

RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING LIST PRESCHOOL 3 and 4

For students entering preschool, the reading activity is an optional program. If the students entering preschool choose to participate in the reading program, we are asking that the parents record their responses on the Preschool-1st grade form. This form can be downloaded from our website.

ALPHABET BOOKS

Cushman, Doug. **The ABC Mystery.**

Friendly animals work their way through the alphabet uncovering clues to the missing "A"rt.

Ehlert, Lois. **Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z.**

An array of fruits and vegetables is splashed across the pages of this exuberant alphabet book.

Fleming, Denise. **Alphabet Under Construction.**

A mouse works his way through the alphabet as he folds the "F", measures the "M", and rolls the "R".

Gretz, Susanna. **Teddy Bear's ABC.**

Have fun making up sentences like those in the book: "T is for tickling in a tent.

Hague, Kathleen. **Alphabears.**

Bears from A to Z.

Kitchen, Bert. **Animal Alphabet.**

Whimsical animals gaze over, push against or twine themselves around their respective letters in this funny alphabet.

Johnson, Stephen. **Alphabet City.**

Walk around the city and you will see all the letters from A to Z. This book received a Caldecott Honor Medal.

MacDonald, Suse. **Alphabatics.**

The letters of the alphabet change into twenty-six illustrations.

Rey, H.A. **Curious George Learns the Alphabet.**

Curious George's friend in the yellow hat draws pictures to go with the letters of the alphabet.

Seuss, Dr. **ABC.**

What begins with each of the letters of the alphabet from A to Z.

Wilner, Isabel. **A Garden Alphabet.**

Rhyming verses and illustrations introduce the letters of the alphabet and describe how a garden is planned and planted, how things grow, and the joy a garden brings.

CONCEPT/SCIENCE BOOKS

Aliki. **My Visit to the Aquarium.**

Have you ever seen a coral reef or a kelp forest? You will if you visit this aquarium.

Baer, Edith. **This is the Way We Go to School.**

The many different modes of transportation that children all over the world use to get to school are described.

Barton, Byron. **I Want to be an Astronaut.**

A young child thinks about what it would be like to be an astronaut and go out on a mission into space.

Ehlert, Lois. **Color Farm.**

*Cutout shapes and vibrant colors combine to form farm animals in this companion to **Color Zoo.***

Fleming, Denise. **In the Tall, Tall Grass.**

As day turns to night, a caterpillar crunches and munches this way through the tall grass, watching the way other creatures who live there spend their time.

Gibbons, Gail. **Cats. Dogs.**

These easy information books will provide simple facts about pets.

Jenkins, Steve. **Biggest, Strongest, Fastest.**

Which animal is the smallest? Which is the slowest? You will learn a lot about animals in this book.

Lionni, Leo. **Matthew's Dream.**

In this enchanting fable about a mouse who wants to become a painter, the author explores the roles of art and the artist in shaping our vision and expressing our dreams.

COUNTING AND NUMBER BOOKS

Carle, Eric. **The Very Hungry Caterpillar.**

It took six days of the week for the caterpillar to realize that he had eaten too much food.

Ehlert, Lois. **Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On.**

This counting book depicts the colorful fish a child might see if he turned into a fish himself.

Hoban, Tana. **Let's Count.**

Photographs and dots introduce the numbers one to one hundred.

Mora, Pat. **Uno, Dos, Tres: One, Two, Three.**

Count from one to ten -- from uno a diez -- as the family prepares for Mama's birthday.

FOLK AND FAIRY TALES

Brett, Jan. **Gingerbread Baby.**

A young boy and his mother bake a gingerbread baby who escapes from their oven and leads a crowd on a chase similar to the one in the familiar tale.

Galdone, Paul. **The Gingerbread Boy.**

Humorous full-color, double-page illustrations accompany this cumulative tale.

Galdone, Paul. **The Three Bears.**

Three bears return from a walk and find a little girl asleep in baby bear's bed.

MOTHER GOOSE BOOKS

De Paola, Tomie. **Tomie de Paola's Mother Goose.**

An illustrated collection of over 200 Mother Goose nursery rhymes is filled with fresh life and brilliant full-color paintings.

Lobel, Arnold. **Random House Book of Mother Goose.**

This collection, selected and illustrated by Arnold Lobel, includes well-known rhymes as well as those that are less familiar.

NURSERY RHYMES AND POETRY

Degen, Bruce. **Jamberry.**

Berries and jam are celebrated with jaunty, colored pictures in this lifting rhyme. Illustrated by the author.

Dyer, Jane. **Animal Crackers.**

“Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear”, “A Apple Pie”, and “Pat-a-Cake” are some of the fun rhymes in this collection. Collected and illustrated by Jane Dyer.

Hale, Sarah. **Mary Had a Little Lamb.**

The famous nineteenth-century nursery rhyme about the school-going lamb is accompanied by the music later written for it.

PICTURE BOOKS

Bourgeois, Paulette. **Franklin in the Dark.**

Franklin is afraid of small dark places, but he found that everything that he met was afraid of something.

Bridwell, Noman. **Clifford the Big Red Dog.**

A little girl has a large dog for a pet. This is one story of their adventure together.

Brown, Margaret Wise. **Goodnight Moon.**

A small rabbit says goodnight to the familiar things in his nest as night makes things change from bright to dark.

Burton, Virginia L. **Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel.**

Mike digs a cellar but forgets to leave a way out for his shovel.

Carle, Eric. **The Very Quiet Cricket.**

As a cricket makes his way into the world, he meets other insects but is unable to make a sound. At the end of the story, the very quiet cricket makes a beautiful sound.

Carlson, Nancy. **I Like Me!**

By admiring her finer points and showing that she can take care of herself and have fun even when there's no one else around, a charming pig proves the best friend you can have is yourself.

Ehlert, Lois. **Nuts to You!**

A young boy tells how he befriends a squirrel.

Fleming, Denise. **Mama Cat Has Three Kittens.**

While two kittens copy everything their mother does, their brother naps.

Freeman, Don. **Corduroy.**

A stuffed bear searches his department store home for the missing button from his overalls.

Gag, Wanda. **Millions of Cats.**

A very old man and woman try to choose the prettiest cat to keep them company.

Geraghty, Paul. **Look Out, Patrick!**

In the colorful illustrations, the audience can see the dangers headed Patrick's way while he is out for a stroll.

Goode, Diane. **Where's Our Mama?**

The 1920 Paris train station is the setting for this winning tribute to the enduring belief that one's own mother is the best in the world.

Holabird, Katharine. **Angelina and the Princess.**

Angelina wants to be a prima ballerina, but she is only given a minor role. Angelina wants to quit ballet school, but she decides to work hard for the sake of all her friends in the performance. There's an unexpected turn of events that leads to a happy ending for all.

Hest, Amy. **In the Rain with Baby Duck.**

Although her parents love walking in the rain, Baby Duck does not -- until Grandpa shares a secret with her.

Keats, Ezra Jack. **The Snowy Day.**

A small boy plays in the snow.

Kraus, Robert. **Leo the Late Bloomer.**

A young tiger finally blooms under the anxious eyes of his parents.

Martin, Bill, Jr. and Archambault, John. **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom.**

This is a lively alphabet rhyme where the letters of the alphabet race each other up the coconut tree.

Martin, Bill, Jr. **Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?**

Children will chant the rhythmic words, make sounds the animals make, and pretend to be the zoo animals.

McCloskey, Robert. **Make Way for Ducklings.**

A family of ducks travels through Boston traffic to the public pond.

McDonald, Megan. **Is This a House for Hermit Crab?**

Hermit Crab, too big for his shell, searches for a new house that will accommodate his size and keep him safe.

McGee, Alison. **Countdown to Kindergarten.**

Ten days before the start of Kindergarten, a preschooler cannot tie her shoes by herself and fears the worst.

McGee, David. **Elmer.**

Elmer the elephant is a bright colored patchwork all over. The other elephants laugh at him. This comical fable is a celebration of individuality and power of laughter.

Mould, Wendy. **Ants in My Pants.**

Mother wants Jacob to put on clothes to go shopping, but he wants to stay home and play, and describes imaginary animals that are keeping him from getting dressed.

Numeroff, Laura. **If You Take a Mouse to School.**

Once you give a mouse a cookie, he'll ask for your lunch box. Watch out, and enjoy the fun!

Pfister, Marcus. **Rainbow Fish.**

A beautiful fish learns to make friends by sharing his most prized possessions.

Piper, Watty. **The Little Engine That Could.**

With determination and confidence, the little engine pulls the cargo over the mountain.

Potter, Beatrix. **The Tale of Peter Rabbit.**

Peter disobeys his mother and has a narrow escape from Mr. McGregor's garden.

Rosen, Michael. **We're Going on a Bear Hunt.**

A brave family goes through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before an encounter with a bear forces a headlong retreat.

Scott, Ann Herbert. **On Mother's Lap.**

A small Eskimo boy discovers that Mother's lap is a very special place with room for everyone.

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

After he is sent to bed without supper for behaving like a wild thing, Max

dreams of a voyage to the island where the wild things are. Caldecott Medal.

Sierra, Judy. **Preschool to the Rescue.**

When a mud puddle traps a pizza van, police car, tow truck, and other vehicles, a group of preschoolers comes along and saves the day.

Waber, Bernard. **Ira Sleeps Over.**

When Ira is invited to his friend's house, he has to make a difficult decision.

Yolen, Jane. **How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?**

A variety of human moms and dads try to put their dinosaur children to bed with chuckles for all in this bedtime story. Irresistibly cuddly dinosaur kids make this a silly, playful read-aloud.

Zion, Gene. **Harry the Dirty Dog.**

Harry, a white dog, has lots of fun getting dirty but has lots of problems when he is not recognized by his family.

FIRST READERS

Berenstain, Stan and Jan. **Bears on Wheels.**

It's fun to count the bears on the wheels.

Capucilli, Alyssa. **Biscuit.**

A little yellow dog wants one more thing before he'll go to sleep.

Dubowski, Cathy. **Cave Boy.**

A cave boy invents a wheel and makes a tricycle for the chief's birthday.

Eastman, P.D. **Are You My Mother?**

A small bird falls from his nest and searches for his mother.

Seuss, Dr. **The Cat in the Hat.**

An unusual cat shows the children his tricks one rainy day.

READ OTHER BOOKS WRITTEN BY THESE AUTHORS:

Berenstain, Stan and Jan

Bourgeois, Paulette

Bridwell, Norman

Carle, Eric

Freeman, Don

Mayer, Mercer

Metzger, Steve

Seuss, Dr.