

## ***Welcome 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Readers!***

Anytime is a great time for reading! Children who read daily are more likely to find academic success. It provides practice of important skills that support learning and thinking. It builds self-esteem and independence, and reading is fun! Reading to and with young children helps them develop a love for reading and become confident and able readers.

Here are some thoughts to encourage your readers:

- Visit the library when possible! Encourage your children to read for pleasure.
- Choose books together. Children often have favorite authors, characters, and topics of interest. They may like the pictures. It's okay to reread old favorites and try new ones.
- Reading is a meaning making process so books for independent reading should be "just right", not too hard or not too easy. If your child can't read and understand most of what's on the page, save it for the future.
- Reading aloud to your children is an opportunity to enjoy some books that may be difficult to read alone. Reading to children builds background knowledge and vocabulary development. Besides, it's a great time to talk and cuddle with your child!

Most importantly, have a great summer and make reading part of the fun!

***It's been a joy to work with your children. Happy Reading!***

***Cheryl Miller, CTA Library 2021***

### **Great for Reading Aloud and independently, too!**

***Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*** by Judith Viorst 1987 Alexander will keep you laughing as he tells you about his terrible day!

***Anansi and the Talking Melon*** by Eric Kimmel 1994 Anansi, that clever spider, tricks elephant into thinking the melon he's hiding in can talk. Also enjoy ***Anansi Goes Fishing***.

***Arthur*** series by Marc Brown Enjoy the everyday and extraordinary situations of the loveable aardvark and his friends. Arthur chapter books, too.

***Chester's Way*** by Kevin Henkes 1988 Chester and Wilson are best friends, until Lily moves in.

***Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*** by Judy Barrett 1978 The town of Chewandswallow has unusual weather that comes three times a day – at breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

***Everything On It*** by Shel Silverstein 2011 Funny poems from the author of ***Where the Sidewalk Ends***.

***Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear*** by Lindsay Mattick 2016 Caldecott Read about Captain Harry Coleburn and the bear cub he rescued during WW1 who later became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's ***Winnie the Pooh***.

***The Good Egg*** by Jory John 2019 , Good Egg is cracking up! He can't change all the bad eggs in the carton. Finally, he realizes he doesn't need to be perfect.

***The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Great Amazon Rain Forest*** by Lynne Cherry 1990 After he's exhausted from trying to chop down a huge kapok tree, a man rests, While he sleeps rainforest residents tell him how important trees are and how all living things depend on one another.

***Jumanji*** by Chris Van Allsburg 1982 Caldecott Medal Some boys get more excitement than they expected when they find and play a mysterious jungle board game.

***Just Ask*** by Sonia Sotomayor 2019 The Supreme Court Justice uses her own childhood experiences to celebrate children with challenges. As they build a community garden, kids ask and answer questions. Readers are encouraged to do the same.

***The Lorax*** by Dr. Seuss 1971 Dr. Seuss' cautionary tale about protecting the earth's natural beauty.

***Malala's Magic Pencil*** by Malala Yousafzai 2017 Written by the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize this book encourage readers to find magic in the world around them.

***Miss Nelson is Missing!*** by Harry Allard 1977 The kids in Room 207 don't listen to their nice, sweet teacher Miss Nelson. But when Miss Viola Swamp substitutes, things change!

***Miss Rumphius*** by Barbara Cooney 1982 Miss Rumphius wanted to travel, live by the sea, and make the world beautiful. Based on the real Lupine Lady whose seeds bloom along the coast of Maine.

***The New Kid on the Block*** by Jack Prelutsky 1984 More than 100 hilarious poems to make you laugh.

***Sam and Dave Dig Hole*** by Mac Barnett & Jon Klassen 2015 Caldecott Honor  
Brothers Sam and Dave are looking for something spectacular, so they did a hole. What do they find?

***Sofia Valdez, Future Prez*** by Andrea Beaty 2019 Sofia sees a problem and want to fix it! She plans to turn the landfill into a park, but City Hall says she's just a kid! Will this stop Sofia?

***Strega Nona*** by Tomi de Paola 1976 Caldecott Honor Strega Nona's magical pot makes the best pasta. Big Anthony loves pasta but when he says the magic words the unexpected happens.

***What Do You Do With a Problem?*** by Kobi Yamada 2016 A persistent problem faces a child but what can change a problem into an opportunity? From the author of ***What Can You Do With an Idea?***

**Fairy Tales – Fairy tales and folk tales make great read alouds. Here are a few.**

- ***Chicken Little*** by Steven Kellogg
- ***Stone Soup*** by Marcia Brown
- ***Gingerbread Man*** by Eric A. Kimmel or Jim Aylesworth
- ***The Little Red Hen*** by Margot Zemach
- ***Beauty and the Beast*** by Jan Brett
- ***Town Mouse and Country Mouse*** by Jan Brett
- ***The Way Meat Loves Salt*** by Nina Jaffe 1998 Jewish Cinderella Tale from Eastern Europe.
- ***Hansel and Gretel*** by Rika Lesser 1984 Caldecott Honor for Paul O. Zelinsky's paintings.
- ***The Ugly Duckling*** by Hans Christian Andersen & Jerry Pinkney

## **Early Readers**

***Amelia Bedelia*** by Peggy Parish Enduring classic first published in 1963. Meet Amelia Bedelia, the unflappable maid who does everything she's asked, *literally!*

***Annie and Snowball and the Book Bugs Club*** by Cynthia Rylant 2011 Annie and Henry join the library's summer reading club. Series

***Bad Kitty*** by Nick Bruel 2005 Kitty's favorite foods are gone and all that's left are an alphabetical array of Asparagus, Beets, Cauliflower and 21 more, all unappealing. So, she misbehaves, alphabetically!

***Charlie & Mouse*** by Laurel Snyder 2018 Geisel Award Charlie and Mouse, two silly brothers, talk to bed lumps, lead a neighborhood party, sell rocks, and invent new bedtime traditions.

***Fox on the Job*** by James Marshall 1988 Fox wants to earn money, so he tries different jobs. Series

***Frog and Toad Are Friends*** by Arnold Lobel 1971 Caldecott Honor This all-time favorite is about two best friends, Frog and Toad. Great series.

***Henry and Mudge*** by Cynthia Rylant Henry is lonely, and he really wants a pet. So, his parents let him get a huge, loveable dog named Mudge. Popular series

***King and Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats*** by Dori Hillestad Butler 2018 Geisel Honor Kayla made treats but 3 are missing. King *was* in the kitchen, but he didn't take them. Who did? Series

***Ling & Ting: Twice as Silly*** by Grace Lin 2014 Identical twins Ling & Ting like to be silly, tell jokes and laugh together. Series

***Little Bear*** by Else Holmelund Minarik A sweet story that will have young ones excited to find out what happens next. Classic series.

***Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog*** by Cynthia Rylant 1994 When their neighbor hurts her foot Mr. Putter and his cat, Tabby, offer to help. What a nightmare! Series.

***Nate the Great*** by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat 1977 Nate the Great is an extraordinary boy detective!

***Penny and Her Marble*** by Kevin Henkes 2014 Geisel Honor Book Penny finds a beautiful marble on her neighbor's lawn and can't decide if it's ok to keep it. Also read ***Penny and Her Song*** 2012

***Snail & Worm Again*** by Tina Kugler 2018 Geisel Honor book Good friends support each other in three funny stories.

***Young Cam Jansen & The Lost Tooth*** by David Adler 1997 Cam's friend has lost a tooth in art class and to her dismay it disappears. Series

**Chapter Books** These books vary, just like their readers. Pick "just right" books for your child. Some children entering Gr. 2 can read them alone now, others will later. They're great to read aloud, too.

***Amelia Bedelia Means Business*** by Herman Parish 2013 Young Amelia Bedelia will do almost anything for a new bicycle. Her parents will split the cost with her, and that means Amelia Bedelia needs to find a way earn some money.

***A Boy Called Bat*** by Elena Arnold 2017 Bat's mom brings home a baby skunk that needs care before it can go to a wild animal shelter. Bat, a special little boy, wants to care for, and keep it.

***Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Stolen Diamonds*** by David Adler 2004 Can Cam's photographic memory help her catch a diamond thief? Series

***Dory Fantasmagory*** by Abby Hanlon 2014 As the youngest in her family Dory wants attention especially from her brother and sister. But they think she's a baby, so she'll find other things to do!

***The Chocolate Touch*** by Patrick Catling Reprint 2006 A boy who loves candy doesn't know what to do when everything he touches becomes chocolate

***Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure*** by Doreen Cronin 2015 What is that mysterious green thing? When a terrified squirrel asks for help, it's Chicken Squad to the rescue!

***Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon*** by Tracey West 2014 In the 19-book series, best read in order, Drake joins other dragon masters in-training at the castle. Does he have what it takes to be one?

***Eerie Elementary: The School is Alive*** by Jack Chabert 2014 On his first day as hall monitor Sam discovers that the school is alive! How will he save his classmates from this evil? Series

***Flat Stanley*** by Jeff Brown 2013 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reprint Stanley's an ordinary boy but a bulletin board falls and flattens him. Now he can slide under doors, be a kite for his brother and more!

***Get Ready for Second Grade, Amber Brown*** by Paula Danziger 2003 Amber Brown is ready for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade but a little nervous, too. Series

***Gooney Bird Greene*** by Lois Lowry 2004 Gooney Bird loves being the "center of everything", and she tells the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade only "absolutely true stories". You'll love this modern day Pippi! Series

***Ivy + Bean*** by Annie Barrows 2006 Bean and her new neighbor seem to have little in common but sometimes best friends come when you least expect it. Series

***Teacher Troubles for Jelly Eli Z*** by David Adler 2018 Eli Zipperbaum is a good kid, but he doesn't always pay attention in class. But then something happens. Is he in trouble? Series

***Magic Tree House series*** by Mary Pope Osborne Jack and his sister Annie discover a mysterious tree house packed with books. Soon they're traveling through time and space and having amazing adventures.

***Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig*** by Kate DiCamillo 2008 Eugenia and Baby Lincoln live next door to a pig who loves the smell and taste of the flowers they've planted. Series

***The Mouse and the Motorcycle*** by Beverly Cleary 1965 Ralph finds a toy motorcycle and takes it for a joyride! When his ride ends in disaster, he makes a new friend.

***Owl Diaries: Eva's Treetop Festival*** by Rebecca Elliott 2015 Eva volunteers to organize a Spring Festival but it's a big job. Will she ask for help?

New! ***Unicorn Diaries: Bo's Magical New Friend*** Meet the Unicorns of Sparklegrove School! Series.

***The Princess in Black*** by Shannon Hale 2014 Princess Magnolia has a secret —she's also the Princess in Black, and stopping monsters is the perfect job for her! Series

***Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot*** by Dav Pilkey 2014 Ricky Ricotta makes an unlikely new friend.

***Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid*** by Megan McDonald 2013 reprint ***Judy Moody***'s little brother has his own series. Meet Stink, the shortest kid in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, in this first book in his series

***The Year of Billy Miller*** by Kevin Henkes 2014 Newbery Honor Book When 7-year-old Billy starts school with a bump on his head and a lot of worries he can't imagine just how great 2<sup>nd</sup> grade can be.

**Non-fiction** - There's lots of great nonfiction. Let your readers' interests guide choices.

*All the Water in the World* by George Ella Lyon 2001 Lyrical verse explores and informs about the water cycle. Beautiful illustrations.

*The Brain is Kind of a Big Deal* by Nick Seluk 2019 Do you know what your brain does? This book will give you the facts and lots of fun. Like this? Then read *The Sun is Kind of a Big Deal*, too.

*Fly Guy Presents Dinosaurs* by Tedd Arnold 2014 Fly Guy and Buzz Boy visit a natural history museum to learn about dinosaurs. Check out other Fly Guy informational books, too.

*If You Decide to Go to the Moon* by Faith McNulty 2005 Go with a boy on a trip to the moon. What will you pack? What will the trip be like?

*Jane Goodall: Friend of the Apes* by Mary Lindeen 2009 Read about the scientist's work with gorillas.

*Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera* by Candace Fleming & Eric Rohmann 2021 Robert Siebert Medal Poetically written and beautifully illustrated description of the life cycle of the honeybee.

*How Much Is a Million?* by David M. Schwartz & Steven Kellogg 2004 See how big a bowl you would need to hold a million goldfish, or how many years it takes to count to a million.

*Itzhak: A Boy Who Loved the Violin* by Tracey Newman 2021 Schneider Family Award New picture book biography about Israeli violinist Itzhak Perlman.

*Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla* by Katherine Applegate 2014. This picture book tells the true story of Ivan, the shopping mall gorilla that inspired the 2013 Newbery Medal novel, *The One and Only Ivan*.

*Monarch Butterflies* by Gail Gibbons 1989 Learn what Monarchs look like and about its life cycle. Great nonfiction author for kids. Some others by the author: *Snakes; Lizards; Frogs; From Seed to Plant*

*National Geographic Kids & National Geographic Readers* are 2 nonfiction series that have lots of information on many topics from butterflies to snakes to space to weird sea creatures and much more!

*Packard Takes Flight: A Bird's-Eye View of Columbus* by Susan Levine 2010 After falling from his nest atop The Rhodes Tower, Packard, a baby peregrine falcon, must find his way back home. On his trip he visits the sights of Columbus! Get some great ideas for day trips around town!

*A Picture Book of Jackie Robinson* by David A. Adler 1997 A look at the life of baseball great Jackie Robinson. Adler explores others famous people in this series, too.

*Train* by Elisha Cooper 2013 Learn about life on the rails as you travel the country. In this book we read about commuter, passenger, freight, overnight trains and more.

*Who would Win? Lion vs. Tiger?* by Jerry Pallotta 2015 What would happen if a lion and a tiger met? What if they had a fight? Who do you think would win? Compare and contrast these big cats.

*Who is/ Who Was..?* series by various authors Readable biographies that really engage children from Johnny Appleseed to Steve Jobs, Kamala Harris, Babe Ruth, Kobe Bryant and much more.