

Suggested Books & Authors Summer Reading Incoming 3rd Graders



Books by Author or Series

Andrew Clements

This award winning author's novels are best sellers! His realistic fiction novels follow relatable characters through humorous situations. Clements most popular works include About Average, Troublemaker, Extra Credit, Lost and Found, No Talking, and Room One.

Matt Christopher

This celebratory author is the face behind the #1 Sports Series for Kids. His realistic fiction novels follow kids through all kinds of sports from baseball to skateboarding. Find all of these fantastic stories on his sports website, www.mattchristopher.com

Who Was... Series?

These biographies are specifically written for kids of figures throughout history. The nonfiction books, from a variety of authors, cover famous faces from King Tut to Walt Disney.

Nancy Drew by Carolyn Keene

In this classic series students can follow Nancy Drew as she pursues and solves mysteries in the fictional town of River Heights. The popular series has recently been made into a movie.

My Weird School Series by Dan Gutman

A series of humorous books that follows Ario Jervis, better known as "A.J.", a boy who dislikes school. Many other series, such as My Weird School Daze, My Weirder School, and My Weird School Special follow other characters who have connections with A.J from the original books.

A-Z Mystery series by Ron Roy *A popular series of mysteries for children that follows the adventures of three child detectives, Donald David Duncan, Josh Pinto, and Ruth Rose Hathaway. The series begins with The Absent Author and ends with The Zombie Zone.*

Fantasy

Klise, Kate. *The Show Must Go On!* !

Two mice and a crow, who travel with a circus, cleaning up the spilled popcorn after every performance, come to the rescue when a greedy con artist takes over the management of the circus.

Cowell, Cressida. *How to Train Your Dragon. (Level T)*

In this silly chapter book, the Viking boy Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, son of the chief, finds himself needing to find and train a dragon and becomes an unlikely hero in the process.

Thaler, Mike. *The Black Lagoon Chapter Book Series. (Level K)*

The outrageously funny picture books series from Mike Thaler and Jared Lee are now chapter books! Follow Hubie on his adventures in Black Lagoon, where how rumors can make a student create a monster of a teacher!

Grabenstein, Chris. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*

Nine children enter into a competition to "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library," a game which the creator describes as "like The Hunger Games but with lots of food and no bows or arrows."

Holub, Joan. *Heroes in Training: Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom (Level Q)*

When ten-year-old Zeus is kidnapped, he discovers he can defend himself with a magic thunderbolt.

Realistic Fiction

Primavera, Elise. *Libby of High Hopes. (Level Q)* *When ten-year-old Libby Thump stumbles upon High Hopes Horse Farm and finds her dream horse, Princess, a prize-winning jumping horse that has been put out to pasture, Libby tries to convince her parents to give her riding lessons.*

Hicks, Betty. *The WormWhisperer*

Ellison Ellis Coffey, a lonely fifth-grader, discovers he might have the special gift of talking to bugs and decides to use his ability to win his town's annual Woolly Worm Race.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *White Fur Flying (Level S)*

A sad and silent nine-year old boy finds his voice when he moves next to a family that rescues dogs.

Sternberg, Julia. *Like Bug Juice on a Burger*

As the days go on, nine-year-old Eleanor realizes that maybe being at summer camp isn't so bad after all, and is full of special surprises.

Harley, Bill. *Charlie Bumpers vs. the Teacher of the Year.*

Charlie Bumpers is convinced his fourth grade year will be a disaster with the strictest teacher in the school. He tries to stay out of trouble, even though trouble seems to follow his often well intentioned actions.

Mystery Books

Klise, Kate. The Phantom of the Post Office

Seymour Hope and his friend Wy Fye must expose the mysterious, troublesome individual who is determined to close the Ghastly post office that will ultimately sever the connection of the mansion's ghostwriters with their fans.

Gregory, Kristiana. The Clue at the Bottom of the Lake (Level Q)

Brothers Jeff and David, along with their cousin Claire, plunge into a dangerous mystery after spotting someone dumping a large bundle into the lake at Cabin Creek in the middle of the night.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. The Case of the School Ghost

When Buddy, a therapy dog, attends the fourth grade sleepover in the school's library, he solves the mystery of the school ghost.

Gutman, Dan. Mission Unstoppable (Level Q)

On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

Davies, Jacqueline. The Lemonade Crime (Level S) Following The Lemonade War, Scott Spencer, an alleged thief, is put on trial by his classmates who construct an authentic tribunal to determine his fate and end up surprising themselves with their verdict.

Areas of Interest

Sports

Ripkin, Cal, Jr. Super-Sized Slugger (Level T)

Thirteen-year-old Cody Parker moves to Baltimore, Maryland, where as a fat eighth-grader, he has to deal with brutal teasing from a baseball teammate and his school is beset by a rash of mysterious thefts that threaten to sideline Cody and ruin a golden season for his team.

Animals

Stein, Garth. Racing in the Rain: My Life as a Dog (Level R)

Have you ever wondered what your dog is thinking? Meet one funny dog, Enzo, the lovable mutt who tells his story. Follow this unique pup and the extraordinary friendship he develops with his owner Danny. It's a classic tale that will remind us all to celebrate the triumph of the human (canine) spirit!

Poetry

Silverstein, Shel. Where the Sidewalk Ends, A Light in the Attic, Falling Up

Poor Screamin' Millie is just one of the unforgettable characters you'll meet in these classic poems. So pick up one of these hysterical collections and wander through the Nose Garden, ride the Little Hoarse, eat in the Strange Restaurant, and let the magic of Shel Silverstein open your eyes and tickle your mind.

Space & Science

Aldrin, Buzz. Look to the Stars

Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin traces the history of air and space exploration from Isaac Newton to the International Space Station and Mars using personal insights and conversational text.

Art

Raczka, Bob. The Vermeer Interviews: Conversations with Seven Works of Art

Seven of Johannes Vermeer's most famous paintings, such as "The Milkmaid" and "The Geographer," come to life through interviews with the subjects to reveal artistic techniques and subtler aspects of Vermeer's unique photographic-style art.

Non-Fiction

Huey, Lois Miner. Ick! Yuck! Eew!: Our Gross American History

Discover many unusual and gross facts from America in the 1700s including many sights, smells and habits of the past.

Halls, Kelly Milner. Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist.

Cryptozoology is the study of animals that may or may not be real: familiar animals like Bigfoot and Loch Ness Monster, and those that are less familiar like the Marozi of Kenya and the Orang-pendek of Sumatra and the Thylacine of Tasmania. Meet these and more in this introduction to cryptozoology.

Helman, Andrea. Hide and Seek: Nature's Best Vanishing Acts

This beautifully photographed book takes the reader to ecosystems around the world to show how animals camouflage themselves for protection in each unique habitat.

Malam, John. You Wouldn't Want to be a Roman Gladiator! Gory Things You'd Rather Not Know.

Learn what it was like to be a Roman gladiator in this light-hearted introduction to the life and training of a Roman gladiator.

Brown, Don. Henry and the Cannons: An Extraordinary True Story of the American Revolution.

In 1776, Henry Knox creatively delivers cannons to General Washington in Boston, which leads to a victory over the British Army.