Incoming 1st Grade Summer Reading

Please enjoy this list of books to read and share together as a family this summer.

Fiction Picture Books

Another by Christian Robinson

A young girl and her cat take an imaginative journey into another world

Be a Tree! By Maria Gianferrari, Illustrated by Felicita Sala

Compares the structures and functions of trees to human bodies, shows the interconnectedness and dependence of trees in a forest, and urges readers to communicate, share, and care for one another. Includes notes on the anatomy of a tree, ways to help save trees, and how to help in one's community.

Bedtime Bonnet by Nancy Amanda Redd, Illustrated by Nneka Myers

As family members braid, brush, twirl, roll, and tighten their hair before bedtime, putting on kerchiefs, wave caps, and other protective items, the little sister cannot find her bonnet.

Bright Star by Yuyi Morales

A nurturing voice reassures the lonely and afraid, who are represented by animals, in difficult times

Coqui in the City by Nomar Perez

When Miguel and his parents move from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland, Miguel misses their home, his grandparents, and his pet frog, Coqui, but he soon realizes that New York City has more in common with back home than he originally thought.

Every Night is Pizza Night! By J. Kenji Lopez-Alt, Illustrated by Gianna Ruggiero

Convinced that pizza is the best food, Pipo will eat nothing else until her fed-up parents send her on a quest to prove that no dishes in their multicultural neighborhood are better.

Except Antarctica! By Todd Sturgell

Turtles are found on every continent EXCEPT Antarctica. But not for long! When a David Attenborough-esque narrator explains that turtles are found everywhere except Antarctica, one determined turtle sets out to prove him wrong. After recruiting other non-Antarctic animals along the way--much to the narrator's dismay--the turtle and his adventurous friends travel through fields, forests, and cross an entire ocean to reach their goal. But what exactly do they do once they get there?

Fatima's Great Outdoors by Ambreen Tariq, illustrated by Stevie Lewis

Excitedly joining her family for an outdoor camping trip in a Midwestern state park, Fatima Khazi helps set up a tent, build a fire, and fend off a daddy longlegs before settling down to sleep surrounded by the near-magical sounds of the forest.

Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story by Kevin Noble Maillard, Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

Follows a Native American family as they make fry bread and celebrate their culture.

Goodbye Friend! Hello Friend! By Cori Doerrfeld

Two best friends understand that saying goodbye to one experience means saying hello to the next, but that does not make it easier when one friend has to move away.

Hello Lighthouse by Sophie Blackall

Explores the life of one lighthouse as it beams its message out to sea through shifting seasons, changeable weather, and the tenure of its final keeper

Kiyoshi's Walk by Mark Karlins, Illustrated by Nicole Wong

Kiyoshi asks his grandfather, the wise poet Eto, where poems come from, and Eto takes him on a walk through the city to seek an answer.

Mell Fell by Corey R. Tabor

Follow Mel on her journey from downward fall to triumphant flight in this tale of self-confidence and taking a leap of faith.

Nana in the City by Lauren Castillo

A young boy is frightened by how busy and noisy the city is when he goes there to visit his Nana, but she makes him a fancy red cape that keeps him from being scared as she shows him how wonderful a place it is.

Nana, Nenek and Nina by Liza Ferneyhough

Nina's visits to her two faraway grandmothers--one in Malaysia and one in England--unfold side-by-side, featuring similarities and differences between the two.

Nosotros Means Us: A Bilingual Story by Paloma Valdivia

A bilingual ode to the unshakeable bond between a parent and child

Sunday Funday in Koreatown by Aram Kim

Every Sunday, Yoomi enjoys favorite foods and activities in Koreatown but when things go wrong, Daddy encourages her to try new things and she still has a wonderful day.

To Change a Planet by Christina Soontornvat, Illustrated by Rahele Jomepour Bell

Earth spins through eons of time, and then one day humans arrive and they change the planet--and it continues to change today though not in a good way, but by working together we can save it, and ourselves.

Tomatoes for Neela by Padma Lakshmi, Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

As Neela and her mother cook together, they find a way for Neela's grandmother, who lives in India, to share in both the love and the flavors of the day.

Two Dogs by lan Falconer

Follows the adventures of two mischievous dachshunds when they manage to escape to their family's backyard one day.

We are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom, Illustrated by Michaela Goede

Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all . . . When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource

When Lola Visits by Michelle Sterling, Illustrated by Aaron Paul Asis

For one young girl, summer is the season of no school, of days spent at the pool, and of picking golden limes off the trees. But summer doesn't start until her lola--her grandmother from the Philippines--comes for her annual visit. When Lola visits, the whole family gathers to cook and eat and share in their happiness of another season spent together

Non Fiction Picture Books

Can an Aardvark bark? By Melissa Steward, Illustrated by Steve Jenkins

A non-fiction look at the sounds that animals make and the reasons behind them

Mornings with Monet by Barb Rosenstock, Illustrated by Mary GrandPre

Describes how as a young artist, Claude Monet rejected a traditional life path while embracing initially unpopular new approaches to painting and seeing, launching the French Impressionism movement.

Pancakes to Parathas: Breakfast Around the World by Alice B. McGinty, Illustrated by Tomoko Suzuki

Breakfast varies from country to country, but it's how all children begin their day. Explore the meals of twelve countries in this introduction to the world

Pizza: A Slice of History by Greg Pizzoli

This delightful history of pizza takes readers through time and around the globe to serve up the real story of the world's favorite food.

Two at the Top: A Shared Dream of Everest by Uma Krishnaswami, Illustrated by Christopher Corr

Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary each tell their story, culminating in their thrilling ascent of Mount Everest.

Try It! How Frieda Caplan Changed the Way We Eat by Mara Rockliff, Illustrated by Giselle Potter

A picture book biography of Frieda Caplan, the produce pioneer who changed the way Americans eat by introducing exciting new fruits and vegetables, from baby carrots to blood oranges to kiwis.

What's In Your Pocket? Collecting Nature's Treasures by Heather L. Montgomery, Illustrated by Maribel Lechuga

A science educator honors children's curiosity and pockets full of 'stuff' by introducing nine scientists who collected natural treasures when they were young. Collecting, sorting, and playing with shells, stones, and other objects taught these young people how to observe, classify, and discover.

Early Chapter Books

Don't Throw it to Mo! By David Adler (Series)

Mo is the youngest kid on the Robins football team. The kids on the rival team tease him for being a 'butterfingers' who's too tiny to catch the ball. But Mo's coach has a plan up his sleeve to turn Mo's little size into a big win for the Robins

Duck, Duck, Porcupine by Salina Yoon (Series)

Big Duck likes to boss around her younger brother, Little Duck, and she fancies herself the leader of their trio when joined by their gentle friend Porcupine. Little Duck does not speak yet, but through his expressions and his actions, he shows that he has a better grasp on any situation than his older sister.

Fox at Night by Corey R. Tabor (Series)

Fox is up late in the night. There are shadows and noises everywhere. Fox is sure the night is full of monsters!

Hank the Pet Sitter: Otis the Very Large Dog by Claudia Harrington, Illustrated by Anoosha Syed (Series)

When Hank leaves his bike in the driveway to be run over by his dad, he needs to help pay for a new one. ... Pet-sitting sounds easy! But Hank's first customer is huge, homesick Otis. ... What if Otis isn't just homesick? what if Hank ... can't get him to the vet in time?

Hello Hedgehog! Do You Like My Bike? (Serie) By Norm Feuti

Hedgehog loves his new bike. His best friend Harry says he likes it, too. But when Hedgehog asks Harry to go bike riding with him, Harry says he does not want to go. Does Harry not like his friend's new bike? Or could this all have something to do with training wheels?

Hi Jack! By Mac Barnett (Series)

Meet Jack: He lives in a tree house. His interests include snacks, petty theft, and lipstick graffiti. Jack also loves his friends, he just has a funny way of showing it sometimes . . .

Houndsley and Catina (Series) by James Howe, Illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay

Houndsley and Catina run into trouble when they decide to prove that they are the best at cooking and writing, respectively.

Owl Diaries: Eva's Treetop Festival (Series) by Rebecca Elliott

Eva Wingddale gets in over her head when she decides to create a Bloomtastic Festival at school. Even with her best friend Lucy's help, there is no way she will get everything done in time. Will Eva have to ask Sue (a.k.a. Meanie McMeanerson) for help? Or will the festival have to be cancelled?

Yasmin (Series) by Saadia Faruqi, Illustrated by Hatem Aly

Meet Yasmin! Yasmin is a spirited second-grader who's always on the lookout for those "aha" moments to help her solve life's little problems. Taking inspiration from her surroundings and her big imagination, she boldly faces any situation--assuming her imagination doesn't get too big, of course!