

REALISTIC FICTION

Blume, Judy. **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing** - Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem.

Clements, Andrew. **Lunch Money** – Greg wants to sell his self-written comic books at school.

Creech, Sharon. **Granny Torrelli Makes Soup** - With the help of her wise old grandmother, Rosie works out some problems in her relationship with her best friend.

Davies, Jacqueline. **The Lemonade War** - Evan and his younger sister Jesse battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. One of a series.

Paulsen, Gary. **Lawn Boy** – Things get out of hand when a boy expands his lawn mowing business.

Weeks, Sarah. **Oggie Cooder** - Oggie, a 4th grade "cheese sculptor," is shunned by all the other kids because he's different, that is until he comes to the attention of a popular T.V. talent show that spotlights the weird.

HUMOROUS STORIES

Gantos, Jack. **Jack Adrift: Fourth Grade Without a Clue** - Ten-year-old Jack becomes confused by a crush on his teacher, contradictory advice from his parents, and a very strange neighbor. One of a series.

Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking, and Other Natural Disasters** - Alvin Ho, an Asian-American, must face his biggest fear: The Great Outdoors. One of a series.

Lowry, Lois. **The Willoughbys** – The four Willoughby children try to become “deserving orphans” after their neglectful parents embark on an adventure.

Rockwell, Thomas. **How To Eat Fried Worms** - A boy sets out to eat fifteen worms in fifteen days in order to win a bet.

Sachar, Louis. **Wayside School** - Unusual things happen in Wayside School, which was built sideways with one classroom on each story. One of a series.

Smith, Robert K. **Chocolate Fever** - Henry breaks out in brown bumps from eating too much chocolate.

Trine, Greg. **Melvin Beederman, Superhero** – After graduating from the superhero academy, Melvin heads to Los Angeles and teams up with a school play actress. One of a series.

ANIMAL STORIES

Avi. **Poppy** - Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a big field of corn, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas. One of a series.

Beck, W.H. **Malcolm at Midnight** – A smaller than average rat at McKenna School must prove himself to join a secret society of classroom pets.

Cleary, Beverly. **The Mouse and the Motorcycle** - Ralph, an adventure-loving mouse, and his adventures on a toy motorcycle. One of a series.

Dahl, Roald. **Fantastic Mr. Fox** - Mr. Fox is surrounded--and he's going to have to come up with a truly fantastic plan to dig himself out of trouble this time!

Ibbotson, Eva. **One Dog and His Boy** –Hal, his dog Fleck, and friend Pippa journey with four rescued dogs to Scotland.

MYSTERY & ADVENTURE STORIES

Gutman, Dan. **Baseball Card Adventures** (series) – When they touch a baseball card, boys are transported back in time to meet famous players.

Hale, Bruce. **Chet Gecko** (series) – Wise-cracking detective Chet Gecko and his partner Natalie Attired try to solve mysteries at their school.

Howe, James and Deborah. **Bunnacula** (series) - The madcap tales of the beloved vampire bunny, Bunnacula, and his animal pals.

LeFevers, R.L. **Flight of the Phoenix** - In 1928, orphan Nate joins a flight to Arabia to oversee the death and rebirth of the phoenix. One of a series.

NONFICTION & POETRY

Claybourne, Anna. **The Science of a Glass of Water** (X530.4 Claybourne) – Learn what water is, how we use it, and why our world may be running dry.

Cusick, Dawn. **Get the Scoop on Animal Poop: from Lions to Tapeworms, 251 Cool Facts about Scat, Frass, Dung & More!** (X591.5 Cusick) – Discusses animal droppings and their uses, importance and meaning.

Peterson, Judy Monroe. **Fossil Finders: Paleontologists** (X567.9 Peterson) – Describes what a paleontologist does, and how to become one.

Sidman, Joyce. **Dark Emperor & Other Poems of the Night.** (X811 Sidman) – Poems celebrating the wonder and mystery of animals and plants at night.

Silverstein, Shel. **Where the Sidewalk Ends** (X811 Silverstein) - A boy who turns into a TV set is one of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry.

Singer, Marilyn. **Mirror Mirror: a book of reversible verse** (X811 Singer) – Poems which, when reversed, offer new perspectives on fairy tale characters.

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

Amato, Mary. **The Word Eater** - Lerner Chanse, a new student at Cleveland Park Middle School, finds a worm that magically makes things disappear.

Asch, Frank. **Star Jumper: Journal of a Cardboard Genius** – To get far away from his evil little brother, Alex designs a spaceship.

Dahl, Roald. **The BFG** - Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), Sophie concocts a plan with him to save the world. Also **Matilda**.

Eager, Edward. **Half Magic** (series) - Four good friends find a magic coin.

Juster, Norton. **The Phantom Tollbooth** – Through the Phantom Tollbooth lies a strange land and adventures for Milo in his quest for Rhyme and Reason.

Lubar, David. **Punished!** – Logan's punishment for playing tag in the library is a spell that makes him speak in puns.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Cooper, Susan. **Ghost Hawk**. A ghost story adventure, set in colonial Massachusetts, about the lives of two boys: one Native American, one colonial New Englander.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Riding Freedom** - Charlotte Parkhurst knows the world of the 1860s holds more opportunities for boys than girls, so she cuts off her hair, dons boys' clothing, and begins a new life as a boy.

Taylor, Mildred. **The Friendship** - Children witness a confrontation between an elderly black man and a white storekeeper in rural 1930s Mississippi.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. **Little House on the Prairie** (series) Join Laura and her family on their adventures on America's frontier.

Yep, Laurence. **When the Circus Came to Town** - An Asian cook and a Chinese New Year celebration help a girl at a stage coach station to regain her confidence after smallpox scars her face.

Incoming Fourth Grade

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District
Suggested Summer Reading 2015



Parents and Students,

These reading lists have been prepared by the librarians of the Santa Monica Public Library in collaboration with the Elementary Library Coordinators and Librarians of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The lists provide a selection of good books that children enjoy. Reading levels are suggestions only as every child learns to read at his or her own speed. Children can read many of the books, especially books in a series, by themselves, while others are perfect to read aloud to others. Most authors included on these lists have written more than one good book. Some titles are also available as audio books so families can enjoy a good book together.

For extra summer fun, visit your local public library Santa Monica Public Library for reading programs, many of which offer activities and prizes. Santa Monica Public Library's theme for 2015 is "**Read to the Rhythm!**" Have a wonderful summer vacation, and read, read, read!



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