



Summer Reading Suggestions 2008 Primary

- Barrows, Annie. **Ivy + Bean**. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, c2006. When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected.
- Barrows, Annie. **Ivy + Bean break the fossil record**. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, c2007. Everyone in second grade seems set on breaking a world record and friends Ivy and Bean are no exception, deciding to become the youngest people ever to discover a dinosaur skeleton.
- Bruel, Nick. **Who is Melvin Bubble?** New Milford, Conn.: Roaring Brook Press, 2006. An introduction to six-year-old Melvin Bubble as presented by his family, friends, and others.
- Coffelt, Nancy. **Fred stays with me**. New York: Little, Brown, 2007. A child describes how she lives sometimes with her mother and sometimes with her father, but her dog is her constant companion.
- Cowell, Cressida. **That rabbit belongs to Emily Brown**. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2007. Emily defends her stuffed rabbit from the naughty queen who is determined to acquire it any way she can.
- Cronin, Doreen. **Diary of a fly**. New York: Joanna Cotler Books, c2007. A young fly discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being an insect, including the dangers of flyswatters and that heroes come in all shapes and sizes.
- Ehlert, Lois. **Oodles of animals**. Orlando: Harcourt, 2008. Short, easy to read rhymes reveal what is unique about various animals, from ape to wolf. There are crawlers, creepers, quackers, slinkers, pinchers, honkers, howlers and oodles more.
- Friend, Catherine. **The perfect nest**. Cambridge, Mass.: Candlewick Press, 2007. With hopes of making a delicious omelet, Jack the cat builds a nest to catch a chicken, but ends up attracting more than the bird.
- Grogan, John. **Bad dog, Marley!** New York: HarperCollins, c2007. Marley, a rambunctious puppy, causes lots of trouble in his new home—and feels very sad about it—but then proves beyond a doubt that he is a valuable member of the household.
- Gutman, Dan. **Casey back at bat**. New York: HarperCollinsPublishers, c2007. A humorous sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's classic "Casey at the Bat" with colorful illustrations and rhyming text.
- Harrington, Janice N. **The chicken-chasing queen of Lamar County**. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. A young farm girl tries to catch her favorite chicken, until she learns something about the hen that makes her change her ways.
- Jeffers, Oliver. **The incredible book eating boy**. New York: Philomel Books, c2006. Henry loves to eat books, until he begins to feel quite ill and decides that maybe he could do something else with the books he has been devouring.
- Levine, Ellen. **Henry's freedom box**. New York: Scholastic Press, 2007. A fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escapes to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.
- McLeod, Bob. **SuperHero ABC**. New York: HarperCollins, c2006. Humorously-named superheroes such as Goo Girl and The Volcano represent the letters of the alphabet from A to Z.
- Morris, Carla D. **The boy who was raised by librarians**. Atlanta, Ga.: Peachtree, c2007. Melvin discovers that the public library is the place where he can find just about anything--including three librarians who help in his quest for knowledge.

- O'Connor, Jane. **Bonjour, butterfly.** New York, NY: HarperCollins Childrens Books, c2008. Nancy is furious when she cannot go to her friend Bree's butterfly-themed birthday party, but her family's outing might just be extraordinary enough to make her feel better. Includes facts about butterflies.
- O'Malley, Kevin. **Gimme cracked corn & I will share.** New York: Walker, c2007. Chicken dreams about a treasure and sets off on a dangerous journey to find it.
- Palatini, Margie. **The cheese.** New York: Katherine Tegen Books, c2007. After they all agree to ignore the story of "The Farmer in the Dell," the rat, cat, dog, child, farmer, and his wife have a party featuring the tempting hunk of cheese.
- Plourde, Lynn. **Book Fair Day.** New York: Dutton Children's Books, c2006. Upon learning that his class will not be going to the school book sale until the last half hour of the day, Dewey worries that all the best books will already be taken.
- Prelutsky, Jack. **My dog may be a genius: poems.** New York, NY: Greenwillow Books, c2008. Have you ever encountered an underwater marching band, a pig in a bathing suit, a pet orangutan, or a witch in a hardware store? Have you ever sat with a skunk in a courtroom, shopped for a dinosaur, or conversed with a Bupple, a Wosstrus, a Violinnet, or a Celloon? You will have, once you've read this collection of poems.
- Rohmann, Eric. **A kitten tale.** New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. As four kittens who have never seen winter watch the seasons pass, three of them declare the reasons they will dislike snow when it arrives, while the fourth cannot wait to experience it for himself.
- Rylant, Cynthia. **The great Gracie chase: stop that dog!** New York: Blue Sky Press, c2001. A cumulative tale about a small dog named Gracie whose quiet life is disrupted by some noisy painters.
- Scieszka, Jon. **Cowboy & Octopus.** New York: Viking, 2007. A cowboy and an octopus learn a thing or two about friendship as they struggle through a knock-knock joke, ugly hats, and a special dinner of beans.
- Sierra, Judy. **Mind your manners, B.B. Wolf.** New York: Knopf, 2007. When B.B. Wolf, who now lives in the Villain Villa Retirement Residence, is invited to the library for a storybook tea, he is careful to follow the advice of his crocodile friend and impresses everyone with how polite he can be.
- Stein, David Ezra. **Leaves.** New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, c2007. A bear that has never experienced autumn before is puzzled by the falling leaves, unsure whether he should try to put them back or use them as a bed for a nap.
- Stevens, Janet. **Help me, Mr. Mutt! expert answers for dogs with people problems.** Orlando: Harcourt, 2008. Dogs across the United States write to Mr. Mutt, a people expert, for help with their humans.
- Taback, Simms. **I miss you every day.** New York: Viking, 2007. A little girl misses someone so much that she wraps herself up like a package and sends herself through the mail.
- Wheeler, Lisa. **Dino-hockey.** Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Books, c2007. The meat-eating dinosaurs challenge the plant-eating dinosaurs to a hockey match.
- Willems, Mo. **Edwina: the dinosaur who didn't know she was extinct.** New York: Hyperion Books for Children, c2006. Everyone in town loves Edwina, a loving dinosaur who makes scrumptious cookies, helps the elderly, and plays with the children, with the exception of Reginald Von Hoobie-Doobie who is determined to prove that dinosaurs are extinct.
- Wilcox, Leah. **Falling for Rapunzel.** New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, c2003. A prince tries to get Rapunzel to throw down her hair so he can rescue her, but she mishears him and throws down random objects from her room instead.
- Wong, Janet S. **The dumpster diver.** Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2007. Once a month--every week in the summer--Steve the electrician dons special gear and, with the help of youngsters who live in his building, dives into a dumpster seeking useful objects that they can transform into imaginative new ones.
- Wood, Audrey. **A dog needs a bone!** New York: Blue Sky Press, c2007. In this rhyming tale, a dog makes extravagant promises to its mistress if only she will give it a bone.



Summer Reading Suggestions 2008 Intermediate

- Avi. **A beginning, a muddle, and an end: the right way to write writing.** Orlando: Harcourt, 2008. Avon the snail decides to become a writer with the help of his friend Edward the ant, which leads them into a series of adventures involving close encounters with an anteater, a crow, a tree frog, and a hungry fish.
- Berlin, Eric. **The puzzling world of Winston Breen.** New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, c2007. Puzzle-crazy, twelve-year-old Winston and his ten-year-old sister Katie find themselves involved in a dangerous mystery involving a hidden ring; in this book that includes puzzles for the reader to solve.
- Blume, Lesley M. M. **The rising star of Rusty Nail.** New York: Knopf, c2007. In the small town of Rusty Nail, Minnesota, in the early 1950s, musically talented ten-year-old Franny wants to take advanced piano lessons from newcomer Olga Malenkov, a famous Russian musician suspected of being a communist spy by gossip members of the community.
- Bishop, Nic. **Spiders.** New York: Scholastic, 2007. Text and photographs introduce readers to different types of spiders and their behavior. Spiders as small as a grain of sand to as large as a page, with up close photos that will keep you turning the pages!
- Bridsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks on Gardam Street.** New York: Knopf Books, 2008. The Penderwick Sisters are home on Gardam Street and ready for an adventure! But the adventure they get isn't quite what they had in mind. Mr. Penderwick's sister has decided it's time for him to start dating—and the girls know that can only mean one thing: disaster. Enter the Save-Daddy Plan—a plot so brilliant, so bold, so funny, that only the Penderwick girls could have come up with it. It's high jinks, big laughs, and loads of family warmth as the Penderwicks triumphantly return.
- Choldenko, Gennifer. **Al Capone does my shirts.** New York: Putnam's, c2004. A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.
- Clements, Andrew. **No talking.** New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c2007. The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.
- Colfer, Eoin. **Artemis Fowl: the graphic novel.** New York: Hyperion Books for Children, c2007. A graphic novel adaptation of Eoin Colfer's novel in which a twelve-year-old devil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold; but the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.
- Davies, Jacqueline. **The lemonade war.** Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand.
- Davis, Kenneth C. **Don't know much about the Pilgrims.** New York: HarperCollins, c2002. Questions and answers present information about who the Pilgrims were, how and why they came to America on the Mayflower, and what happened in the colony of New Plymouth.
- Erdrich, Liselotte. **Sacagawea.** Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books, c2003. A biography of the Shoshone girl, Sacagawea, from age eleven when she was kidnapped by the Hitdatsa to the end of her journey with Lewis and Clark, plus speculation about her later life.

- Frazier, Sundee Tucker. **Brendan Buckley's universe and everything in it.** New York: Delacorte Press, c2007. Brendan Buckley, a biracial ten-year-old, applies his scientific problem-solving ability and newfound interest in rocks and minerals to connect with his white grandfather, the president of Puyallup Rock Club, and to learn why he and Brendan's mother are estranged.
- Funke, Cornelia Caroline. **Igraine the brave.** New York: Chicken House/Scholastic, 2007. The daughter of two magicians, twelve-year-old Igraine wants nothing more than to be a knight, and when their castle is attacked by a treacherous neighbor bent on stealing their singing magic books, Igraine has an opportunity to demonstrate her bravery.
- Grogan, John. **Marley: a dog like no other.** New York: Collins, c2007. Follows the life story of an exuberant Labrador retriever who gets into perpetual trouble and experiences a range of inspiring adventures.
- Gutman, Dan. **Jim & me: a baseball card adventure.** New York, NY: HarperCollins Childrens Books, 2008. Joe and his longtime enemy, Bobby Fuller, use a vintage baseball card to travel in time, hoping to stop Jim Thorpe from participating in the 1912 Olympics and losing his medals, but instead they watch Thorpe struggle during his first season with the New York Giants.
- Hanson, Mary Elizabeth. **How to save your tail: if you are a rat nabbed by cats who really like stories about magic spoons, wolves with snout-warts, big hairy chimney trolls--and cookies too.** New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, c2007. Bob the rat is captured by two of the queen's cats and survives by sharing fresh-baked cookies and stories of his ancestors, whose escapades are similar to those of fairy-tale heroes.
- Holt, Kimberly Willis. **Piper Reed: Navy brat.** New York: Henry Holt & Co., 2007. Piper is sad about leaving her home and friends behind when her father, a Navy aircraft mechanic, is transferred yet again, but with help from her often-annoying sisters and a surprise from their parents, she finds happiness in their new home in Pensacola, Florida.
- Jenkins, Emily. **Toys go out: being the adventures of a knowledgeable Stingray, a toughy little Buffalo, and someone called Plastic.** New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, c2006. In the backpack, where it is very dark -- The serious problem of Plastic-ness -- The terrifying bigness of the washing machine -- The possible shark -- How Lumphy got on the big high bed and lost something rather good-looking -- It is difficult to find the right birthday present. Six stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.
- Jonell, Lynne. **Emmy and the incredible shrinking rat.** New York: Henry Holt, 2007. When Emmy discovers that she and her formerly loving parents are being drugged by their evil nanny with rodent potions that can change people in frightening ways, she and some new friends must try everything possible to return things to normal.
- La Fevers, R. L. **Theodosia and the serpents of chaos.** Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Eleven-year-old Theodosia has the ability to detect black magic and ancient curses that are attached to objects in the Museum of Legends and Antiquities, which her father is the curator of, and discovers that a new artifact from Egypt is cursed and she must return it to the tomb it was excavated from before it destroys the British Empire.
- Levine, Gail Carson. **Writing magic: creating stories that fly.** New York: Collins, c2006. Newbery Honor author Gail Carson Levine shares the secrets of her writing success, including how to get ideas, creating beginnings and endings, writing great dialogue, developing memorable characters, and more.
- Lowry, Lois. **Gossamer.** Boston: Houghton Mifflin, c2006. While learning to bestow dreams, a young dream giver tries to save an eight-year-old boy from the effects of both his abusive past and the nightmares inflicted on him by the frightening Sinisteads.
- Lowry, Lois. **The Willoughbys.** Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2008. In this tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, the four Willoughby children set about to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of a horrible nanny.

- McAllister, Angela. **Digory and the lost king.** New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2007. After having inadvertently acquired the reputation of being a brave young knight, Digory, now also a prince living in the castle goes in search of the missing King Widgeo and finds his life complicated even further when he is mistaken for a wizard.
- McCarthy, Meghan. **Aliens are coming!: the true account of the 1938 War of the worlds radio broadcast.** New York: A. Knopf, c2006. The story of Orson Welles' radio broadcast which reported aliens landing in New Jersey and how this broadcast panicked the entire country and made Welles famous.
- Martin, Ann M. **A dog's life: the autobiography of a stray.** New York: Scholastic, 2005. Squirrel, a stray puppy, tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.
- O'Connor, Barbara. **How to steal a dog.** New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, c2007. Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina, desperate to improve their situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer.
- Pennypacker, Sara. **The talented Clementine.** New York: Hyperion Books for Children, c2007. Eight-year-old Clementine, convinced that she has no talents, tries to find a way to avoid participating in the class talent show.
- Rigsby, Mike. **Amazing rubber band cars: easy-to-build wind-up racers, models, and toys.** Chicago: Chicago Review Press, c2008. Presents illustrated instructions for making racing cars using only rubber bands, cardboard, and glue, with designs for nine different types of cars and tips for design variations.
- Rodda, Emily. **The key to Rondo.** New York, NY: Scholastic Press, 2008. Through an heirloom music box, Leo, a serious, responsible boy, and his badly-behaved cousin Mimi enter the magical world of Rondo to rescue Mimi's dog from a sorceress, who wishes to exchange him for the key that allows free travel between worlds.
- Roethlisberger: Pittsburgh's own Big Ben.** Champaign, IL: Sports Publishing L.L.C, 2004. A pictorial work about the career of Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.
- Roy, Jennifer Rozines. **Yellow star.** Tarrytown, NY: Marshall Cavendish, c2006. From 1939, when Sylvia is four and a half years old, to 1945 when she has just turned ten, a Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.
- Rubin, Susan Goldman. **Andy Warhol: pop art painter.** New York: Abrams Books For Young Readers, 2006. An illustrated biography of Andy Warhol, discussing his early life, his family, school, work as an illustrator, and fame as a pop artist. Includes a time line and glossary.
- Scieszka, Jon. **Seen Art?** New York: Museum of Modern Art: Viking, 2005. A boy searches for his friend, Art, in many places, and ends up taking a tour of New York's Museum of Modern Art.
- Spinelli, Jerry. **Eggs.** New York: Little, Brown, 2007. Mourning the loss of his mother, nine-year-old David forms an unlikely friendship with independent, quirky thirteen-year-old Primrose, as the two help each other deal with what is missing in their lives.
- Stewart, Trenton Lee. **The mysterious Benedict Society.** New York: Little, Brown, 2007. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. **The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey.** New York: Little, Brown, 2008. The fabulous foursome readers embraced as The Mysterious Benedict Society is back with a new mission, significantly closer to home. After reuniting for a celebratory scavenger hunt, Reynie, Kate, Sticky, and Constance are forced to go on an unexpected search--a search to find Mr. Benedict. It seems that while he was preparing the kids' adventure, he stepped right into a trap orchestrated by his evil twin Mr. Curtain. With only one week to find a captured Mr. Benedict, the gifted foursome faces their greatest challenge of all--a challenge that will reinforce the reasons they were brought together in the first place and will require them to fight for the very namesake that united them.

Trewellard, Juliet. **Butterfingers.** Oxford; New York: David Fickling Books, c2007. Ned, a clumsy stable boy who spends a lot of time daydreaming about Princess Bella, takes a chance on becoming a hero when she is snatched from her secret garden by a fire-breathing monster.

Urban, Linda. **A crooked kind of perfect.** Orlando: Harcourt, c2007. Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.

Warner, Sally. **Best friend Emma.** New York: Viking, 2007. When a new girl joins her third-grade class just before Thanksgiving, Emma thinks only about gaining her friendship before the popular Cynthia can, and hurts her best friend Annie Pat's feelings in the process.