

# Summer Reading List Rising Third and Fourth Graders



Plainfield School District

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST

- Aston, Dianna Hutts. ***A Beetle Is Shy***. Chronicle Books, 2016. From flea beetles to bombardier beetles, an incredible variety of these beloved bugs are showcased in this carefully researched, visually striking book that is poetic in voice and elegant in design, perfect for sparking children's imaginations.
- Barton, Chris. ***Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions***. Charlesbridge, 2016. A biography of Lonnie Johnson, an engineer at NASA who is best known for inventing the Super Soaker water gun.
- Colfer, Chris. ***The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell***. Little, Brown, 2012. Through the mysterious power of a cherished book of stories, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with the fairytale characters they grew up reading about. *Series*
- Crisp, Marty. ***Titanicat***. Sleeping Bear Press, 2008. Every ship had a cat, and in this historical fiction picture book, the story of the Titanic's cat is told; but just where is the cat's luck during the Titanic's doomed voyage?
- Grabenstein, Chris. ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library***. Random House, 2013. Nine children enter into a competition to "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library," a game which the creator describes as "like The Hunger Games but with lots of food and no bows or arrows."
- Kalman, Maira. ***Thomas Jefferson Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Everything***. Nancy Paulsen, 2014. Thomas Jefferson, interested in science, nature, architecture, math and botany, and best known for writing the Declaration of Independence, was also a slave owner who called slavery an "abomination."
- Osborne, Mary Pope and Natalie Pope Boyce. ***Heroes for All Times: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #51: High Time for Heroes***. Random House, 2014. Jack and Annie track the facts behind six people who have changed history, including Florence Nightingale, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Harriet Tubman, Susan B. Anthony, and John Muir. *Series*
- Polacco, Patricia. ***The Keeping Quilt***. Aladdin, 2001. Follow the author's family quilt through several generations, from its creation by the first generation immigrant family all the way to the present generation.

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Pyron, Bobbie. ***Lucky Strike***. Arthur A. Levine, 2015. Nathaniel Harlow lives with his grandfather in a trailer park in Franklin County, Florida, and he has always been unlucky—but when he is struck by lightning on his eleventh birthday and survives, it seems like his luck starts to change.

Rissi, Anica Mrose. ***Anna, Banana and the Friendship Split***. Simon & Schuster, 2015. Anna and Sadie have always been best friends so when Sadie suddenly starts being mean, Anna is very sad and seeks support from her dog Banana and classmate Isabel, as well as advice from her brother Chuck and her parents.  
*Series*

Steig, William. ***When Everybody Wore a Hat***. HarperCollins Publisher, 2005. This is the story of a boy almost 100 years ago, when fire engines were pulled by horses, boys did not play with girls, kids went to libraries for books, there was no TV, you could see a movie for a nickel, and everybody wore a hat.

Sutherland, Tui. ***Who Was Harry Houdini?*** Grosset & Dunlap, 2002. Harry Houdini, the most famous escape artist of all time, is the subject of this interesting and accessible biography which includes explanations of some of his illusions.  
*Series*

Vernick, Audrey. ***Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012. The Acerra family had sixteen children. Twelve of them were boys. And they all played baseball. It was the 1930s, and this family had enough kids to field a baseball team. They loved the game but more importantly they cared for and supported each other and stayed together as a team.

Winter, Jonah. ***Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx***. Atheneum, 2009. Written in both English and Spanish, the life of Sonia Sotomayor is described from her childhood in poverty to how she worked her way up to the top of the United States judicial system.

Wulffson, Don. ***Toys! Amazing Stories behind Some Great Inventions***. Henry Holt and Co., 2000. Have you ever wondered who invented Lego, Mr. Potato Head, or toy trains? Here are the fascinating stories behind these toy inventions and many others

Yolen, Jane. ***Animal Stories: Heartwarming True Tales from the Animal Kingdom***. National Geographic, 2014. Presents a collection of true animal stories from different historical periods, including the tales of Balto the Alaskan sled dog, Smoky the Bear, and Internet sensation Christian the lion.

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**YOU MAY ALSO SELECT A BOOK FROM ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AUTHORS OR SERIES:**

AUTHORS	SERIES
David Adler	A to Z Mysteries
Betsy Byars	Cam Jansen
Matt Christopher	Flat Stanley
Beverly Cleary	Iris and Walter series
Patricia Polacco	Judy Moody
Jon Scieszka	Magic Tree House
Avi	Amber Brown
Judy Blume	Clementine
Beverly Cleary	Encyclopedia Brown
Roald Dahl	Ramona
Paula Danzinger	Wayside School
Jerry Spinelli	The Mouse And The Motorcycle

