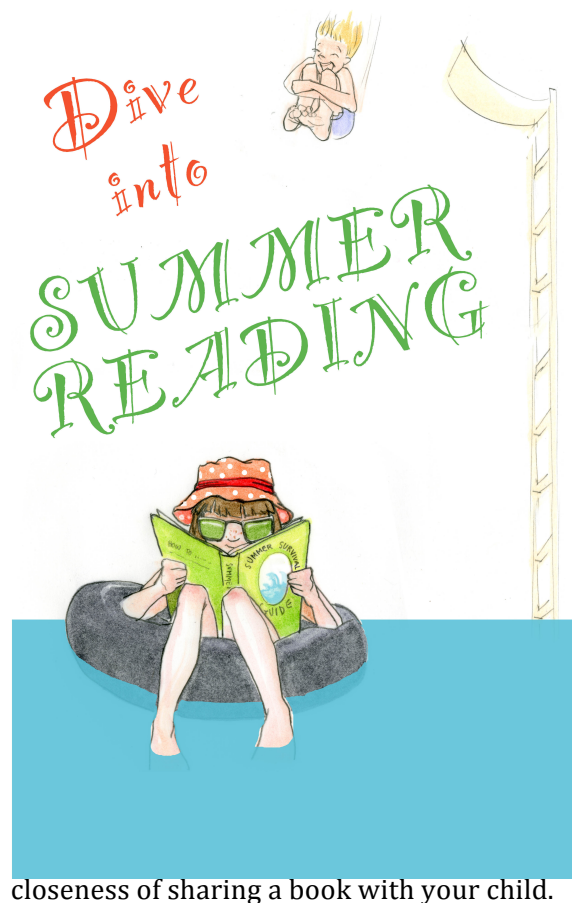


A young person's reading brain is like a sailboat that needs wind to carry it forward. During the summer months without reading practice, those sails aren't filled and a reader not reading can stagnate in one place or even drift backward in their reading ability. Through your child's school vacation, it is important for him/her to spend time reading and writing on a regular basis—whether a beginning reader or a fluent reader. Obviously, we could not include every book that a child in his grade might enjoy but here are some suggestions to try and hopefully make your school-aged child's summer full of literacy fun. The books on this list are available in e-book, paperback, or hardcover editions in bookstores as well as on library shelves. If you discover some treasures that we have overlooked, please tell the librarians in the fall. Happy Summer Reading!



Tips to help your child read.

Be a reader and writer yourself. When you spend time reading books on the beach or even directions for how to put together the grill this summer, you demonstrate for your child that reading is both fun and useful.

Set aside a consistent time each day for reading. Depending on your family's schedule, reading time might be in the morning, afternoon or before bed. Whatever time you choose, stick to it, but also remember that flexibility around trips and special family events is OK.

Read aloud to your reader. As school-aged children become better readers, parents often stop reading aloud to them. However, by reading more difficult books aloud to your reader, you help him learn new vocabulary words, concepts, and ways of telling stories or presenting information. You also enjoy the

closeness of sharing a book with your child.

Connect read-aloud choices to summer activities. Read your child books about camping, such as "Webster and Arnold Go Camping", before or after a camping trip. When you read and discuss books about things your child has experienced, you help her learn important vocabulary and extend her understanding of experiences.

Allow your child to choose books for summer reading. While it is important for your child to complete reading required by his school, it is equally important for him to read about topics that interest him, whether it is insects, dragons or a favorite fiction series.

Help your child select books at a comfortable level. Listen to your child read. If he reads smoothly, uses expression and can accurately tell you what he read, the book is probably at a comfortable level. If you are having troubling judging, consult your local children's librarian, who is likely to be an expert at matching books to readers. In addition, teach your child to use the "rule of thumb" in selecting books: if he makes five or more errors in reading a page of

about 50 words, the book is too challenging.

Encourage your child not to limit summer reading to books. Encourage your child to read the sports page to check up on her favorite baseball team or to read children's magazines such as Ranger Rick, National Geographic World and New Moon.

Read a book and watch the video together. When you finish reading and viewing, discuss the similarities and differences and talk about which version you prefer. Many books, including "Stone Fox", "Sarah, Plain and Tall" and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," are available in movie versions.

Take books along on outings. Pack books in your beach bag or picnic basket, and bring a stack on long car rides. You and your child can enjoy books together anywhere you go this summer.

Encourage your child to write this summer, too. From writing postcards to friends and relatives to keeping a journal while on a trip, summer presents unique ways for your child to write about his own experiences. Have your child pack a disposable camera on vacations or day trips and help him create a book about his experiences.

School Library Journal has great suggestions as well.

pibks: <http://slj.com/bestof2016/picturebooks.php>

2nd Grade Reading Suggestions -

Adler, David, *CAM JANSEN, THE MYSTERY OF THE DINOSAUR BONES* On a field trip to the museum, "Cam" (short for "camera" because she has a photographic memory) notices that a dinosaur skeleton is missing three tailbones. No one believes her, but she and her friend Eric pedal off on their bicycles in an attempt to catch the crooks.

Andersen, Hans Christian, *THE SNOW QUEEN* When Kay is lured from his home by the beautiful, cruel snowqueen, his friend Gerda sets out on an epic journey to rescue him.

Arnold, Eric, *VOLCANOES! MOUNTAINS OF FIRE!*

The author describes the eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington State in 1980 and explains how and why volcanoes erupt.

Arnold, Tedd, *EVEN MORE PARTS: IDIOMS FROM HEAD TO TOE*

A young boy is worried about what will happen to his body when he hears such expressions, as "I'm tongue tied," "Don't give me any of your lip," and "I put my foot in my mouth."

Barkley, Callie, *ALL ABOUT ELLIE (THE CRITTER CLUB)*

When she wins the lead role in a school play, second-grader Ellie neglects her friends in the Critter Club and their new animal shelter.

Benchley, Nathaniel, *SAM, THE MINUTEMAN*

Sam and his father fight as Minutemen against the British in the Battle of Lexington.

Bennett, Anna Elizabeth, *LITTLE WITCH*

A witch's daughter dislikes black magic and sneaks off to school where she causes a great deal of excitement.

Birney, Betty G., *THE WORLD ACCORDING TO HUMPHREY*

Humphrey, the resident class hamster, cleverly tells readers about his adventures in the classroom and in children's homes.

Brown, Jeff, *FLAT STANLEY'S WORLDWIDE ADVENTUERS: THE GREAT EGYPTIAN GRAVE ROBBERY*

When Stanley receives a letter from an archaeologist, he travels by airmail to Egypt to help find an ancient treasure deep in the heart of a great pyramid.

Cameron, Ann, *JULIAN, SECRET AGENT*

When Julian, his little brother Huey, and their friend Gloria decide to be "crime busters" they find themselves in one adventure after another.

Chabert, Jack, *THE LOCKER ATE LUCY (EERIE ELEMENTARY)*

Only a week into his job as hall monitor and class protector, Sam Graves and his friends Lucy and Antonio are trying to uncover the secrets of Eerie Elementary, their living and malevolent school when Lucy is swallowed by her locker and her friends dive in after her.

Chandra, Deborah, *GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TEETH*

A rollicking rhyme portrays George Washington's life long struggle with bad teeth.

Child, Lauren, *UTTERLY ME, CLARICE BEAN*

When someone steals the winner's trophy for the school's book project, Clarice emulates her favorite book heroine, Ruby Redfort, the detective.

Chinn, Karen, *SAM AND THE LUCKY MONEY*

Sam must decide how to spend the lucky money he's received for Chinese New Year.

Cleary, Beverly, *RAMONA, THE PEST*

Ramona meets lots of interesting people in her kindergarten class, like Davy whom she keeps trying to kiss and Susan whose springy curls seem to ask to be pulled.

Clements, Andrew, *JAKE DRAKE: BULLY BUSTER*

Fourth-grader Jake Drake relates how he comes to terms with Super Bully Link.

Dahl, Roald, *FANTASTIC MR. FOX*

Three farmers, each one meaner than the other, try all-out warfare to get rid of the fox and his family.

Dahl, Roald, *THE TWITS*

The misadventures of two terrible old people who enjoy playing nasty tricks and who finally are outwitted by a family of monkeys

De Paola, Tomie, *STREGA NONA'S MAGIC LESSONS*

Big Anthony tries to join Strega Nona's magic class with hilarious results.

Duffey, Betsy, *HOW TO BE COOL IN THE THIRD GRADE*

On his first day of third grade, Robbie York decides that he would like to become cool, but falling into the school bully on the bus starts the year off on the wrong foot.

Elliott, Rebecca, *EVA SEES A GHOST (OWL DIARIES)*

When Eva Wingdale sees something large and white flying above her, she is convinced that it is a ghost although most of the other owls just laugh at her— until something large and heavy and white lands on the school roof.

Gerstein, Mordecai, *THE MAN WHO WALKED BETWEEN THE TOWERS*

In 1974, as the World Trade Center was being completed, a young French aerialist, Philippe Petit, threw a tightrope between the towers and spend almost an hour walking, dancing, and performing tricks a quarter of a mile up in the sky.

Golenbock, Peter, *TEAMMATES*

When Jackie Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers and became the first black Major League baseball player, he experienced racial prejudice. Robinson was helped through this ordeal by the acceptance and support he received from his white teammate, Pee Wee Reese.

Greene, Stephanie, *PRINCESS POSEY AND THE PERFECT PRESENT*

Posey loves first grade, her two new best friends, and most of all her teacher Miss Lee. When Miss Lee announces her birthday is the next day, Posey can hardly wait to give her the pink, homegrown roses from her backyard.

Hapka, Cathy, *HOW NOT TO BABYSIT YOUR BROTHER*

Will finds it hard to keep his little brother Steve out of trouble when he has to babysit.

Harper, Charice Mericle, *JUST GRACE*

Grace has got lots and lots of ideas, and when her neighbor's cat goes missing, she does her best to make Mrs. Luther feel less lonely. But as the mystery of the missing cat continues, Grace's well-intentioned plan backfires, and she finds herself in a bit of trouble.

Hayes, Geoffrey, *A POOR EXCUSE FOR A DRAGON*

When Fred the dragon leaves home, he learns that he is not very good at roaring or breathing fire and swallowing people only makes him ill. With the help from a witch, a giant and a wise boy, he finds his true calling.

Kelly, David A., *THE PINSTRIPE GHOST (BALLPARK MYSTERIES)*

While visiting New York's Yankee Stadium with Kate's mother, cousins Mike and Kate decide to investigate the rumor that the ghost of Babe Ruth is

haunting the stadium.

Keller, Laurie, *THE SCRAMBLED STATES OF AMERICA*

Tired of being stuck in the same old places, the states decide to swap spots with one another.

Kellogg, Steven, *PAUL BUNYAN*

Recounts the life of the extraordinary lumberjack whose unusual size and strength brought him many fantastic adventures

Kline, Suzy, *HORRIBLE HARRY IN ROOM 2B*

Second grade in South School is never dull with Harry and his friends in 2B.

Lin, G, *DUMPLING DAYS*

Pacy's family is Taiwanese-American, but she has lived all her life in New Hartford, New York.

Look, Lenore, *ALVIN HO ALLERGIC TO GIRLS, SCHOOL, AND OTHER SCARY THINGS*

Alvin Ho is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls and, most of all, school where he has never, *ever*, said a single word.

Lowell, Susan, *THE THREE LITTLE JAVELINAS*

In this humorous Southwestern variant of the familiar story, three desert javelinas (hairy cousins to the ordinary pig) set off one day to seek their fortunes.

Lowry, Lois, *GOONEY BIRD GREENE*

A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself including how she got her name.

MacLachlan, Patricia, *THE BOXCAR CHILDREN BEGINNING*

In the year before they become the orphans known as the Boxcar Children, Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny Alden live with their parents at Fair Meadow Farm, where, although times are hard, they take in a family who has been stranded in their car during a blizzard.

Marzollo, Jean, *SOCCER SAM*

Sam's cousin from Mexico comes for an extended visit and teaches Sam and all the second graders to play soccer.

McDonald, Megan, *STINK: THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING KID*

The shortest kid in the second grade, James Moody, also known as Stink, learns all about the shortest president of the United States, James Madison, when his class celebrates Presidents Day at school.

McMullan, Kate, *THE NEW KID AT SCHOOL (DRAGON SLAYER'S ACADEMY NO. 1)*

When a traveling minstrel foretells that he is to become a hero, Wiglaf sets out to fulfill his destiny. He signs up at the Dragon Slayer's Academy.

Mlynowski, Sarah, *IF THE SHOE FITS (WHATEVER AFTER)*

On their second adventure through the magic mirror, Abby and Jonah find themselves in the Cinderella fairy tale—and that's when things start to go really wrong.

Morales, Y, *RUDAS: NINO'S HORRENDOUS HERMANITAS*

Luchadores beware: Niño's younger sisters, Las Hermanitas, step into the ring in this wildly rambunctious sequel to Niño Wrestles the World.

Nolen, Jerdine, *THUNDER ROSE*

Unusual from the day she is born, Thunder Rose performs all sorts of amazing feats including building fences, taming a stampeding herd of steers, capturing a gang of rustlers, and turning aside a tornado.

O'Connor, Jane, *DRAWING WITH SCISSORS*

Keesia picks Matisse for her artist report. She finds out that over his long career Matisse made paintings, sculpture, books, costumes, and her favorite—his cutouts, or what Matisse called “drawing with scissors.”

Osborne, Mary Pope, *MAGIC TREE HOUSE #2: THE KNIGHT AT DAWN*

Eight-year-old Jack and his younger sister Annie use the magic tree house to travel back to the Middle Ages where they explore a castle and are helped by a mysterious stranger.

Pascal, Janet, *WHO WAS ABRAHAM LINCOLN?*

Highlights the life and achievements of the 16th president of the United States, discussing his childhood years, his rise through politics, and the major decisions he made as president, during the Civil War.

Pennypacker, Sara, *CLEMENTINE*

Eight-year-old Clementine has an unfailing nose for trouble and a comical way with words.

Ringgold, Faith, *TAR BEACH*

A young girl dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family.

Roy, Ron, *A TO Z MYSTERIES: THE NINTH NUGGET*

Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose go to Key West over winter school break. There they save Ruth Rose's grandmother and her senior friends from being pirated out of their savings by two con artists.

Scieszka, Jon, *KNIGHTS OF THE KITCHEN TABLE*

When Joe, Fred and Sam are sent back in time by a magic book, they find themselves face-to-face with giants, dragons, wizards, and the Knights of the Round Table.

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman, *NATE THE GREAT AND THE MISSING KEY*

When Nate's friend Annie loses her house key and can't get inside to set up a birthday party for her ferocious dog Fang, Nate the Great is hot on the key's trail.

Sobol, Donald J., *ENCYCLOPEDIA BROWN, BOY DETECTIVE*

Leroy Brown, aka Encyclopedia Brown, is Idaville's neighborhood, ten-year-old detective. With an uncanny knack for trivia, he solves mysteries for the neighborhood kids through his own detective agency.

Step toe, John, *THE STORY OF JUMPING MOUSE*

The gifts of Magic Frog and his own hopeful and unselfish spirit bring Jumping Mouse finally to the Far-Off Land where no mouse goes hungry.

Tarshis, Lauren, *I SURVIVED THE SHARK ATTACKS OF 1916*

In July, 1916, Chet Roscow is fascinated by news accounts of the great white shark said to be attacking people along the New Jersey shore not far from his home, but when he goes swimming Matawan Creek he discovers the truth of the stories.

Viorst, Judith, *EARRINGS*

A young girl uses various arguments to convince her parents to let her have her ears pierced.

Viorst, Judith, *LULU AND THE BRONTOSAURUS*

Lulu is a spoiled young lady who wants a brontosaurus for her birthday. She is used to getting her way, but her parents refuse this request. So Lulu packs a small suitcase and sets out in search of her perfect pet.

Yolen, Jane, *SLEEPING UGLY*

When beautiful princess Miserella, Plain Jane, and a fairy fall under a sleeping spell, a prince undoes the spell in a surprising way.

Young, Ed, *LON PO PO: A RED RIDING HOOD TALE FROM CHINA*

Three little girls spare no mercy to Lon Po Po, the granny wolf who they tempt up a tree and over a limb to her death

