

Second Grade Summer Reading List

(Read for 20 minutes EVERY DAY!)

Ways to Enjoy Reading

Listen to a book being read aloud.

Take turns reading to a friend or parent.

Read the book by yourself and tell someone about your favorite parts.

Record yourself reading the book or parts of the book a second time. Listen to the tape or audio file.

Make a list of the books you have read. Use a code to indicate how you felt about each book.

Visit the library and explore the section with information books. Select those that interest you.

Check out a poetry book and make copies of your favorite poems.

Mrs. Rohling's Favorite Authors-

I love **Kevin Henkes**. His books are hilarious. I also love **William Steig** who often writes fairytale-like stories (he wrote *Shrek*, the book that the movie is based on). **Tomie De Paola** makes frequent appearances in my classroom as well. I love his *Strega Nona* books and retellings of Irish and Italian folk tales! **Cynthia Rylant** and **Jane Yolen** are two more favorites. **Patricia Polacco** also writes and illustrates wonderful books including the classic *Thunder Cake* and *The Keeping Quilt*. **Judith Viorst** writes very funny books (*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*) as well as excellent poetry for children. Don't forget to read some nonfiction and poetry as well (**DK (Dorling Kindersley) and Usborne** are excellent publishers for nonfiction).

I've included a book review form after the list. I would love for students to bring in some completed book reviews for me next year!

This listing of books below offers book titles that are popular with boys and girls who are entering second grade. The list is a good place to start your summer reading, but it is only a beginning. Other titles by these authors or other authors offer enjoyable reading. Knowing how to choose a good book is part of being a good reader. Visit the library or book store often. Have book exchanges with friends. Start a book club! Have fun choosing and reading books this summer.

A Fine, Fine School by Sharon Creech 32 pages

- When a principal loves his school so much that he wants the children to attend classes every day of the year, it's up to his students to show him free time is a good thing, too.

Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin 32 pages

- When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands, and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.

How My Parents Learned to Eat by Ina Friedman 30 pages

- An American sailor courts a Japanese girl and each tries, in secret, to learn the other's way of eating.

The Village That Vanished by Ann Grifalconi 42 pages

- In southeastern Africa, a young Yao girl and her mother find a way for their fellow villagers to escape approaching slave traders.

Chester's Way by Kevin Henkes 32 pages

- Chester and Wilson share the same exact way of doing things, until Lilly moves into the neighborhood and shows them that new ways can be just as good.

Zelda and Ivy by Laura McGee Kvasnosky 42 pages

- In three brief stories, Ivy, the younger of two fox sisters, goes along with her older sister's schemes, even when they seem a bit daring.

Goin' Someplace Special by Patricia C. McKissack 36 pages

- In segregated 1950s Nashville, a young African American girl braves a series of indignities and obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library.

Officer Buckle and Gloria by Peggy Rathmann 32 pages

- The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

Mama Provi and the Pot of Rice by Sylvia Rosa-Casanova 32 pages

- Mama Provi takes chicken and rice to her sick granddaughter Lucy who lives upstairs.

Abiyoyo by Pete Seeger 47 pages

- Banished from the town for making mischief, a little boy and his father are welcomed back when they find a way to make the dreaded giant Abiyoyo disappear.

Happy Hocky Family by Lane Smith 61 pages

- Introduces readers to the world of the happy Hocky family--Baby Hocky; his brother Henry, who chases his sister with a dead spider; and Holly, who awakens her brother with a tuba blast.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe 32 pages

- Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.

Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School by Mark Teague 32 pages

- Gertrude LaRue receives typewritten and paw-written letters from her dog Ike, entreating her to let him leave the Igor Brotweiler Canine Academy and come back home.

Mailing May by Michael O. Tunnell 32 pages

- In 1914, because her family cannot afford a train ticket to her grandmother's town, May gets mailed and rides the mail car on the train to see her grandmother.

Zathura by Chris Van Allsburg 32 pages

- Left on their own for an evening, two boisterous brothers find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical space adventure board game.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst 32 pages

- Recounts the events of a day when everything goes wrong for Alexander.

The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson

- Two girls, one white and one black, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.

Easy Readers

Young Cam Jansen and the Dinosaur Game by David Adler 32 pages

- When eight-year-old Cam Jansen and her friend Eric go to a birthday party, she uses her photographic memory to solve the puzzle of the dinosaur count.

Prairie School by Avi 48 pages

- In 1880, Noah's aunt teaches the reluctant nine-year-old how to read as they explore the Colorado prairie together, Noah pushing Aunt Dora in her wheelchair.

Wiley and the Hairy Man by Molly Bang 64 pages

- With his mother's help, Wiley outwits the hairy creature that dominates the swamp near his home by the Tombigbee River.

Old Hat, New Hat by Stan & Jan Berenstain 29 pages

- Can the perfect old hat really be replaced by a new one?

The Shortest Kid in the World by Corinne Demas Bliss 48 pages

- Emily is unhappy with her size until a new girl in class helps her see that being short can have its advantages.

The Golly Sisters Go West by Betsy Byars 64 pages

- May-May and Rose, the singing, dancing Golly sisters, travel west by covered wagon, entertaining people along the way.

Minnie and Moo Go to the Moon by Denys Cazet 48 pages

- Two cow friends, Minnie and Moo, decide to drive the farmer's tractor all the way to the moon.

Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express by Eleanor Coerr 64 pages

- Sixteen-year-old Bill finds adventure when he becomes a rider for the Pony Express (though his letters home never hint at the dangers he encounters).

The Josefina Story Quilt by Eleanor Coerr 64 pages

- While traveling west with her family in 1850, a young girl makes a patchwork quilt chronicling the experiences of the journey and reserves a special patch for her pet hen Josefina.

Baseball Ballerina by Kathryn Cristaldi 48 pages

- A baseball-loving girl worries that the ballet class her mother forces her to take will ruin her reputation with the other members of her baseball team.

Get Ready for Second Grade, Amber Brown by Paula Danziger 48 pages

- Amber is nervous about starting second grade with a new teacher, but despite being in the same class as mean Hannah Burton, things turn out just fine.

Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo 68 pages

- Breaking the Watson's bed is only one of the adventures that their adored pig Mercy gets into.

Iris and Walter by Elissa Haden Guest 43 pages

- When Iris moves to the country, she misses the city where she formerly lived; but with the help of a new friend named Walter, she learns to adjust to her new home.

Lionel at Large by Stephen Krensky 56 pages

- Lionel faces such ordeals as having to eat green beans, going to the doctor, and looking for the snake his sister lost in his room.

Captain and Matey Set Sail by Daniel Laurence 64 pages

- Despite their frequent disagreements, two pirates share many adventures .

Days With Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel 64 pages

- Five more stories about Frog and Toad and their happy adventures.

Fox Outfoxed by James Marshall 48 pages

- Fox is smart, but not that smart!

Soccer Sam by Jean Marzollo 48 pages

- Sam's cousin from Mexico comes for an extended visit and teaches Sam and all the second graders to play soccer.

Three Stories You Can Read to Your Dog by Sara Swan Miller 48 pages

- Stories addressed to dogs and written from a dog's point of view, featuring such topics as a burglar, bones, and running free.

Gus and Grandpa by Claudia Mills 48 pages

- Gus and Grandpa have a loving, warm relationship.

The Drinking Gourd : a Story of the Underground Railroad by F.N. Monjo 62 pages

- When he is sent home alone for misbehaving in church, Tommy discovers that his house is a station on the underground railroad.

Bravo, Amelia Bedelia! by Herman Parish 40 pages

- From the time she is sent to pick up the guest conductor to the final bow by the orchestra, Amelia Bedelia's confusion causes quite an uproar at the school concert.

Henry and Mudge and the Happy Cat by Cynthia Rylant 47 pages

- Henry's family takes in a stray cat, the ugliest cat they have ever seen, and an amazing relationship blossoms between it and their big dog Mudge.

High Rise Private Eyes: The Case of the Missing Monkey by Cynthia Rylant 48 pages

- While having breakfast at their favorite diner, two detectives, Bunny and Jack, solve a mystery that is not what it seems.

In a Dark, Dark Room, and Other Scary Stories by Alvin Schwartz 63 pages

- Seven scary stories to tell at night in front of a fire or in the dark, based on traditional stories and folklore from various countries.

Nate the Great by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat 60 pages

- Nate the Great solves the mystery of the missing picture.

Chapter Books

The Absent Author by Ron Roy 87 pages

- Dink Duncan and his two friends investigate the apparent kidnapping of famous mystery author Wallis Wallace.

Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus by Barbara Park 69 pages

- In her own words, a young girl describes her feelings about starting kindergarten and what she does when she decides not to ride the bus home.

Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne 68 pages

- Meet Jack and Annie as they travel back to the time of the dinosaurs in this first book of the Magic Tree House series.

The Stories Julian Tells by Ann Cameron 71 pages

- Relates episodes in seven-year-old Julian's life which include getting into trouble with his younger brother Huey, planting a garden, what he did to try to grow taller, losing a tooth, and finding a new friend.

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett 86 pages

- A boy takes along chewing gum, two dozen lollipops, a package of rubber bands, six magnifying glasses and seven hair ribbons when he goes off to Wild Island to rescue a baby dragon.

Owen Foote, Second Grade Strongman by Stephanie Greene 81 pages

- Owen, a second grader who is being teased for his small size, discovers that his friend Joseph is just as concerned about being overweight, and they share their fear of being humiliated by the school nurse.

Runaway Radish by Jessie Haas 56 pages

- When Radish the pony grows too big for the girls who own him, he goes to live at a horse camp where there are always new children for him to train.

Pinky and Rex by James Howe 40 pages

- Rex and her best friend Pinky, each the proud possessor of twenty-seven stuffed animals or dinosaurs, find their visit to the museum and its gift shop complicated by Pinky's little sister Amanda.

Lady Lollipop by Dick King-Smith 123 pages

- A quick-witted swineherd and a pig named Lollipop are royally rewarded after they reform a spoiled princess.

Horrible Harry in Room 2B by Suzy Kline 56 pages

- Doug discovers that though being Harry's best friend in Miss Mackle's second grade class isn't always easy, as Harry likes to do horrible things, it is often a lot of fun.

Catwings by Ursula Le Guin 39 pages

- Four young cats with wings leave the city slums in search of a safe place to live, finally meeting two children with kind hands.

Morgy Makes His Move by Maggie Lewis 74 pages

- When third-grader Morgy MacDougal-MacDuff moves from California to Massachusetts with his parents, he has a lot of new things to get used to before he feels comfortable.

The Adventures of Captain Underpants by Dav Pilkey 121 pages

- Two mischievous boys turn their ill-tempered school principal into a superhero in an outrageously funny book featuring comics and flip-o-rama art.

Knights of the Kitchen Table by Jon Scieszka 55 pages

- Joe receives a magic book for his birthday present from his uncle. Joe, Fred and Sam are transported to a time when evil knights, fire-breathing dragons and vile-smelling giants roamed the land.

Math Curse by Jon Scieszka 32 pages

- When the teacher tells her class that they can think of almost everything as a math problem, one student acquires a math anxiety which becomes a real curse.

Little Wolf's Haunted Hall for Small Horrors by Ian Whybrow 125 pages

- In a series of letters to his parents, Little Wolf describes his attempts to create "the scariest school in the world" and convince his ghostly Uncle Bigbad to teach a magic class.

Folk & Fairy Tales

The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales by Jon Scieszka 52 pages

- Young subversives everywhere will love these ten fractured fairy tales.

Bruh Rabbit and the Tar Baby Girl by Virginia Hamilton 32 pages

- In this retelling, using Gullah speech, of a familiar story the wily Brer Rabbit outwits Brer Fox who has set out to trap him.

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears by Verna Aardema 30 pages

- A retelling of a traditional West African tale that reveals how the mosquito developed its annoying habit.

Head, Body, Legs: a Story from Liberia by Won-Ldy Paye 32 pages

- In this tale from the Dan people of Liberia, Head, Arms, Body, and Legs learn that they do better when they work together.

Lon Po Po by Ed Young 32 pages

- Three sisters staying home alone are endangered by a hungry wolf who is disguised as their grandmother.

Seven Chinese Brothers by Margaret Mahy 40 pages

- Seven Chinese brothers elude execution by virtue of their extraordinary individual qualities.

Non-Fiction

How Much is a Million? by David Schwartz 40 pages

- Text and pictures try to make possible the conceptualization of a million, a billion, and a trillion.

Actual Size by Steve Jenkins

- Discusses and gives examples of the size and weight of various animals and parts of animals.

Koko's Kitten by Francine Patterson 32 pages

- The real life experience of Koko, a gorilla in California who uses sign language, with a young kitten whom she loved and grieved over when it died.

You Can't Taste a Pickle With Your Ear by Harriet Ziefert

- A fun look at each of the five senses and how they help us explore our world.

Poetry

Insectlopedia by Florian Douglas 47 pages

- Presents twenty-one short poems about such insects as the inchworm, termite, cricket, and ladybug.

You Read to Me and I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together by Mary Ann Hoberman 32 pages

- Eight favorite fairy tales in very short tellings, told in two voices to allow reading together.

A Pet for Me: Poems Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins 44 pages

- A collection of poems celebrating the joys of having a pet.

The Frogs Wore Red Suspenders by Jack Prelutsky 63 pages

- The poems are about people and animals in far-flung places.

Biography

26 Fairmount Avenue by Tomie dePaola 71 pages

- The popular author-illustrator recalls a year from his childhood, including memories of kindergarten and moving to a new house.

Wilma Unlimited by Kathleen Krull 44 pages

- A biography of the African-American woman who overcame crippling polio as a child to become the first woman to win three gold medals in track in a single Olympics.

YOU SHOULD READ THIS BOOK!!!

Name _____ Date _____

Title _____

Author _____

You should read this book because _____

My favorite part was: _____

DRAW YOUR FAVORITE PART OR CHARACTER



