasture, Libby tries to convince her parents to give her riding lessons.

Raczka, Bob. *Lemonade & Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word*. Roaring Brook, 2011. In this double treat for the brain and eyes, these concrete poems are cleverly formed from the letters of the poem's title.

Raczka, Bob. *The Vermeer Interviews: Conversations with Seven Works of Art*. Millbrook, 2009. Seven of Johannes Vermeer's most famous paintings, such as "The Milkmaid" and "The Geographer," come to life through interviews with the subjects to reveal artistic techniques and subtler aspects of Vermeer's unique photographic-style art.

Reifman, Steve. *Chase Against Time*. Brown Books, 2012. Fifth grader Chase Manning is put in charge of finding a missing cello that is supposed to be auctioned at a fund-raising dinner to save the music program.

Ripken, Cal. *Supersized Slugger*. A thirteen-year-old moves to Baltimore as a fat third-grader who has to deal with teasing from a baseball teammate.

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. *The Wonder Book*. Harper, 2010. Silly poems, puns, and jokes are illustrated with happy line drawings in this humorous book full of word play.

Shefelman, Janice. *I, Vivaldi*. Eerdmans Books, 2008. This picture book biography describes how Vivaldi grew to be a famous musician, despite his mother's vow for him to become a priest.

Silverstein, Shel. *Every Thing On It: Poems and Drawings*. Harper, 2011. Enjoy another remarkable collection of playful poems by the magical Shel Silverstein.

Singer, Marilyn. *A Full Moon is Rising: Poems*. Lee & Low, 2011. A collection of illustrated poems about events and beliefs from around the world involving the full moon. Includes a map and biographical references.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Third Grade Angels*. Arthur A. Levine, 2012. George 'Suds' Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first 'halo' of the year for good behavior, but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated. Series

Taylor, Sarah Stewart. *Amelia Earhart: This Broad Ocean*. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. In graphic novel format, Amelia Earhart's life is described with a focus on the successful Atlantic crossing in 1928.

Temple, Bob. *The Titanic: An Interactive History Adventure*. Capstone, 2008. The reader's choices reveal the historical details of the sinking of the Titanic in 1912 from the perspective of a first-class passenger, a third-class passenger, and a crew member.

Tolan, Stephanie S. *Applewhites at Wit's End*. Great changes are in store for the creative and somewhat eccentric Applewhite family when money problems force them to open a summer camp for gifted children.

Turnage, Shelia. *Three Times Lucky*. Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Topelo Landing, NC, Mo LeBeau (now eleven) and her best friend turn detective when a murder mystery threatens the town and people she cares about.

Rachel. *Justin Case: School, Drool, and Other Daily Disasters*. Feiwel and Friends, 2010. Written in diary form, Justin writes honestly about his worries and observations of life in the third grade. Series

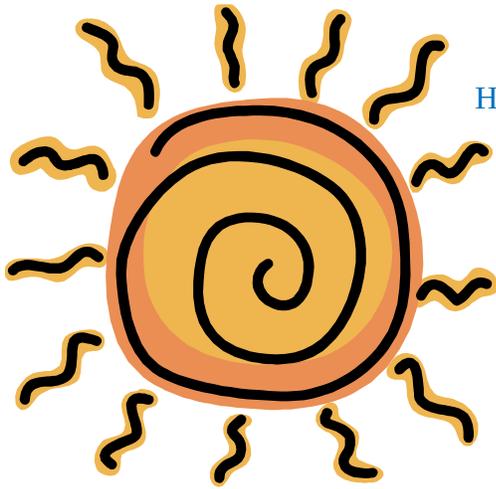
Van Allsburg, Chris. *Queen of the Falls*. Houghton Mifflin, 2011. This biography tells about Annie Edson Taylor, a retired instructor of a charm school, who decided to attempt to go over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel at the age of sixty-two.

Weinberger, Naftali and Naomi. *The Story of Rebbetzin Kanievsky*
Biography of the remarkable, learned, and incredibly sensitive woman who lived in Yerushalayim and spent her life doing chesed.

Winter, Jonah. *You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!* Schwartz & Wade, 2009.
Learn about Sandy Koufax, a powerful left-handed pitcher for the New York Dodgers, a practicing Jew who would not play baseball on High Holy days, and a mystery man who quit baseball after the best season of his career.

Yee, Lisa. *Bobby the Brave (Sometimes)*. Arthur A. Levine, 2010. In this hilarious sequel to *Bobby the Brave (Accidentally)*, Bobby must confront his fears of surviving asthma attacks at the worst possible moments, playing football with his super-dad, avoiding the 27-toed neighbor cat, and taking the stage to dance in the school musical. Series

Young, Ed. *The House Baba Built: An Artist's Childhood in China*. Little, Brown, 2011. Ed Young describes his childhood home, which was built by his father in Shanghai, and reflects on his fond memories of playing in the home while guests moved in to seek safety from the war affecting China.



Judaic Content Books

Hereville: How Mirka Met a Meteorite by Barry Deutsch

Looking for Me by Betsy R. Rosenthal

Sami's Sleepaway Summer by Jenny Meyerhoff

Small Medium at Large by Joanne Levy

Whole Story of Half a Girl by Veera Hiranandani

His Name Was Raoul Wallenberg by Louise Borden

The Wooden Sword: A Jewish Folktale from

Afghanistan by Ann Redisch Stampler

HAPPY SUMMER READING!!!