



South Orange Maplewood School District 2015 Summer Reading List Primary Grades: Grades K – 2

This list was compiled by librarians from the South Orange and Maplewood elementary schools and public libraries, and is available online through the SOMSD website and the public library sites. The list contains our suggestions for great books to read over the summer. Reading is one of the best activities for academic success. Enjoy the summer and keep reading!

You can find these and other books at your public library:

South Orange Public Library
www.sopl.org
65 Scotland Road
South Orange, NJ 07079
973.762.0230

Maplewood Memorial Library
www.maplewoodlibrary.org
51 Baker Street
Maplewood, NJ 07040
973.762.1622 ext 5005

Maplewood Library Hilton Branch
www.maplewoodlibrary.org
1688 Springfield Ave.
Maplewood, NJ 07040
973.762.1688

ALPHABET AND NUMBER BOOKS

- **Alpha Oops: The Day Z Went First** by ALETHEA KONTIS

Letters rebel! Funny and original; not-your-usual-ABC book!

Also read: *Alpha Oops: H is for Halloween*

- **Counting Crows** by KATHI APPELT

This beautifully illustrated picture book is a counting book about crows. As children read the book, they will count from one to twelve crows while reading an engaging story.

- **Lifetime: The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives** by LOLA SCHAEFER

In one lifetime, a caribou will shed 10 sets of antlers, a woodpecker will drill 30 roosting holes, a giraffe will wear 200 spots, a seahorse will birth 1,000 babies. Picturing numbers & considering the fascinating lives all around us, *Lifetime* is sure to delight nature lovers. Book Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2nOvBPJTuo>.

- **Musk Ox Counts** by ERIN CABATINGAN

In a genuinely funny companion to *A Is for Musk Ox*, zebra and musk ox are arguing about how to compose a counting, er, "addition" book. Sneak peek: <http://us.macmillan.com/muskoxcounts/ErinCabatingan>

Also read: *A is for Musk Ox* and *Z is For Moose*

- **Numberlys** by WILLIAM JOYCE

This book tells the tale of the Umberlys, tiny folks living in a black-and-white city; this is a counting book as this book tells the reader of a time when there were only numbers and no alphabet.

- **123 Versus ABC** by MIKE BOLDT

Welcome to this book about Numbers! Welcome to this book about Letters! Wait. . . What?! This fresh and funny picture book plays with both numbers and letters in the most imaginative way.



BIOGRAPHY & HISTORY

● ***Ballerina Dreams* by MICHAELA DePRINCE**

This biography for younger readers is about Michaela DePrince, who was born in an orphanage in Sierra Leone and followed her childhood dreams of becoming a ballet dancer.

● ***The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by WILLIAM KAMKWAMBA**

At age 14, in poverty and famine, a Malawian boy built a windmill to power his family's home.

An amazing TED talk: http://www.ted.com/talks/william_kamkwamba_how_i_harnessed_the_wind

● ***The Boy Who Loved Math* by DEBORAH HELIGMAN**

Paul Erdos had a passion for numbers. He could tell a person how many seconds he had lived with a simple math trick. His thoughts constantly revolved around numbers and their patterns. Prime numbers! Negative numbers! He couldn't get enough of numbers.

● ***Daredevil: The Life of Betty Skelton* by MEGAN McCARTHY**

In the 1930s Betty Skelton didn't like dolls like most girls; she liked playing with airplanes, watching them fly around outside, and even flying them herself! She lived for adventure in the air, the water, on land, and nothing could stop her, especially not being a girl. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhNqn64vRA4>

● ***Day By Day With Gabby Douglas* by JOANN MATTERN**

Well-reproduced color photos become the high point of this series entry on U.S. Olympic gymnast Gabby Douglas.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFDYOLYPNM>

● ***The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau* by DAN YACCARINO**

Dan Yaccarino, author of many wonderful children's books, tells the story of Jacques Cousteau, the ocean explorer, in this picture book biography.

● ***I Am Albert Einstein* by BRAD MELTZER**

In this "I am" book, young readers will learn about Albert Einstein, scientist. This book is told in first person so readers will learn about his life in a more personal way.

● ***I Am Rosa Parks* by BRAD MELTZER**

The story of Civil Rights activist Rosa Parks is told to young readers in first person with pictures to accompany the biography.

● ***Knit Your Bit: A World War I Story* by DEBORAH HOPKINSON**

When Mikey's father leaves to fight in World War I, he and his classmates join the Central Park Knitting Bee to help knit clothing for soldiers overseas. Visit the author's website: <http://www.deborahhopkinson.com/New%20Books/knit.html>

● ***Little Melba and her Big Trombone* by KATHERYN RUSSELL-BROWN**

This beautiful picture book tells the real story of Melba Doretta Liston and her life as a famous trombone player and arranger.

● ***Martin and Mahalia* by ANDREA AND BRIAN PINKNEY**

A stirring picture book about **Martin** Luther King Jr and **Mahalia** Jackson, two people who inspired a nation.

Listen to Mahalia Jackson sing at the March on Washington in 1963: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTOSUMSiMWw>

● ***Matchbox Diary* by PAUL FLEISCHMAN**

A magnificent picture book about a girl who meets her great-grandfather for the first time, and, with the help of little keepsakes in an old cigar box, hears the story of his childhood and his family's journey from Italy to the USA.

● ***On a Beam of Light* by JENNIFER BERNE**

From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, to the man of genius, follow along with Einstein on a journey full of curiosity, laughter, and amazing scientific discovery.

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***President Taft is Stuck in the Bath* by MAC BARNETT**

Inspired by a true anecdote, this larger-than-life tale of a presidential mishap is brimming with humor and over-the-top illustrations. "Blast!" said Taft. "This could be bad."

● ***Scraps Book: Notes From a Colorful Life* by LOIS EHLERT**

WONDERFUL little book. *Scraps* is part autobiography and all inspiration. Lois Ehlert tells us a little bit about her early life and how she learned to make and create.

● ***Star Stuff* by STEPHANIE ROTH SISSON**

This whimsical picture book is about the life of Carl Sagan and his fascination with the stars and sky.

● ***Thomas Jefferson: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Everything* by MAIRA KALMAN**

"If you want to understand this country and its people and what it means to be optimistic and complex and tragic and wrong and courageous, you need to go to Monticello." - Maira Kalman

● ***To Dare Mighty Things: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt* by DOREEN RAPPAPORT**

"No man has had a happier life than I have led; a happier life in every way." A truly inspiring tribute to a seemingly larger-than-life U.S. president. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCDUSiB9rc> Also read: *Helen's Big World: The Life of Helen Keller*

● ***Tree Lady* by H. JOSEPH HOPKINS**

Unearth the true story of green-thumbed pioneer and activist Kate Sessions, who helped San Diego grow from a dry desert town into a lush, leafy city known for its gorgeous parks and gardens.

● ***Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* by TANYA LEE STONE**

In the 1830s girls were supposed to be wives and mothers, not DOCTORS, but Elizabeth Blackwell proved them wrong! The story of the first female doctor in America will inspire girls never to be limited and to strive to be their best.

CHAPTER BOOKS

● ***Adventures of Arnie the Doughnut: Bowling Alley Bandit* by LAURIE KELLER**

When Mr. Bing starts rolling gutter balls during his bowling championship, Arnie the Doughnut is bound and determined to find out who or what is behind the madness. Book Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cx7zIRbDaA4>

Also read: *Invasion of the UFOnuts* and *Arnie the Doughnut*

● ***Boris on the Move* by ANDREW JOINER**

Boris, the warthog, dreams of going on a jungle safari, but ends up on an unforgettable trip to a wildlife refuge, an adventure he'll never forget. Also read other books in the *Boris* series

● ***Full Steam Ahead* by PAUL A. REYNOLDS**

This picture book explains the concept of STEAM (Science, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) through the story of two mice, Sydney and Simon.

● ***Lulu and the Duck in the Park* by HILARY MCKAY**

Lulu finds a duck egg and takes it to school to keep it safe with unexpected results!

Also read: the other books in the *Lulu* series

● ***No Dogs Allowed* by STEPHANIE CALMENSEN**

How does Alberto's City Lights restaurant go from having a policy of "No one with fur, feathers, shells, scales, or trunks allowed" to "Everyone allowed." Follow the fanciful menagerie of wonderful animals and their caregivers to find out!

Also read: *Teacher's Pets*

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



- ***Penny and Her Marble* by KEVIN HENKES**

Penny feels guilty after taking a beautiful blue marble that she sees in Mrs. Goodwin's grass, but gets a pleasant surprise when she goes to return it the next day. Also read: *Penny and Her Song* and *Penny and Her Doll*

Kevin Henkes introduces Penny in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0X9qeuroQg>

- ***Poppy the Pirate Dog* by LIZ KESSLER**

On vacation with her family, Poppy wants to be a pirate dog, but first she must find her pirate ship, but will she?

Also read: *Poppy the Pirate Dog's New Shipmate*

- ***Sam and Charlie (and Sam Too!)* by LESLIE KIMMELMAN**

Five charming stories highlight the ups and downs of friendship of Charlie, a neighborhood girl named Sam, and Charlie's sister, Sam Too. Meet the author, Leslie Kimmelman at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08EsiWTLf5Q>

Also read: *Sam and Charlie (and Sam Too!) Return*

EARLY READERS

- ***After-School Sports Club: Time for T-Ball* by ALYSON HELLER**

Also read other books in the *Ready To Read* series

- ***Bake, Mice, Bake* by ERIC SELTZER**

Also read other books in the *Penguin Young Readers* series, level 1

- ***A Big Guy Took My Ball* by MO WILLEMS**

Also read: *I'm a Frog*

- ***Biscuit Loves the Library* by ALYSSA CAPUCILLI**

Also read other books in the *Biscuit* series

- ***Bret and Grandma's Trip!* by ISABEL CRAWFORD**

Also read other books in the *I Love Reading Phonics* series

- ***Hi Fly Guy* by TEDD ARNOLD**

Also read *Fly Guy Presents Dinosaurs* and other books in the series

- ***Frog and Friends: Frog Saves the Day* by Eve Bunting**

Also read other books in the *Frog and Friends* series

- ***Good Night, Knight* by BETSY LEWIN**

Also read other books in the *I Like to Read* series

- ***Ice Mice* by HARRIET ZIEFERT**

Also read other books in the *Flip-A-Word* series

- ***Mac and Cheese* by SARAH WEEKS**

- ***Moo!* By DAVID LAROCHELLE**

- ***Polar Bears* by LAURA MARSH**

Also read other books in the *National Geographic Readers* series, level 1

- ***Princess Pig* by MOLLY COXE**

Also read other books in the *Brave Mouse* series



- ***Rabbit and Robot: The Sleepover* by CECE BELL**
- ***See Me Dig* by PAUL MEISEL**
- ***Tiny Goes Back to School* by CARI MEISTER**
- ***We Both Read* series**

FABLES & FANTASY

- ***Beauty and the Beast* by H. CHUKU LEE**

Based on the classic, *Beauty and the Beast*, this re-telling is enhanced and inspired by West African culture, and in particular by the Dogon tribe of Mali.

- ***Brothers of the Knight* by DEBBIE ALLEN**

In this contemporary retelling of the fairy tale "Twelve Dancing Princesses," Reverend Knight, an African-American reverend in Harlem endeavors to discover why the shoes of his twelve sons are worn to pieces every morning.

- ***Fairly Fairy Tales* by ESME CODELL**

A book that incorporates twists on traditional fairy tales with parent-child interplay creates a great combination of bedtime read-aloud and fairytales that will interest both parents and children.

- ***Grandma and the Great Gourd* by CHITRA BANERJEE DIVAKARUNI**

On her way to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, Grandma encounters a hungry fox, bear, and tiger, and although she convinces them to wait for her return trip, she still must find a way to outwit them all.

- ***Quest* by AARON BECKER**

This book follows Becker's book, *Journey*. This wordless, fantasy picture book is about children who are caught up in a quest to rescue the king and his kingdom from darkness.

Also read: *Journey*

- ***Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes Mountain* by BARBARA KNUTSON**

In this folktale from the Andes, a clever guinea pig repeatedly outsmarts the fox that wants to eat him for dinner.

- ***Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book* by YUYI MORALES**

In this tale, Senor Calavera arrives at Grandma Beetle's door, ready to take her to the next life, but winds up staying for her birthday, and changing his mind.

- ***Old Mikamba Had a Farm* by RACHEL ISADORA**

Based on the classic nursery rhyme, *Old MacDonald Had a Farm*, the inhabitants of Old Makimba's farm in Africa, including a baboon, an elephant, and a lion, are described, verse by verse. Includes facts about African animals.

- ***The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf* by MARK TEAGUE,**

In this original version of the traditional tale, the three little pigs are in their usual trouble with the somewhat bad wolf--who is really just very hungry and frustrated that the pizza parlor will not serve him.

- ***The Tortoise and the Hare* by JERRY PINKNEY**

This is another gem from Caldecott Award Winner Jerry Pinkney in this visually stunning rendition of the beloved Aesop fable that reminds us that *Slow and steady wins the race!*



GRAPHIC NOVELS

- ***The Boxcar Children: A Graphic Novel* by GERTRUDE CHANDLER WARNER**
Also read other books in the series
- ***Buzz Beaker and the Outer Space Trip* by CARI MESITER**
Also read other books in the *Buzz Beaker* series
- ***First Base Blues* by ANITA YASUDA**
Also read other books in the *My First Graphic Novel* series
- ***Luke on the Loose* by HARRY BLISS**
Also read other books in the *Toon Book* series
- ***Owly, Volume 2 Just a little blue* by ANDY RINTON**
Also read other books in the *Owly* series
- ***Polo* by REGIS FALLER**
Also read other books in the *Polo* series
- ***Superhero Joe* by JACQUELINE WEITZMAN**
- ***Trip to the Bottom of the World* by FRANK VIVA**

NONFICTION

- ***Boy Were We Wrong About the Solar System* by KATHLEEN KUDLINSKI**
Read about the updated history of the cosmos and debunk some of the things we thought we knew.
- ***Creature Features* by STEVE JENKINS**
In this title different animals explain the strange features on their bodies and why they need them .
Also read other books by the author: *Eye to Eye*, *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?*,
- ***A Fine Dessert* by EMILY JENKINS**
Four centuries, four families, one delicious treat.
- ***Galapagos George* by JEAN CRAIGHEAD GEORGE**
This is the story of the famous Lonesome George, a giant tortoise who was the last of his species, lived to be one hundred years old, and became known as the rarest creature in the world. His story gives us a glimpse of the amazing creatures inhabiting the ever-fascinating Galápagos Islands.
- ***Gravity* by JASON CHIN**
This book explains what would happen without gravity.
Also read: *Island: A Story of the Galapagos*, *Coral Reefs*, and *Redwoods*
- ***How the Meteorite Got to the Museum* by JESSIE HARTLAND**
This book explains the steps that brought a meteor from outer space, across the eastern United States, to the roof of a car in Peekskill, New York, and was then was verified, tested, and exhibited at the American Museum of Natural History.
Also read: *How the Dinosaur Got to the Museum*

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***Lego Man in Space: A True Story*** by MARA SHAUGHNESSY

This book describes how two boys sent a Lego man eighty thousand feet into the atmosphere with the use of a weather balloon and a parachute.

● ***Little Book of Sloth*** by LUCY COOKE

Text and photographs introduce readers to the sloth who live in a sloth sanctuary in Costa Rica.

● ***Locomotive*** by BRIAN FLOCA

This book details what the first passengers experienced as they traveled West on the transcontinental railroad in 1869.

● ***National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of the Ocean***

More than 100 charming animal photos illustrate profiles and facts about sea creatures' size, diets, homes, and more.

Also read: other titles in the *National Geographic First Big Books* series

● ***Oceans: A Photicular Book*** by DAN KAINEN

Using the Photicular process, the underwater world jumps off the pages with images that capture movement.

● ***One Tiny Turtle*** by NICOLA DAVIES

A tiny sea turtle swims out to sea, then returns after a few years to the beach where it was born to lay its eggs before returning to the sea. Includes facts about sea turtles. http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/turtle_loggerhead_baby

● ***Out of Sight*** by PITTAU

Read about wild animals hidden under the flaps within the pages of this peek-a-boo book.

● ***Pets Cats up Close*** by GILLIA M. OLSON

Pet cats have cool body parts; check them out in this title.

● ***Pet Dogs up Close*** by ERIKA L. SHORES

Dogs can wag, sniff, and chew. What else? Check out this title to learn more.

● ***Planets*** by ELIZABETH CARNEY

Using National Geographic images, this book displays the universe and shares amusing facts for young readers.

● ***The Potato King*** by CHRISTOPH NIEMANN

A Prussian king brought the potato crop to his kingdom but no one wanted to be told what to eat! How did he solve this problem? Read on...

● ***Safari*** by DAN KAINEN

Using the Photicular process, African Safari animals jump off the pages with images that capture their movements.

● ***Things That Float and Things That Don't*** by DAVID A. ADLER

This book explains to children why some objects float and some sink.

● ***Train*** by ELISHA COOPER

Board a commuter train in New York, then follow the journey west and see the stations, the scenery, the different types of trains, and all the people who travel and work on the railroad system.

● ***Trip Into Space: An Adventure to the International Space Station*** by LORI HOURAN

A lively story and detailed illustrations take readers on a trip to the International Space Station.

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***Water is Water*** by MIRANDA PAUL

Are you thirsty to know about the water cycle? This is the book for you.

● ***Weird and Wild Animal Facts*** by JESSICA LOY

This is a book filled with amazing photographs and weird facts about 14 wild animals.

● ***You Can't Taste a Pickle With Your Ear*** by HARRIET ZIEFERT

This book explores the five senses. Each short chapter focuses on one of the senses, opening with a simple explanation that uses everyday experiences.

● ***What if Everybody Did That?*** By ELLEN JAVERNICK

A child learns that there are consequences for thoughtless behavior, from feeding popcorn to a bear at the zoo to dropping an empty can out of a car window.

● ***What's Your Favorite Animal*** by ERIC CARLE AND FRIENDS

With beautiful illustrations and charming personal stories, 14 children's book artists share their favorite animals and why they love them.

PICTURE BOOKS

● ***Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*** by DAN SANTAT

Beekle has been waiting to be chosen by a real child to be his imaginary friend. When his match never comes, he sets off on an incredible journey to the bustling city, where he finally meets his perfect match. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6iLWe7kS-5I>

● ***The Bear Ate Your Sandwich*** by JULIAN SARCONE-ROACH

See what happens when Bear meets your sandwich!

● ***Bear's Song*** by BENJAMIN CHAUD

Papa Bear is searching for Little Bear, who has escaped the den. The quest leads both bears into the bustling city and a humming opera house.

● ***Breathe*** by SCOTT MAGOON

Dive into a day in the life of a baby whale and follow him on his adventures.

● ***Bugs in My Hair!*** by DAVID SHANNON

When the main character gets a bad case of head lice, we all itch. This book is both funny and a cautionary tale for anyone who wants to keep the bugs out of their hair.

● ***Building Our House*** by JONATHAN BEAN

In this unique construction book for kids who love tools and trucks, readers join a family as they pack up their old house in town and set out to build a new one in the country. Also read other books by the author

● ***Bully*** by LAUREN VACARRO SEEGER

Bully doesn't have a kind word for any of his friends. When the other animals ask him to play, he responds by teasing them, until he learns what it really means to be a bully. The author talks about the book http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QU_IrytwRES

● ***Carnivores*** by AARON REYNOLDS

What's a meat-eater to do? Those plant-eaters are so mean!!

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***Chu's Day* by NEIL GAIMAN**

When Chu sneezes, bad things happen. Will Chu sneeze today?
Also read: *Chu's First day of School*

● ***A Dance Like Starlight: One Ballerina's Dream* by KRISTY DEMPSEY**

In a lyrical tale as beautiful as a dance *en pointe*, Kristy Dempsey and Floyd Cooper tell the story of one little ballerina who was inspired by Janet Collins to make her own dreams come true.

● ***Day the Crayons Quit* by DREW DAYWALL**

Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: His crayons have had enough! They quit! Watch a kids theater production of the book <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6GWwQmDoSo>

● ***Deep in the Sahara* by KELLY CUNNANE**

Lalla lives in the Muslim country of Mauritania, and more than anything, she wants to wear a *malafa*, the colorful cloth Mauritanian women wear to cover their heads and clothes in public. But first she must discover the true meaning of the malafa.

● ***Don't Spill the Milk* by STEPHEN DAVIES**

Over the uppy downy dunes, across the dark, wide river and up the steep, steep mountain, Penda lovingly carries a bowl of milk to her father in the grasslands. But will she manage to get it there without spilling a single drop?

● ***Duck's Vacation* by GILAD SOFFER**

Duck's just trying to have a relaxing vacation, but the reader is constantly causing him problems.

● ***Fetch* by JOREY HURLEY**

A dog, a ball, a beach and one word per page. Perfect!!

● ***Freddie and Gingersnap Find a Cloud to Keep* by VINCENT X. HIRSCH**

When Freddie the dinosaur and Gingersnap the dragon climb up high hoping to meet a cloud, they find a very curious one, indeed.
Also read: *Freddie and Gingersnap*

● ***Going Places* by PETER REYNOLDS**

A go-cart contest inspires imagination to take flight in this picture book.

● ***I Don't Want to be a Frog* by DEV PETTY**

A frog father and son talk about how important it is to be yourself.

● ***Ice Cream Summer* by PETER SIS**

Ice cream, ice cream, ice cream all summer long. A boy writes to his grandfather and it's all about ice cream.

● ***If You Plant a Seed* by KADIR NELSON**

Kadir Nelson, Caldecott Honor and Coretta Scott King Author and Illustrator Award Winner, presents a resonant, gently humorous story about the power of even the smallest acts and the rewards of compassion and generosity. *If You Plant a Seed* demonstrates not only the process of planting and growing for young children but also how a seed of kindness can bear sweet fruit.

● ***Larry Gets Lost in New York City* by MICHAEL MULLIN**

Follow Larry as he ping-pongs around the city, hitting all five boroughs in a day, and the places and things that make New York City what it is. Also read: other books in the *Larry* series

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***Memoirs of a Hamster* by DEVIN SCILLIAN**

A pet hamster is enticed by the family cat to venture outside his well-equipped cage to the sunroom only to very quickly discover life outside his cage is not the best for him.

● ***My Teacher is a Monster* by PETER BROWN**

Bobby has a problem. You see, his teacher is a monster. But when Bobby runs into his teacher outside of school, he learns there is more to her than meets the eye.

Also read: *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild*

● ***My Cold Plum Lemon Pie Bluesy Mood* by TAMEKA BROWN**

What color is your mood? Learn to describe how you're feeling in a unique way.

● ***New Shoes* by SUSAN LYNN MEYER**

In this historical fiction picture book, Ella Mae and her cousin Charlotte, both African American, start their own shoe store when they learn that they cannot try on shoes at the shoe store--

● ***Ninja!* by APREE CHUNG**

A ninja must be strong, courageous, and silent! He creeps through the house on a secret mission. There may be obstacles! But have no fear—a true ninja can overcome all challenges. <http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18490605-ninja>

● ***Ninja Boy goes to School* by N. D. WILSON**

It's time for kindergarten, and a young boy is prepared for the task, thanks to his unflinching ninja skills. The challenges of school are no match for a ninja, with his quick reflexes and immense patience.

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18769843-ninja-boy-goes-to-school?from_search=true&search_version=service_impr

● ***Ninja Red Riding Hood* by COREY SCHWARTZ**

Wolf just can't catch a break! Ever since the three little pigs started teaching everyone Ninja skills, huffing and puffing just hasn't been enough to scare up a good meal. Wolf goes to classes at the dojo, and soon he's ready to try out his new moves. A little girl and her tiny granny should be easy targets--right? Not if Little Red has anything to say about it! **Kiya!**

● ***The Obstinate Pen* by FRANK W. DORMER**

This is what Uncle Flood wants to write with his new pen: *The following story is all true.* But the pen does not write that sentence. Instead it writes: *You have a big nose!* Who knows what to do with a pen that has a will of its own? Not Uncle Flood. Not Officer Wonkle. But young Horace has an idea...

● ***Open This Little Book* by JESSE KLAUSMEIER**

What will you find when you open this little book? A fun story? Sweet characters? Enticing pictures? Yes! But much more.

● ***Peanut Butter & Cupcake* by TERRY BORDER**

What's a little piece of bread to do when he's feeling lonely? Find a friend, of course! And that's exactly what Peanut Butter tries to do. But sometimes friends are hard to come by, especially when Hamburger has to walk his (hot) dogs, Cupcake is too busy building castles in her sprinkle box, and Egg laughs so hard he starts to crack up! Does Peanut Butter have a soulmate?

● ***Pig and Small* by ALEX LATIMER**

Pig and Bug just want to be friends. But their size difference is proving to be a BIG problem. Pig wants to play games - but Bug is too small. Bug wants to make things for his friend - but Pig is too big! Just as they've given up all hope for their friendship, Pig has an idea but will it work?

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



● ***Pigeon Needs a Bath* by MO WILLEMS**

The messy Pigeon refuses to take a bath insisting that he had one a month earlier.
Also read other books by the author

● ***Red: a crayon's story* by MICHAEL HALL**

Red has a bright red label, but he is, in fact, blue. His teacher tries to help him be red (let's draw strawberries!), his mother tries to help him be red by sending him out on a playdate with a yellow classmate (go draw a nice orange!), and the scissors try to help him be red by snipping his label so that he has room to breathe. But Red is miserable. He just can't be red, no matter how hard he tries! Finally, a brand-new friend offers a brand-new perspective, and Red discovers what readers have known all along.

● ***Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton**

Four friends find themselves in the presence of the most beautiful bird, but shh! They have a plan to catch it, if it works that is.
Watch the book trailer: <http://bit.ly/1f71apq>

● ***Splash! Anna Hibiscus* by ATINUKE**

Come and splash in the waves with Anna Hibiscus.

● ***Stick and Stone* by BETH FERRY**

When Stick helps to defend Stone against the big Pine Cone bully, they become the fastest of friends, until their friendship is tried again.
Watch the book trailer: <http://bit.ly/1KLb2B2>

● ***Stuck* by OLIVER JEFFERS**

When a boy gets his kite stuck in a tree, he'll use just about anything to get it out, including his shoes, an orangutan, and even his own front door.

● ***Tap the Magic Tree* by CHRISTIE MATHESON**

A celebration of the changing seasons.

● ***This is the Rope* by JACQUELINE WOODSON**

The story of one family's journey north during the Great Migration starts with a little girl in South Carolina who finds a rope under a tree one summer.

● ***This Orq. (he cave boy.)* by DAVID ELLIOT**

Orq adores Woma the woolly mammoth, but his mother feels otherwise. Read this beautiful tale of friendship to find out!

● ***Tiger in My Soup* by KASHMIRA SHETH**

When a boy is left in the care of his older sister, he begs her to read him his favorite book, but she's too absorbed in her own reading to pay him any attention.

● ***What if...?* by ANTHONY BROWNE**

So many of us have asked ourselves "What if...?" Follow the journey of a boy who does the same only to find a reassuring ending.

● ***When an Alien Meets a Swamp Monster* by CORNELIUS VAN WRIGHT**

Two very different little boys meet and must decide if they can be friends.

● ***Wolfie the Bunny* by AME DYCKMAN**

A wolf is adopted into a family of bunnies, and though his new sister expects the worst, will his new family be the ones to protect him? Watch the book trailer: <http://bit.ly/1OjHTX>



POETRY

- ***Blue on Blue*** by DIANNE WHITE

A storm can take on many forms in its course. Check out this beautiful rhyming text to watch a storm develop on a seaside farm.

- ***Over the Hills and Far Away*** by ELIZABETH HAMMILL

Travel the globe between the covers of one book with this collection of rhymes gathered from nations all over the world, including some classics and some new ones.

- ***Water Rolls, Water Rises*** by PAT MORA

The world is full of beautiful water landscapes, and you can see and read about them all in this ode to the beauty of nature.

SPORTS

- ***I Know Basketball*** by ANNABELLE TOMETICH

Learn the basics of basketball as well as important basketball terminology.

Also read: other books in the *21st Century Basic Skills* series

- ***I Love Soccer*** by RYAN NAGELHOUT

Read all about your favorite sports in this collection of various sports books.

Also read: other books in the *My Favorite Sports* series

- ***Sports Illustrated Victory Kids*** series

This series includes nearly every sport you can think of and so every reader can find something that fits them.

- ***Who's On First*** by ABBOT and COSTELLO

Rabbit and Bear act out the classic comedy routine "Who's on first. What's on second, I Don't Know's on third."

SERIES BOOKS you may like:

American Museum of Natural History Easy Readers series

A-Z Mysteries by Ron Roy

Amelia Bedelia series by Peggy Parish

Bad Kitty series by Nick Bruel

Bink and Gollie series by Kate Di Camillo

Black Lagoon Adventures series by Mike Thaler

Capital Mysteries series by Ron Roy

Cat the Cat series by Mo Willems

Cool Sports Facts series

Elephant and Piggie series by Mo Willems

Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures series by Jeff Brown

Frankie Pickle by ERIC WIGHT

I Am Reading series

Ivy and Bean series by Annie Barrows

Leroy Ninker series by KATE DI CAMILLO

Life Size series (titles include: *Life Size Reptiles*; *Life Size Killer Creatures*; *Life Size Dragons*)

Mercy Watson series by Kate DiCamillo

Miami series by P. & F. McKissack

National Geographic Kids series

South Orange Maplewood School District
2015 Summer Reading List for Primary Grades



Nibbles, Bites, and Chomps series
Pete the Cat series by Eric Litwin
Princess Posey series by Stephanie Greene
Skippyjon Jones series by Judy Schachner
Splat, the Cat series by Rob Scotton
Stella Batts series by Courtney Scheinmel
The Stories Julian Tells by ANN CAMERON
You Read to Me, I'll Read to You series by May Ann Hoberman

ADDITIONAL AUTHORS

Here are some great authors & illustrators to explore for primary readers:

Nic Bishop, Jan Brett, Marc Brown, Peter Brown, Eric Carle, Peter Catalanotto, Beverly Cleary, Lauren Child, Andrew Clements, Joanna Cole, Floyd Cooper, Doreen Cronin, Tomie DePaola, Kate DiCamillo, Hallie Durand, Ed Emberley, Emily Gravett, Kevin Henkes, Tad Hills, Keiko Kasza, Ezra Jack Keats, Steven Kellogg, E.B. Lewis, Leo Lionni, Pat McKissack, Bill Martin, Susan Meddaugh, Robert Munsch, Margie Palatini, Dav Pilkey, Jerry Pinkney, Daniel Pinkwater, Patricia Polacco, Antoinette Portis, James Ransome, Peter Reynolds, Eric Rohmann, Amy Rosenthal, Cynthia Rylant, John Scieszka, Laura Vaccaro Seeger, David Shannon, William Steig, Mark Teague, Jan Thomas, Chris Van Allsburg, Rosemary Wells, David Wiesner, Mo Willems, Harriet Ziefert