



*Growing Together,
Learning for Life*

Rockwood School District K-5 Reading Intervention



Recommended Summer Reading List 2007

Summer is a great time to read books for pleasure and personal interest. The more your child reads affects his or her level of vocabulary and level of thinking skills. Make time this summer to share the wonder of books. Set aside at least 15 minutes a day for reading.

**Remember that books can be read TO your child, WITH your child,
or
BY your child.**

Children of all ages enjoy hearing a good story. If you are looking for a book that your child can read independently – use the five-finger rule.

Have your child read the first page of a selected book (several pages if there are not many words on a page) and hold up one finger for each word missed during reading. If at the end of the page(s) the child has five fingers in the air, then the book is too difficult to read independently and you should consider reading the book to your child. Sometimes children like to take turns reading longer text. This is a great way to model good reading and provides an opportunity to stop and talk about what you have read together.

The following books have been compiled as a recommended list that your child might find too good to miss. The books are divided into two groups – Primary (kindergarten through second grade) and Intermediate (third through fifth grade). The selection represents a variety of types of books, picture books, chapter books, fiction and non-fiction – but they all offer exciting reading adventures.

Primary Titles (Grades K-2)

Monkey Business by Wallace Edwards

All will enjoy this playful introduction to idioms and a clever eye-spy book. Each idiom is brilliantly illustrated with a monkey hidden in each picture, used in a sentence that accompanies each illustration, and defined at the end of the book. A fun read for all ages!

Bottle Houses by Melissa Eskridge Slaymaker

Bottle Houses tells the story of Grandma Prsbrey who built an entire village out of things that she found at the garbage dump. This book will give the creative part of you a jolt, and you will look at your trash in a new way!

What Happens On Wednesdays by Emily Jenkins

A preschooler marks the progress of her day, not by the clock but by what happens during the day. Emily Jenkins shares the sounds, tastes, smells, and sights of a multiethnic Brooklyn neighborhood.

The Prince Won't Go To Bed by Dayle Ann Dodds

Nanny is at her wits' end. Why won't the Prince go to bed? Finally discovering that a simple good-night kiss is all he wants.

Sylvie & True by David McPhail

Sylvie, a rabbit, and True, a water snake, are best friends. They both love food and bowling – and together they make quite a team.

The Princess and the Pizza by Mary Jane and Herm Auch

This is a take off on the fairy tale “The Princess and the Pea.” Princess Paulina wants to become the bride of Prince Drupert but has to compete with eleven other princesses for the title.

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

Chrysanthemum thinks she has a beautiful name until she goes to school and other students make fun of it. This is a sweet story of a little mouse who learns how her name is absolutely perfect.

Froggy Goes to the Doctor by Jonathan London

One of the best books in the Froggy series by Jonathan London. Froggy goes in for a check up with Dr. Mugwort and creates havoc in the doctor's office.

McDuff and the Baby by Rosemary Wells

A wonderfully illustrated story about a dog named McDuff and the arrival of a new baby at his house.

Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet by David McLimans

This is a black-and-white iconic alphabet that is sophisticated enough to intrigue and captivate readers of any age. A contemporary interpretation of an illuminated alphabet melds animals and letters into 26 unique and elegant graphic images.

Dougal, the Garbage Dump Bear by Matt Dray

Dougal is a toy bear who is rescued after being thrown into a garbage dump. His subsequent adventures and new friends are pleasant surprises detailed in the photos.

The Dog Who Cried Wolf, by Keiko Kasza

A dog runs away to live the pleasant life of a wolf. The trouble arises from having to deal with unexpected problems, such as the need to hunt for food and deal with unfriendly animals. The story concludes with his return to the comforts of home.

Intermediate Titles (Grades 3-5)

The Living Rainforest: An Animal Alphabet by Paul Kratter

Meet 26 animals that inhabit the tropical rain forests around the world. This book includes beautiful illustrations of each animal as well as dimensions, information specific to this animal, and definitions of words used in the animal's description. A map of the world is also shown locating the rain forests and the habitats of the animals presented in the book.

You Can't Eat Your Chicken Pox, Amber Brown by Paula Danzinger

At the end of third grade, Amber is excited to go with her Aunt to Paris to see her father again, but her plans change when she gets the chicken pox.

Lewis and Clark and Me by Laurie Myers

This is the story of the Lewis and Clark expedition from the point of view of Seaman, the large black Newfoundland dog that belonged to Meriwether Lewis. This chapter book provides a unique perspective on the adventures and difficulties that the expedition encountered.

Very Funny Elizabeth! By Valerie Tripp

Colonial American girls pull some pranks that result in problems for themselves as well as the intended “victims.”

Thank You, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco

Young Trisha was teased because she couldn't read. Her fifth grade teacher, Mr. Falker, took a personal interest in her and helped her to learn how to read and write. This is an autobiographical tale of how the author learned to read.

Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson

In *Hattie Big Sky*, 16-year-old orphan Hattie Brooks is looking for a place to belong – a home. In 1918 she leaves Iowa for the Montana prairie. In this engaging first-person narrative, Hattie strives to forge a new life. Vivid imagery and careful attention to historical detail distinguish this memorable novel that portrays her struggle to “prove her claim.”

Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich by Adam Rex

Hilarious poems about the problems of monsters.

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

A china rabbit learns about loving as well as being loved.

Crossing Bok Chitto by Tim Tingle

A Mississippi Choctaw girl befriends a slave boy on a Southern plantation.

Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park

Julia does not want to raise silkworms for her science project – it is just too Korean.

Go Figure! A Totally Cool Book About Numbers by Johnny Ball

This cornucopia of mathematical history, information, tidbits and brain-teasers gives readers a rich and genuinely intriguing look at the field and practice of mathematics.

The Scarecrow and His Servant by Philip Pullman

When a scarecrow with a mysterious letter hidden inside him comes to life and teams up with an optimistic orphan boy, the two barely manage to stay ahead of the villains pursuing them. Hair-raising, rollicking adventures and clever use of language are the hallmarks of this story that's as witty as it is wise.