

June 2009

Cambridge Friends School Library

Summer Reading Suggestions for Younger Readers (Grades 3 - 5)



Reading good books during the summer is one of the best ways for you to prepare for the next grade. Reading will improve your comprehension, vocabulary, and writing style. Even more importantly, reading will help you gain understanding of yourself and other people, other places, and other times. And it is fun! Reading can be done at any time and in any place.

Here are suggestions of authors and titles you may enjoy. We've included an annotated* selection of new and noteworthy books as well as a list of books recommended by our librarians and students.

This book list and lists for other grades are on the CFS library website. You will also find an annotated list of new and recommended biographies about great Americans for grades 3 - 8. Please go to <http://www.cfsmass.org/curriculum/Library.htm>

**This summer, use your public library and reserve your books online!
See the next page for instructions on how to do it.**

Contents

Going Online to the Public Library
New and Noteworthy
Books in Graphic Format
Fantasy and Science Fiction
Animals
Realistic Fiction

Happy Reading!

* Some annotations have been adapted from publishers' information and book reviews.

Use your public library and reserve your books online:



To get access to all these great books, use your public library. Communities in Massachusetts belong to large library networks - this means that they share their resources. Materials can be borrowed from any of the member libraries. You can go online, request books, and have them delivered to your own neighborhood branch.

Most of the communities around Cambridge belong to the Minuteman Library Network:

Go to: www.mln.lib.ma.us

To request books, you must have a library card and a PIN. You can go to your public library to get both. If you already have a card, but not a PIN, you can create a PIN online. You can request books from any of the member libraries, and they will be delivered to any library you choose.

- To search the catalog and request books, first click on *My Account*.
- Put in your library card # and PIN. Click *Submit*.
- On the next screen, there is information about your account, such as which books you have signed out and requested. You can renew your books here. You also can begin to search the catalog.
- Under *My Account*, go to *Modify Personal Information* to see if the library has your e-mail address and to designate where you would like to pick up your books. You will get an e-mail message when your books are ready to be picked up.

To search the public library catalog:

The default method of searching the catalog is by **KEYWORD**. You can also choose other search methods, such as **AUTHOR**, **TITLE**, or **SUBJECT**.

Click on a title that interests you. You will see more information about the book, including whether it is currently available. If you want the book, click on *Request Item*.

Use the *HELP* feature if you have any questions.

For the Boston Public Library System go to: www.bpl.org

If your local library is not a member of either of these systems, go to your library's web page on the Internet and find out how to reserve books.

New and Noteworthy



Barrows, Annie. *Ivy and Bean: Bound to Be Bad*

The adventures of Ivy and Bean continue. The girls decide to be so good and kind and pure of thought that wild animals will befriend them. When this doesn't work, they decide that perhaps a little badness can be good. Series.

Barshaw, Ruth. *Ellie McDoodle: New Kid at School*

Armed only with humor, a pen, and a sketchbook, eleven-year-old Ellie McDoodle chronicles her adventures and mishaps as the "new kid" in her new school. Series.

Boniface, William. *The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy: the Return of Meteor Boy*

Ordinary Boy uses his head and manages to solve an old mystery and save the day once again for Superopolis, despite having no superpowers of his own. Series.

Bunting, Eve. *Reggie*

Alex is determined to keep the toy mouse he finds tied to a balloon, even after posters appear asking for its return. But when his dog Patch disappears, Alex discovers what it is like to lose something you love more than anything.

Byars, Betsy. *Dog Diaries: Secret Writings of the WOOF Society*

At the first annual meeting of WOOF – Words of Our Friends – assorted dogs share tales of dogs throughout history.

Cabot, Meg. *Moving Day (Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls)*

When Allie Finkle's parents announce that they are moving from their suburban split-level into an ancient house in town, Allie's sure her life is over. With a room she's half-scared to go into, the burden of being "the new girl," and her old friends far away, how will Allie ever learn to fit in?

Clements, Andrew. *No Talking*

The noisy fifth grade class of Laketon Elementary becomes suspiciously quiet when the boys challenge the girls to a "no talking" contest.

Colfer, Eoin. *Eoin Colfer's Legend of the Worst Boy in the World*

Will Woodman has a hard time getting anyone in his family to listen to him, so he turns to his grandfather, who, it turns out, has more terrible sob stories than Will does. But swapping stories with the old man doesn't prove to be as satisfying as Will thinks, until he hears the legend of the worst boy in the world. Illustrations.

Collins, Ross. *Medusa Jones*

Medusa, with her hair of hissing snakes, and her rather unusual friends are considered the Freaks at school, teased unmercifully by the Champions, the more attractive children of the Greek gods and goddesses.

Creech, Sharon. *Hate that Cat*

Jack is studying poetry again in school, and he continues to write poems reflecting his understanding of famous works and how they relate to his life. Sequel to *Love That Dog*.

Degross, Monalisa. *Donavan's Double Trouble*

Donavan has some double trouble to deal with. One problem is his constant struggle with math, the other is that his favorite uncle has returned from war in a wheelchair. With help from his friends and from his loving African American family, he develops a strategy for his math anxiety and for accepting his uncle's disability.

DiTerlizzi, Tony. *Kenny & the Dragon*

The co-creator Spiderwick Chronicles puts a fun-filled, thoroughly theatrical spin on Kenneth Graeme's "The Reluctant Dragon"--a classic tale of secrecy and showmanship.

Doder, Joshua. *Grk and the Hot Dog Trail*

Grk and friends are in New York City to see the Golden Dachshund at the National Museum. But when the priceless statue goes missing, Tim and Grk set off through the streets of New York to capture the criminal. A story with appeal to all who love dogs and a good mystery. Series.

Edwards, Wallace. *The Extinct Files: My Science Project*

Wally's science project proves that dinosaurs are alive through funny "photographs" and wacky puns. Wally's plan is a success until the D.I.A. (Dinosaur Intelligence Agency) gets involved.

English, Karen. *Birthday Blues*

The girls have been planning the perfect birthday party for Deja, but now it's about to be ruined. With emotional depth and humor, this book captures the complexities and joys of elementary school girls' friendships. Illustrations. Series.

Evans, Nate. *The Mystery of Merlin and the Gruesome Ghost*

Rat must go to school, but he really doesn't want to go. That is, until Humpty is called to the school to investigate a ghost, and Merlin tells Rat he might be the one to finally pull the sword from the stone. (*Humpty Dumpty JR.*, *Hardboiled Detective* series)

Fleischman, Paul. *The Dunderheads*

A group of underachievers engages in a battle of wits with their unsympathetic teacher and emerges triumphant. The plot is wonderfully outlandish, featuring an undercover caper complete with a hidden safe and a classmate who just happens to be a hypnotist

French, Vivian. *The Robe of Skulls*

A sorceress wants a skull-studded gown of black velvet, but her treasure chest is empty. She plans to kidnap, blackmail, and use magic to get what she needs. Will her plans be foiled by the heroine, two chatty bats, a gallant (if scruffy) prince, the wickedest stepsister ever, and a troll with a grudge?

Gifford, Peggy. *Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Writing Thank-you Notes*

Moxy Maxwell has promised to write twelve thank-you notes by the day after Christmas so that she and her twin brother Mark can go to Hollywood to visit their father, but all her brilliant ideas to help finish the task more efficiently end up creating chaos in the house.

Grimes, Nikki. *Make Way for Dyamonde Daniel*

Dyamonde Daniel may be new in town, but that doesn't stop her from making a place for herself in a jiffy. With her attitude and awesome brain power she takes the whole neighborhood by storm. But she wonders why she's been at her new school for weeks and still doesn't have a best friend.

Gutman, Dan. *Nightmare at the Book Fair*

Fifth-grader Trip Dinkleman, who does not like to read very much, is hit on the head by a bookcase and becomes a character in a series of different books including a horror story, an adventure, and a fantasy.

Hanson, Mary. *How to Save Your Tail*

When he is captured by two of the queen's cats, Bob the rat prolongs his life by sharing fresh-baked cookies and stories of his ancestors, whose escapades are remarkably similar to those of well-known fairy tale heroes.

Harper, Charise Mericle. *Just Grace Goes Green*

Grace can do a lot of things, but can she save the planet? Or at the very least, can she help her best friend Mimi get her favorite stuffed animal back? Series.

Hicks, Betty. *Basketball Bats*

Henry and his friends on Rockford Road are a basketball team unstoppable on their driveway court. But without team t-shirts or an official name can they take on The Tigers, a team that plays at the huge YWCA and has a player old enough to shave? Series.

Jenkins, Emily. *Toys Dance Party*

Buffalo, Stingray, and Plastic are worried when the Girl starts spending time with Barbie dolls and at sleepovers. Throughout their adventures in the house, they will learn if they can keep the Girl's love. Sequel to *Toys Go Out*.

Kelly, Katy. *Lucy Rose: Working Myself to Pieces and Bits*

In her diary, fourth-grader Lucy Rose, who is a lover of palindromes and big words, records her adventures with friends Jonique and Melonhead, including their unusual ways of raising money so that the McBees can remodel their bakery. Series.

Klimo, Kate. *The Dragon in the Sock Drawer*

After Jesse's newly found thunder egg hatches and a baby dragon pops out, Jesse and his cousin Daisy learn they've been designated as "Dragon Keepers". They must keep the hatchling safe from the villainous Saint George, who has kept himself alive over centuries by drinking dragons' blood.

Long, Loren. *Game 1*

In the late 1800s, a baseball with strange powers belonging to their late father works wonders for three children and a traveling baseball team that must raise \$10,000.

Look, Lenore. *Alvin Ho, Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things*

Alvin Ho loves superheroes and his family, but is afraid of practically everything else. Finding a friend is hard for Alvin, especially because he is unable to talk at school.

McGhee, Alison. *Julia Gillian (And the Art of Knowing)*

For nine-year-old Julia Gillian, life has been nearly perfect. But, as the summer progresses, that changes. Her parents have little time for her, and then there's the book Julia is afraid to finish because she suspects it will have an unhappy ending for its dog hero. A fast-paced book with a likable heroine. Series.

McKissack, Patricia. *The Home-Run King*

With warmth and humor, this fourth installment of McKissack's family saga brings to life the era of all-black baseball for readers who may not know that Major League teams were once whites-only. Series.

Morris, Gerald. *The Adventures of Sir Lancelot*

Lancelot is a lighthearted, comic figure. He's also witty and clever and defeats all challengers. Illustrations are scattered throughout this brief and humorous retelling of a King Arthur legend.

Perkins, Mitali. *Rickshaw Girl*

When her family faces financial difficulties, Naima seeks to find a way to help while remaining true to her Bangladeshi heritage and her own artistic talent.

Primavera, Elise. *The Secret Order of the Gumm Street Girls*

When Ivy and her mother move to a ramshackle house on Gumm Street, a mysterious pair of ruby red slippers turns up and sweeps away Ivy and her new neighbors, Pru, Cat, and Franny.

Prineas, Sarah. *The Magic Thief*

In a city that runs on a dwindling supply of magic, a young boy is drawn into a life of wizardry and adventure. Conn should have dropped dead the day he picked a wizard's pocket and touched the wizard's locus magicalicus, a stone used to focus magic and work spells. The wizard takes Conn as his apprentice to discover who--or what--is stealing the city of Wellmet's magic.

Speck, Katie. *Maybelle in the Soup*

Maybelle is a lovely, plump cockroach. She lives in her own cozy little home under the refrigerator of Mr. and Mrs. Peabody. Maybelle knows it's best to stay hidden away, but she simply adores food. When the Peabodys invite a Very Important Guest for dinner, Maybelle can't resist. She takes a teeny taste--and splashes into the biggest adventure of her life.

Voake, Steve. *Daisy Dawson Is on Her Way!*

In this lighthearted tale, young Daisy Dawson wakes up one morning to find she can understand everything animals say, from her favorite farm dog to the classroom gerbils.

Warner, Sally. *Best Friend Emma*

Emma McGraw decides that new girl Krysten Rodriguez would make a great best friend. There's a problem, however. Emma accidentally forgets that she already has a best friend in Annie Pat. Can Emma make up with Annie Pat and be Krysten's friend as well?

Weatherill, Cat. *Barkbelly*

One night, a shiny, wooden egg falls from a flying machine down to the small village of Pumbleditch, where Barkbelly is born. He's the only wooden boy, and he's the cause of a tragic accident. Suddenly, Barkbelly's only choice is to flee for his life. As he tries to escape his haunting past, he faces extraordinary adventures and dangers.

Yee, Paul. *Shu-Li and Tamara*

The story of true friendship between two girls. Shu-Li's parents run a local Chinese deli and much of the story revolves around food. There are recipes at the end of the book for kids to try out. Illustrated throughout with line drawings.

Favorite Books in Graphic Format

Bullock, Mike. *Lions, Tigers and Bears: Volume 1 Fear and Pride*

When Joey's worst fears, The Beasties, come crawling out of his closet in the middle of the night, he finds out his new stuffed animals, the Night Pride, are more real than he ever could have imagined.

Crane, Jordan. *The Clouds Above*

Simon and his cat, Jack, arrive late for school and they avoid getting into trouble by hiding on the roof, where they find a strange stairway to the sky.

Grahame, Kenneth. *The Wind in the Willows*

A graphic format version of the story of the four animal friends who live along a river in the English countryside - Toad, Mole, Rat and Badger.

Guibert, Emmanuel. *Sardine in Outer Space*

The adventures of the intrepid Sardine, who travels across the universe meeting cosmic squids, space leeches, talking clouds, and other strange beings.

Hall, Margaret. *King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table*

A graphic format retelling of the legend of King Arthur and his knights.

Harper, Charise Mericle. *Fashion Kitty*

On her birthday, as Kiki Kittie is making her wish, a pile of fashion magazines tumble on her head and Fashion Kitty is born. As such, she helps other kittens with their wardrobe dilemmas and friendships. The story touches upon a variety of themes including bullying, self-esteem, and family relationships. Series.

Haspiel, Dean & Lynch, Jay. *Mo and Jo: Fighting Together Forever*

Brother and sister Joey and Mona are always fighting, and when their latest argument results in the destruction of their favorite superhero costume something amazing happens.

Holm, Jennifer. *Baby Mouse*

Meet Babymouse, a sassy young mouse who dreams of glamour, excitement, adventure, straight whiskers, being queen of the world, and of course, being invited to Felicia Furrypaws's oh-so-exclusive party. Series.

Morse, Scott. *Magic Pickle*

Magic Pickle is a secret weapon developed in a secret military lab under little JoJo Wigwam's bedroom floor. The fearless, flying kosher dill superhero meets his match in this feisty eight-year-old. Series.

Runton, Andy. *Owly*

Owly is an owl, but he's the quintessential gentle soul, the rare altruistic good guy who looks out for the little guy and overcomes any obstacle to win. Series.

Trondheim, Lewis. *Kaput & Zösky*

Meet the unforgettable duo of Kaput & Zösky who are intent on corruption and no matter how hard they try they just can't get a break.

Yeh, Phil. *Dinosaurs Across America*

Patrick Rabbit makes a bet with the literacy dinosaurs that he knows more geography than they do. Using comic-book magic, they walk into a map of the U.S.



Fantasy/Science Fiction

Abbott, Tony
The Secrets of Droon (series)

Benton, Jim
Franny K. Stein (series)

Blade, Adam.
Beast Quest (series)

Brown, Jeff
Flat Stanley (series, humor)

Byars, Betsy.
Boo's Dinosaur

Coville, Bruce
Into the Land of the Unicorns
Space Brat (series)

Dahl, Roald
James and the Giant Peach

Donaldson, Julia.
The Giants and the Joneses

Fienberg, Anna.
Tashi (series, humor)

Funke, Cornelia,
Ghosthunters (series, humor)
Igraine the Brave

Gannett, Ruth
My Father's Dragon (series)

Greenburg, Dan
Zack Files (series, humor)
Secrets of Dripping Fang (series)

Jones, Miranda
Little Genie (series)

McMullan, K.H.
Dragon Slayers Academy (series, humor)

Mercer, Sienna
My Sister the Vampire (series)

Osborne, Mary Pope
Magic Tree House (series, humor)
Tales From the Odyssey (series, mythology)

Ransom, Candice
The Time Spies (series, time travel)

Sage, Angie
Araminta Spookie (series)

Saunders, Susan
Black Cat Club (series)

Yolen, Jane
The Young Merlin Trilogy (ser



Animals!

Avi
The End of the Beginning (series)
Poppy (series)

Baglio, Ben
Animal Ark (series)

Betancourt, Jeanne
Pony Pals (series)

Cleary, Beverly
The Mouse and the Motorcycle (series)

Delaney, Michael
Birdbrain Amos (series)

DiCamillo, Kate
Mercy Watson (series)

Grogan, Josh
Marley: A Dog Like No Other

Hale, Bruce
Chet Gecko Mysteries (series)

Howe, James
Bunnacula (series)

King-Smith, Dick
Three Terrible Trins
Babe: the Gallant Pig

McCall Smith, Alexander
Akimbo and the Lions (series)

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Shiloh (series)

Reiche, Dietlof
I, Freddy (series)

Stilton, Geronimo
Geronimo Stilton (series)

Stevenson, James
Mud Flat Mystery (series)

Realistic Fiction

- Barber, Tiki & Ronde
Kickoff! (series, sports)
- Blume, Judy
Superfudge (series, humor)
- Christopher, Matt
Matt Christopher Sports (series)
- Cleary, Beverly
Ramona (series, humor)
- Clements, Andrew
Frindle
The Jacket
- Conford, Ellen
Jenny Archer, Author (series, mystery, humor)
- dePaola, Tomie
26 Fairmont Avenue (series, humor)
- Dorris, Michael
Guests (Native American, historical fiction)
Morning Girl
- Ferguson, Dwayne
Kid Caramel, Private Investigator (series)
- Friedman, Laurie
Mallory on the Move (series)
- Gregory, Kristiana
Cabin Creek Mysteries (series)
- Gutman, Dan and Paillot, Jim
Miss Daisy is Crazy! (series, humor)
The Million Dollar Shot (series, sports)
- Harper, Charise
Just Grace (series)
- Hughes, Dean
Angel Park All-Stars (series, sports)
- Keane, Dave
Joe Sherlock, Kid Detective (series)
- Kelly, Katy
Lucy Rose (series, humor)
- Kerrin, Jessica Scott
Martin Bridge (series, humor)
- Long, Loren
Sluggers (sports, series)
- Look, Lenore
Ruby Lu (series, humor)
- Lowry, Lois.
Gooney Bird Greene (series, humor)
- MacLachlan, Patricia
Sarah, Plain and Tall (series, historical)
- Martin, Ann M.
Main Street (series)
- Mason, Simon
The Quigleys (series, humor)
- McDonald, Megan
Judy Moody (series, humor)
Stink (series, humor)
- Naylor, Phyllis
Roxy and the Hooligans
- Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux
Mayfield Crossing (series)
- Park, Barbara
Skinnybones (series, humor)
Junie B. Jones (series, humor)
- Park, Linda Sue
Kite Fighters (historical)
Seesaw Girl (historical)
- Pennypacker, Sara
Clementine (series, humor)
Stuart's Cape (series, humor, adventure)
- Roy, Ron
A to Z Mysteries (series, mystery)
- Sachar, Louis
Marvin Redpost (series, humor)
Wayside School (series, humor)
- Sharmat, Marjorie
Nate the Great (series, mystery)
- Smith, Robert Kimmel
Chocolate Fever (humor)
Bobby Baseball (sports)
- Strasser, Todd
Is That a Dead Dog in Your Locker? (humor)
- Trine, Greg
Melvin Beederman (series, humor)
- Winkler, Henry
Hank Zipzer (series, humor)

