Suggested Summer Reading List 2016

Students Entering Second Grade

Picture Books

**The Book with No Pictures** by B.J. Novak

You might think a book with no pictures seems boring and serious. Except . . . here’s how books work. Everything written on the page *has* to be said by the person reading it aloud. Even if the words say . . . BLORK. Or BLUURF. Even if the words are a preposterous song about eating ants for breakfast, or just a list of astonishingly goofy sounds like BLAGGITY BLAGGITY and GLIBBITY GLOBBITY.

**The Dark** by Lemony Snicket

Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo. Mostly, though, the dark stays in the basement and doesn’t come into Lazslo’s room. But one night, it does. This is the story of how Laszlo stops being afraid of the dark.

**The Day the Crayons Came Back** by Dave Daywalt

Having soothed the hurt feelings of one group who threatened to quit, Duncan now faces a whole new group of crayons asking to be rescued. From Maroon Crayon, who was lost beneath the sofa cushions and then broken in two after Dad sat on him; to poor Turquoise, whose head is now stuck to one of Duncan’s stinky socks after they both ended up in the dryer together; to Pea Green, who knows darn well that no kid likes peas and who ran away—each and every crayon has a woeful tale to tell and a plea to be brought home to the crayon box.

**Diary of a Fly** by Doreen Cronin

Fly, a girl with a red bow on her purple head and multifaceted green eyes, writes in her diary about her first-day-of-school worries, the challenges of fly-school classes, a visit to her aunt who is stuck on the wrong side of the screen door, and play dates with her pals Worm and Spider. Fly wants to be a superhero. And why not? She walks on walls, sees in all directions and can fly!

**Exclamation Mark…** by Amy Kraus Rosenthal

It’s not easy being seen. Especially when you’re NOT like everyone else. Especially when what sets you apart is YOU. Sometimes we squish ourselves to fit in. We shrink. Twist. Bend. Until -- ! -- a friend shows the way to endless possibilities.
**Finding Winnie** by Lindsay Mattick

In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, and he took the bear to war. Harry Colebourn’s real-life great-granddaughter tells the true story of a remarkable friendship and an even more remarkable journey--from the fields of Canada to a convoy across the ocean to an army base in England... And finally to the London Zoo, where Winnie made another new friend: a real boy named Christopher Robin. Here is the remarkable true story of the bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh.

**Interrupting Chicken** by Dr. David Stein

It’s time for the little red chicken’s bedtime story --and a reminder from Papa to try not to interrupt. But the chicken can’t help herself! When it’s the little red chicken’s turn to tell a story, will her yawning papa make it to the end without his own kind of interrupting?

**Last Stop on Market Street** by Matt de la Peña

Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don’t own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn’t he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty--and fun--in their routine and the world around them.

**Rocket Writes a Story** by Tad Hills

Rocket loves books and he wants to make his own, but he can’t think of a story. Encouraged by the little yellow bird to look closely at the world around him for inspiration, Rocket sets out on a journey. Along the way he discovers small details that he has never noticed before and an idea for a story.

**The Rules** by Marty Kelley

These days, being a kid means following rules. Lots of rules. Want a piece of cake? You have to eat your peas first. Getting dressed? Make sure you’ve got clean underwear on. Now all of these very important rules can be found in one very funny book by one of our favorite New Hampshire authors.
**Waking Beauty** by Leah Wilcox

Now here’s a prince our boys can identify with! Prince Charming sets off in search of dragons to slay, but instead finds a snoring princess. The fairies tell him that she’s been asleep for 100 years, and he’s the one to wake her up. Instead of listening to the fairies, he yelling at her, dumps water on her, throws her in a pond, but none of these work. What will he do?

**Yard Sale** by Eve Bunting

Almost everything Callie’s family owns is spread out in their front yard—their furniture, their potted flowers, even Callie’s bike. They can’t stay in this house, so they’re moving to an apartment in the city. The new place is "small but nice," Mom says, and most of their things won’t fit, so today they are having a yard sale. But it’s kind of hard to watch people buy your stuff, even if you understand why it has to happen.

**Chapter Books**

**Prince Fly Guy** by Ted Arnold

Buzz has a homework assignment to write a fairy tale and he asks Fly Guy to help. Fly Guy doesn’t like to think of himself as some of Buzz’s suggestions—an ugly troll, a smelly pig herder—so he becomes a handsome prince instead! Prince Fly Guy flies to a dark castle, fends off a giant, and rescues a beautiful princess.

**Zelda and Ivy: the Runaways** by Laura McGee Kvasnosky

The fabulous fox sisters return in three fresh, funny stories perfect for beginning readers. Whether Zelda and Ivy are combating the injustice of cucumber sandwiches for lunch, deciding what to leave the children of the future in their time capsule, or solving Zelda’s writer’s block, they are sure to tickle the funny bones of both new and returning fans.

**Stink and the Incredible Super-Galactic Jawbreaker** by Megan McDonald

Judy Moody’s pesky seven-year old brother is angry that his jawbreaker candy doesn’t live up to its name. Stink writes a letter of complaint to the manufacturer and receives a 10-pound box of the candies in response. Will his campaign to acquire more free stuff cost him a friendship?

**Dinosaurs before Dark** by Mary Pope Osborne

This enjoyable time-travel fantasy, the first in the Magic Tree House series, begins in a mysterious tree house filled with stacks of books. When Jack wishes to see a real pteranodon after looking at a picture of one, he and his sister are transported through time and have some thrilling adventures in the prehistoric past.
Mr. Putter and Tabby Turn the Page by Cynthia Rylant

Mr. Putter and his fine cat, Tabby, love reading their favorite books over and over. So when Mr. Putter sees a sign at the library that says "Read Aloud with Your Pet at Story Time," he signs up! But then Mr. Putter's friend and neighbor, Mrs. Teaberry, wants to join. If Mrs. Teaberry brings her good dog, Zeke, to the library, who knows what will happen?

Chapter Books – Series

Roscoe Riley by Katherine Applegate

These books begin with young Roscoe addressing the reader ("Hey! Over here!") from the time-out corner, explaining how he got in trouble...again. Roscoe is good hearted and tells his own story in funny short chapters.

Mercy Watson by Kate DiCamillo

Mercy Watson is a very lovable pig who enjoys the finer things in life. Mr. and Mrs. Watson indulge Mercy, who is not just a pig – she’s a “porcine wonder.” Mercy always gets into trouble but it’s nothing that a little buttered toast can’t fix.

Horrible Harry by Suzy Kline

Room 2B in South School is never dull with Harry and his friends in class. Harry is a troublesome second grader who plays pranks and gets into mischief but can still end up being a good friend.

Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park

Junie B. just can’t help herself! No matter how hard she tries, she keeps getting into all kinds of scrapes. But no matter how much trouble she gets into, Junie B. will make you laugh as you follow her adventures through Kindergarten and the first grade.

Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel

Frog and Toad are always there for each other -- just as best friends should be. From sledding in winter to eating ice cream on hot summer days.
**Henry and Mudge** by Cynthia Rylant

The stories of Henry and his enormous dog, Mudge, capture the excitement and wonder of ordinary childhood experiences from splashing in puddles to playing spies to taking a family trip to the country.

**Nate the Great** by Marjorie Sharmat

There isn’t a case too great for the one and only Nate. With help from his friends, his trusty dog, Sludge, and a few pancake pick-me-ups along the way, Nate the Great uses his brain to solve these elementary school mysteries.

**Nonfiction**

**Gravity** by Jason Chin

What keeps objects from floating out of your hand? What if your feet drifted away from the ground? What stops everything from floating into space? **Gravity.**

**Fly Guy Presents Sharks** by Ted Arnold

Fly Guy and his owner, Buzz, are back! This time they're on a field trip to the aquarium. Fly Guy agrees to tour the shark exhibit with Buzz acting as guide. Mixing photos of fish tanks with notebook-lined journal pages, taped pictures, and handwritten notes about the predators, Buzz introduces readers to a sampling of the more than 400 kinds of sharks.

**Ivan the Remarkable** by Katherine Applegate

Captured as a baby, Ivan was brought to a Tacoma, Washington, mall to attract shoppers. Gradually, public pressure built until a better way of life for Ivan was found at Zoo Atlanta. From the Congo to America, and from a local business attraction to a national symbol of animal welfare, Ivan the Shopping Mall Gorilla traveled an astonishing distance in miles and in impact.

**You Never Heard of Willie Mays?!** by Jonah Winter

He hit 660 home runs (fourth best of all time), had a lifetime batting average of .302, and is second only to Babe Ruth on The Sporting News’s list of "Baseball’s 100 Greatest Players." Many believe him to be the best baseball player that ever lived. His name is Willie Mays.

**Hi, Koo!: A Year in Seasons** by Jon J. Muth

Koo is alone in this verse collection, until a boy and girl from the neighborhood knock on his door. They share good times throughout the seasons, whether throwing snowballs, reading aloud to sparrows, or skipping stones. And sometimes Koo enjoys reflective moments alone, "becoming so quiet / Zero sound / only breath." These very short poems are enhanced by the beautiful watercolor-and-ink illustrations on every page.