



2017

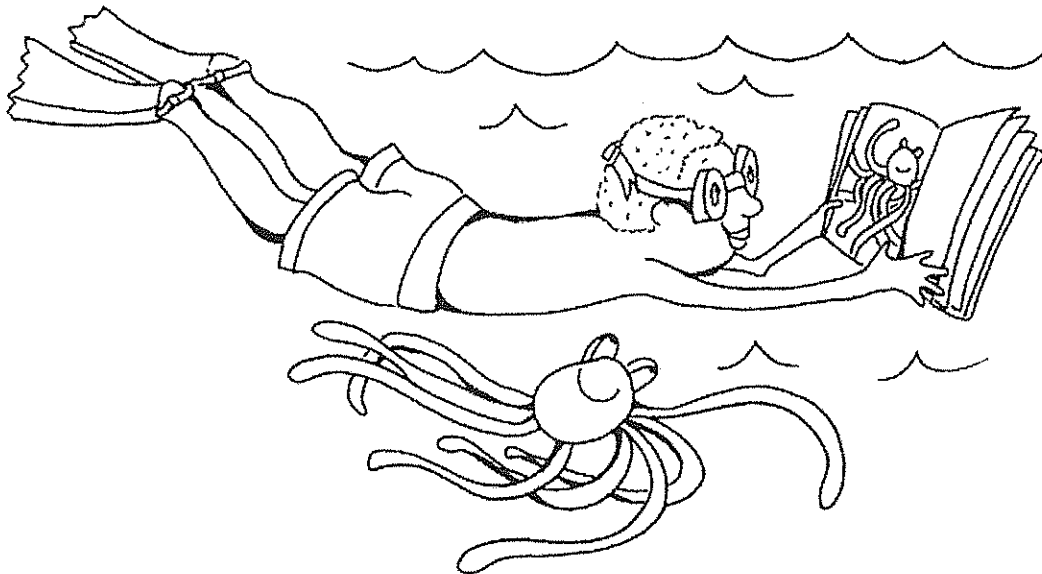
# Dive Into Reading!

SUMMER READING

Hancock Day School

*For Rising*

## Second Grade



2017

## Summer Reading List Students Entering 2nd Grade

By maintaining an active literacy life over the summer, you ensure your child the best start in the next grade level.

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS:

In elementary school, each child is developing on their own continuum. To develop strength as a reader, children need lots of time to read lots of books that are "just right" for their abilities. It is **critically** important that children **not** read books that are too difficult for them. Research has shown that reading books that are at the "frustration level" can actually stunt a readers' growth, or send them backwards in their development. When in doubt, help your child select books that feel "friendly/familiar" to other books they have enjoyed. Also, check out series books - many of the books in this packet are part of a series. Not only is it fun to follow familiar characters through new adventures and experiences, but reading through a book series can help readers grow!

Below is a list of suggested novels that your child may also be interested in reading this summer, however, none of the following books are required reading.

Happy Reading!

The Second Grade Teachers

2017

**SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS**  
**Hancock Day School**  
For students *entering*  
**SECOND GRADE**

“The research is clear that children who don’t read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect.”  
([www.readingrockets.org](http://www.readingrockets.org))

Give your children opportunities to practice reading this summer. This is a list of suggested books; you do not need to read all of them. We do suggest you help your child set a goal of reading at least 10 of these books over the summer (that’s about one book per week.) Exposure to a variety of genres is an important component in the development of life-long readers.

Continue to read aloud to your children throughout the summer. Even if your child knows how to read independently, developing the habit of family read aloud time is a gift to your child.

**Early Readers** (These are great short books to practice reading. Encourage your child to read each one several times to focus on comprehension.)

Bell, Cece	<i>Rabbit and Robot: the Sleepover (humorous animal story)</i>
Byars, Betsy	<i>Hooray for the Golly Sisters! (humorous series)</i>
Cazet, Denys	<i>Minnie and Moo (humorous series)</i>
Chaconas, Dori	<i>Cork &amp; Fuzz (animal series)</i>
Clements, Andrew	<i>Brave Norman (Pets to the Rescue nonfiction series)</i>
Hayes, Geoffrey	<i>Benny and Penny (comic style series)</i>
Howe, James	<i>Bunnicula &amp; Friends (animal series)</i>
Kenah, Katharine	<i>Best Chef in Second Grade (school stories series)</i>
Lin, Grace	<i>Ling and Ting: Not Exactly the Same! (stories about twin sisters)</i>
Manushkin, Fran	<i>Katie Woo (school stories series)</i>
Mills, Claudia	<i>Gus and Grandpa and the Two-Wheeled Bike (realistic family series)</i>
Ross, Pat	<i>Meet M &amp; M (school stories series)</i>
Rylant, Cynthia	<i>Henry and Mudge (realistic family series)</i>
Rylant, Cynthia	<i>Annie &amp; Snowball and the Dress-Up Birthday (realistic family series)</i>
Rylant, Cynthia	<i>Mr. Putter and Tabby (realistic family series)</i>
Sharmat, Marjorie	<i>Nate the Great (mystery series)</i>
Sharmat, Marjorie	<i>Olivia Sharp (Nate the Great's Cousin) (mystery series)</i>
Yolen, Jane	<i>Commander Toad in Space (science fiction series)</i>

**Picture book folk and fairy tales** (our children need to be familiar with the stories of the past, and these examples use rich vocabulary and have beautiful illustrations.)

Bang, Molly                      *Dawn*

In this adaptation of "The Crane Wife," a shipbuilder marries a mysterious woman who makes him promise never to look at her while she weaves.

Brett, Jan                        *Beauty and the Beast*

Through her great capacity to love, a kind and beautiful maid releases a handsome prince from the spell which has made him an ugly beast. Pay particular attention to these detailed illustrations, there are some hidden hints.

Cullen, Lynn                    *The Mightiest Heart*

Based on a Welsh legend about Prince Llywelyn and his loyal dog Gelert, who is wrongly banished when the prince believes that the dog has attacked his son.

Deedy, Carmen Agra *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: a Cuban Folktale*

In this humorous retelling of a Cuban folktale, a cockroach interviews her suitors in order to decide whom to marry.

Demi                                *The Empty Pot*

When Ping admits that he is the only child in China unable to grow a flower from the seeds distributed by the Emperor, he is rewarded for his honesty.

Huck, Charlotte                *Princess Furball*

A princess in a coat of a thousand furs hides her identity from a king who falls in love with her.

Huck, Charlotte                *Toads and Diamonds*

Two step-sisters receive appropriate gifts for their actions: one's words are accompanied by flowers and jewels, the other's by toads and snakes.

Jaffe, Nina                        *The Way Meat Loves Salt: a Cinderella Tale from the Jewish Tradition*

In this Eastern European Jewish variant of the Cinderella story, the youngest daughter of a rabbi is sent away from home in disgrace, but thanks to the help of the prophet Elijah, marries the son of a renowned scholar and is reunited with her family.

Lester, Julius                    *John Henry*

Retells the legend of the African-American railroad builder who raced against a steam drill to cut through a mountain.

Louie, Ai-Ling                    *Yeh-Shen: a Cinderella Story from China*

A young Chinese girl overcomes the wickedness of her stepsister and stepmother to become the bride of a prince.

Martin, Rafe                      *The Rough-Face Girl*

In this Algonquin Indian version of the Cinderella story, the Rough-Face Girl and her two beautiful but heartless sisters compete for the affections of the Invisible Being.

Pinkney, Jerry                    *Little Red Riding Hood*

A sweet little girl meets a hungry wolf in the forest while on her way to visit her grandmother.

San Souci, Robert              *The Talking Eggs: a Folktale from the American South*

A Southern folktale in which kind Blanche, following the instructions of an old witch, gains riches, while her greedy sister makes fun of the old woman and is duly rewarded.

Step toe, John                    *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: an African Tale*

Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.

**Non-fiction Books** (Students need to “read to learn” as much as they need to “learn to read.” Satisfy your child’s natural curiosity by finding books on subjects that attract their attention...history, biography, science, pets, sports, cooking, etc.)

Appelt, Kathi      **Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers** Are you traveling to the Hill Country? Share the story of how Lady Bird Johnson reminded Americans about the importance of conservation and the beauty of nature.

**Childhood of Famous Americans series** Although these are not official biographies (since they are highly fictionalized) these books introduce readers to important figures in history and help them understand different historical eras.

Fleming, Candace      **Boxes for Katje** Based upon an experience of the author's mother, a young Dutch girl starts a correspondence with a young American after World War II. Great springboard to discuss helping those in need.

Giovanni, Nikki      **Rosa** Presents an illustrated account of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955, and the subsequent bus boycott by the black community.

Hatkoff, Isabella      **Owen & Mzee** A young hippo, Owen, is orphaned after the 2004 tsunami, but ends up “adopting” an old tortoise, Mzee, as his parent and best friend. Sequel: *Owen & Mzee: the Language of Friendship*.

Hopkinson, Deborah      **Fannie in the Kitchen: the Whole Story from Soup to Nuts of How Fannie Farmer Invented Recipes With Precise Measurements** Fannie Farmer is a mother's helper in the Shaw house, where the daughter gives her the idea of writing down precise instructions for measuring and cooking, which eventually became one of the first modern cookbooks.

Katz, Jon      **Meet the Dogs of Bedlam Farm** Contains photographs and the stories of Rose, Izzy, Frieda, and Lenore, four dogs that perform various jobs on Bedlam Farm.

Osbone, Will      **Magic Tree House Fact Tracker series** [formerly called Magic Tree House Research Guides] Relates the authentic research the Osbornes do for the Magic Tree House series...learn about space, history, animals, etc.

Martin, Jaqueline      **Snowflake Bentley** Biography of a self-taught scientist who devised a method of photographing hundreds of snowflakes so he could study their unique structure.

Patel, M.N.      **We've Got Your Number** Looks at the various ways math affects the universe.

Raven, Margot Theis      **Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot** The true story of a young German girl, Mercedes Simon, and the American pilot, Gail Halvorsen, who shared hope and joy with the children of West Berlin by dropping candy-filled parachutes during the Berlin Airlift following World War II.

Ryan, Pam Munoz      **When Marian Sang** An introduction to the life of the extraordinary opera singer and civil rights activist, Marian Anderson.)

St. George, Judith      **So, You Want to Be President?** A witty introduction to the history of our nation's presidents.

Simon, Seymour      **The Dinosaur is the Biggest Animal That Ever Lived, and Other Wrong Ideas You Thought Were True** Explains why many commonly accepted scientific “facts”--lightning never strikes twice, the sky is blue, snakes are slimy, etc.--are untrue.

Time for Kids series      **Volcanoes!** Simple text, photographs, and illustrations describe various types of volcanoes and how they erupt, the work that volcanologists do, and famous volcanoes such as Mount St. Helen, Mt. Pinatubo, and Mount Vesuvius...other books in the series include *Planets! Ants! Snakes! Spiders!*

Turner, Pamela      **Hachiko: the True Story of a Loyal Dog** Even after his owner's death, a dog continues to wait faithfully at the Tokyo train station for his master to return.

Schulman, Janet      **Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City** Recounts the true story of Pale Male, a red-tailed hawk living in New York City who has become one of the city's most-watched celebrities.

Wheeler, Jill C.      **Gertrude Chandler Warner** Biography of the author of the popular Boxcar Children series of books, discussing her struggles with poor health, her work as a teacher, Red Cross volunteer, and writer. Part of the “Checkerboard Biography Library.”

Who Was--? Series      **Who Was Daniel Boone?** A biography of early pioneer, Daniel Boone, describing how he opened up the territory of Kentucky to settlers.

**Beginning Chapter Books** (Your child may be ready to read these independently, or you may partner read with your child, or you may read the whole book aloud.)

Abbott, Tony	<i>Secrets of Droon (fantasy series)</i> Eric and his friends find entry into the world of Droon through a hidden staircase.
Adler, David	<i>Cam Jansen and the Ghostly Mystery (mystery series)</i> Cam has a photographic memory which helps her solve mysteries
Applegate, Katherine	<i>Never Glue Your Friends to Chairs ("Roscoe Riley" humorous series)</i> A good-hearted kid who inadvertently causes mayhem as he tries to help.
Atinuke	<i>Anna Hibiscus (realistic fiction series)</i> Anna Hibiscus loves her life in Africa, but longs to see snow.
Barnes, Derrick	<i>Ruby and the Booker Boys (realistic fiction series)</i> Ruby tries to prove herself at her new school.
Brown, Jeff (creator)	<i>Flat Stanley Adventures (humorous fantasy-travel adventure series)</i> It's easy for Stanley to travel the world, because he can go through the mail!
Christopher, Matt	<i>Operation Babysitter (Soccer Cats series)</i> Bundy's performance on the soccer team suffers with his new babysitter.
Coven, Wanda	<i>Heidi Heckelbeck (fantasy/realistic fiction series)</i> It's hard to be the only witch in school.
DiCamillo, Kate	<i>Bink and Gollie (humorous realistic fiction)</i> The comic adventures of two friends.
DiCamillo, Kate	<i>Mercy Watson to the rescue (humorous series)</i> This pet pig will do anything for treats of buttered toast, even wear a tutu.
Howe, James	<i>Pinky and Rex (realistic fiction series)</i> Stories about two very different kids, yet they are best friends.
Gardner, Sally	<i>Operation Bunny (fantasy)</i> Emily and her talking cat try to save fairies from a terrible witch.
Greenburg, J. C.	<i>Andrew Lost (humorous science fiction series)</i> When Andrew shrinks he is able to understand science on a microscopic level.
Guest, Elissa	<i>Iris and Walter (realistic fiction series)</i> Iris moves from the city to the country, Walter teaches her to appreciate her new home.
Haas, Jessie	<i>Bramble and Maggie (realistic fiction about horses)</i> Bramble the horse and her new owner Maggie, both want to be the boss.
Hermes, Patricia	<i>Emma Dilemma and the New Nanny (humorous realistic fiction)</i> Emma loves her new nanny and hopes she will stay.
Higginson, Hadley	<i>Keeker and the Sneaky Pony (horse series)</i> Keeker tries to train her Shetland Pony to behave.
Howe, James	<i>Houndsley and Catina (animal fiction series)</i> Houndsley, a dog, and Catina, a cat, support each other through life's ups and downs
Jacobson, Jennifer	<i>Andy Shane &amp; the Very Bossy Dolores Starbuckle (humorous realistic series)</i> Shy Andy learns to deal with an aggressive classmate.
Kline, Suzy	<i>Horrible Harry in Room 2B (humorous realistic fiction series)</i> Harry's best friend, Doug, relates all of the mischievous pranks Harry pulls in school.
Lowry, Lois	<i>Gooney Bird Greene (humorous realistic fiction series)</i> Gooney may be quirky, but she sure is fun!
McDonald, Megan	<i>Stink the Incredible Shrinking Kid (humorous realistic fiction series)</i> Stink is tired of being the shortest kid in 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade.
Miles, Ellen	<i>Puppy Place (Goldie, etc. realistic fiction pet dog series)</i> Charles and Lizzie are dedicated to finding the right home for each foster puppy.
Nolan, Lucy	<i>Down Girl and Sit (humorous dog series)</i> Hilariously told from the point of view of two neighboring dogs.
Osborne, Mary Pope	<i>Magic Tree House series (High Tide in Hawaii, etc. fantasy/historical fiction)</i> Jack and Annie's magic tree house sends them through time for amazing adventures.
Roy, Ron	<i>A to Z Mystery series (The Absent Author, etc.)</i> Dink, Josh and Ruth Rose solve a variety of mysteries.

*Capital Mystery series (A Spy in the White House, etc.)*

KC and her friend Marshall solve political mysteries in Washington, D.C.

**More Chapter Books** – library riddle: Why is a good series of books like a bag of potato chips? Because you can't read just one!

Avi *Poppy (series)* Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas. Avi has created a cast of memorable characters that experience all sorts of adventures. Additional books in the series include: *Poppy and Rye*, *Ragweed*, *Ereth's Birthday*, *Poppy's Return*, and *Poppy and Ereth*.)

Barrows, Annie *Ivy + Bean (series)* These two neighbors know how to get into some mischief. Watch out!

Birney, Betty *The World According to Humphrey (series)* Humphrey is the pet hamster in Room 26, he is so intelligent that he keeps a journal in a little notebook from a doll shop. He is everyone's favorite classroom pet!

"Classic Starts" series includes titles such as *Robinson Crusoe*, *Great Expectations*, *Little Women*, etc. An abridged version of a classic helps the reader understand the plot and characters, which can prepare them to concentrate on the literary themes when they read the original in later years.

Cleary, Beverly *Ramona the Pest (series)* Ramona is one of the most endearing characters in children's literature. We are introduced to her as a kindergarten student, and in subsequent books we watch her grow up. Beverly Cleary has created a cast of character that embrace a range of human qualities. Other Ramona books include *Ramona the Brave*, *Beezus and Ramona*, *Ramona Quimby, Age 8*, *Ramona and Her Mother*, *Ramona and Her Father*, *Ramona Forever*.

*Henry Huggins (series)* If boys balk at reading the Ramona series, because it is about a girl, then at least let them hear about Ramona and Beezus's neighbor, Henry Huggins. In the first book When Henry adopts Ribsy, a dog of no particular breed, humorous adventures follow. Series also includes: *Henry and Ribsy*, *Henry and the Clubhouse*, *Henry and Beezus*, *Ribsy*.

*Mouse and the Motorcycle (series)* Beverly Cleary has also written a series of animal fantasies about Ralph the mouse. A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling. Other books in the series are: *Runaway Ralph* and *Ralph S. Mouse*.

Dahl, Roald *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* Charlie Bucket lives a poor, but honest, life with his family, but his luck changes on the day he finds a golden ticket in one Mr. Wonka's chocolate bars. He is one of five lucky winners allowed to visit the mysterious chocolate factory. Fortunately, Charlie's virtues keep him safe, while the flaws of the other children cause them to drop out of the tour one by one.

*James and the Giant Peach* James has a miserable life with his two mean aunts, but his fortune changes the day he wakes up to find a giant peach growing on a tree in his yard, which is inhabited by giant garden creatures. He joins them for a rollicking adventure.

English, Karen *Nikki & Deja* When an arrogant new girl comes to school, third-graders and best friends Nikki and Deja decide to form a club that would exclude her but find the results not what they expected.

Harper, Charise *Just Grace (series)* There are too many girls named Grace in Grace Stewart's class, so to distinguish her from the other 3 Graces, her teacher calls her "Just" Grace. One thing Grace always tries to do is to make people feel better, but even her good intentions can go awry.

Hicks, Betty *Goof-Off Goalie (series)* Ten-year-old Goose is best at goofing off, but when he decides to become the goalie for their soccer team, his friend Henry sets up a practice schedule and enlists their other friends to help Goose improve his skills.

Holm, Jennifer *Squish, #1: Super Amoeba (series)* The young amoeba Squish, inspired by his favorite comic book hero, Super Amoeba, tries to navigate his way through school and save his friends and the world from the evils that lurk in the halls. Great introduction to the genre of graphic novels.

Holm, Jennifer *Babymouse, Queen of the World (series)* An imaginative mouse dreams of being queen of the world, but will settle for an invitation to the most popular girl's slumber party. Another fabulous graphic novel series.

Holub, Joan *Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom* (series) This series explores different characters from Greek mythology, but as children. Their powers can get them into trouble!

Jenkins, Emily *Toys Go Out* (series) The adventures of three best friends (a knowledgeable stingray, a toughy little buffalo, and someone called Plastic) who happen to be toys. Sequels: *Toy Dance Party* and *Toys Come Home*.

Jonell, Lynne *Hamster Magic* (series) When the Willows move into a new house, Celia, the youngest of four children, traps an enchanted hamster, who reluctantly agrees to grant the children one wish in exchange for his freedom.

Lin, Grace *The Year of the Dog* (series) The Chinese year of the dog is supposed to be a good time to make friends and find your special talent. Pacy doesn't seem to always have the success she had hoped for, but she perseveres.

MacDonald, Megan *Judy Moody* (series) Judy Moody reminds me a little of Ramona Quimby, with some Junie B. Jones thrown in. She has a unique way of exploring her interests. Her little brother, Stink, has his own series.

Martin, Anne *The Doll People* (series) 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. Sequels: *The Meanest Doll in the World*, *The Runaway Dolls*.

Pennypacker, Sara *Clementine* (series) Clementine is a third-grader who manages to get herself into some unfortunate predicaments. But it is all because (as she says herself) "Spectacular ideas are always sprouting up in my brain." How can you not love such a colorful character?

Peterson, John *The Littles* (series) When the Biggs go on a three-month vacation and an untidy family from the city moves into the house, the Littles must take action.

Simon, Coco *Katie and the Cupcake Cure* (series) Katie has some disappointments with her group of friends, but she discovers a new group of friends, who all enjoy baking cupcakes for good causes.

Stern, A.J. *Frankly, Frannie* (series) Frannie is ready for the business world. In this first adventure she tries to take over a radio station she is visiting on a class field trip.

Sternberg, Julie *Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie* (series) When nine-year-old Eleanor's beloved babysitter Bibi moves away to care for her ailing father, Eleanor must spend the summer adjusting to a new babysitter while mourning the loss of her old one.

Stilton, Geronimo *Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye* (series) The discovery of an old map by his sister Thea leads Geronimo and his family to search for buried treasure on a faraway island. The first book in a series that includes many adventures of the mouse editor-in-chief of *The Rodent Gazette* newspaper. Thea has her own series.

Vernon, Ursula *Dragonbreath* (series) Danny is a mythical reptile in a school for regular reptiles, which causes a few problems. But he and his iguana friend have a fantastic adventure exploring the Sargasso Sea with his sea serpent cousin.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler *The Boxcar Children* (series) If you didn't have an opportunity to read the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter family read aloud suggestion, then try the series this summer. Henry, Jessie, Violet and Benny Alden are orphans who are afraid they will be split up into different foster homes; so they run away and live in an abandoned boxcar, until their grandfather eventually finds them and keeps the family together

Wight, Eric *Frankie Pickle and the Closet of Doom* (series) Franklin's imagination turns cleaning his messy room into an Indiana Jones adventure. Lots of puns and laughs in this series.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls *Little House in the Big Woods* (series) Based upon the author's experiences growing up on the Wisconsin frontier, as she and her sister help their mother with the daily chores, enjoy their father's stories and singing, and share special occasions when they get together with relatives or neighbors. The series continues with *Little House on the Prairie*, *Little Town on the Prairie*, *On the Banks of Plum Creek*, etc. There are other series about Laura's ancestors and descendants, such as "The Martha Years" about Laura's Scottish great-grandmother or "The Rose Years" about Laura and Almanzo Wilder's daughter.



