

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Summer Reading 2010: Incoming First Grade

Dear Parents,

Summer reading should be fun. These reading lists have been prepared by the librarians in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in collaboration with the Santa Monica Public Library. The lists provide a selection of good books that kids enjoy. Reading levels are suggestions only as every student learns to read at his or her own speed. You can help by reading with your child and encouraging his or her own interests. Reading takes lots of practice and encouragement. Set aside 15 to 30 minutes every day for your child to read with you. Have fun with the books and help instill the joy of reading in your child. 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 for reading programs, many of which offer activities and prizes. Santa Monica Public Library's theme for 2010 is "Make a Splash: Read!" Have a wonderful summer vacation and read, read, read!



Reading Aloud

According to the Commission on Reading, "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children." Children need to hear rich language and enjoy the varied illustrations of books by **Robert McCloskey, William Steig, Dr. Seuss, Bill Peet, Chris Van Allsburg, Kevin Henkes** and **Patricia Polacco**. Make sure they are familiar with characters in children's books such as Madeline, Arthur, Olivia, George and Martha, Lyle the Crocodile, Corduroy, etc. Introduce your child to the wealth of traditional folk and fairy tales and share the rhythm and rhymes of poetry with your child. Help them find answers to their questions by reading some of the wonderful nonfiction books for children. Visit your local library or bookstore and ask for more recommendations.

PICTURE BOOKS (XXF)

Bailey, Linda. **Stanley's Wild Ride**

Stanley leads a pack of dogs who escape their boring yards to have an adventure.

Durant, Alan. **Burger Boy**

Benny hates vegetables and eats nothing but hamburgers, until the day he turns into one.

Fleming, Denise. **Lunch**

A very hungry mouse eats a lunch made up of colorful foods.

Henkes, Kevin. **Kitten's First Full Moon**

When Kitten thinks the moon is a bowl of milk, she ends up wet and hungry trying to reach it.

McKissack, Pat. **Goin' Someplace Special**

A young African-American girl braves obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library.

Portis, Antoinette. **Not a Stick**

An imaginative young pig shows some of the many things that a stick can be. See also **Not a Box**.

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Summer Reading 2010: Incoming First Grade

Sendak, Maurice. **Where the Wild Things Are**

After being sent to bed without supper for behaving badly, Max dreams he sails to the land of the wild things.

Slobodkina, Esphyr. **Caps for Sale**

A band of monkeys steals every one of the peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.

Weeks, Sarah. **Baa-Choo!**

When Sam the lamb has trouble sneezing, the other animals try to help.

Wilson, Karma. **Hilda Must Be Dancing**

Hilda Hippo tries other, quieter, activities when her jungle friends are disturbed by her dancing.

EASY READERS (XXE)

Capucilli, Alyssa Satin. **Biscuit Goes to School**

Biscuit the puppy follows a bus to school where he takes part in the activities of the class. *One of a series.*

Capucilli, Alyssa Satin. **Pedro's Burro**

Pedro and his papa go to market to look for the perfect burro.

Meister, Cari. **When Tiny Was Tiny**

A dog's owner describes how Tiny grew from a very small to a very big dog. *One of a series.*

O'Connor, Jane. **Fancy Nancy at the Museum**

Nancy's class is going on a trip to the museum, and Nancy wants to be extra fancy for the occasion. *One of a series.*

Schaefer, Lola M. **Follow Me, Mittens**

Mittens goes for a walk, but he is distracted by a butterfly and becomes lost.

Weeks, Sarah. **Splish Splash**

Different animals ask to join a fish in a tub until the tub is full.

Willems, Mo. **My Friend is Sad**

When Gerald the Elephant is sad, Piggie is determined to cheer him up. *One of a series.*

NONFICTION

Jenkins, Steve. **Actual Size** (XX591.4 Jenkins)

This book gives examples of the size and weight of various animals and parts of animals.

Schwartz, David. **How Much is a Million?** (XX513 Schwartz)

This book reveals how big a bowl would be needed to hold a million goldfish, or how many years it would take to count to a million.

Thomson, Sarah L. **Amazing Sharks** (X597.3 Thomson)

Presents lots of facts about sharks. An "I Can Read" book.

Ziefert, Harriet. **One Red Apple** (X634.11 Ziefert)

Follow the life cycle of an apple: from fruit growing on the tree to market, to seed, to tree, and finally to a new apple.