

June 2011

Dear Future First Grade Families,

Summer is upon us, with lots of extra time to play, swim, explore, relax, play some more and, of course, read. I hope that you will find many opportunities to do all these and more with your child this summer; most of all, I hope your child will see reading as a natural, enjoyable part of everyday life. The best thing you can do to help this happen is to read to your child as often as you can. Bedtime stories are great, but morning stories and mid-afternoon break stories can also be wonderful. I encourage you to make regular trips to the library or bookstore. Ask librarians for suggestions, find books you loved when you were a child, and have your child select books that appeal to him or her. Read some books aloud, have him sit next to you and look at the book while you read, give them some books to look at on their own. Let books give you and your child opportunities to laugh, to be moved, to ask questions and to revisit characters like old friends.

The attached list names some authors of many books that are good to read aloud to five, six and seven-year-olds. Some specific titles are noted; there are numerous others to be found in bookstores and libraries. Maybe you and your child will find some other treasures to share with us in September.

Dutchess Day asks all of its students to do some postcard writing over the summer. You and your child should work together to write three postcards: one to me, one to Ms. Timson and one to Mrs. Nancy Hathaway. We eagerly anticipate hearing about your reading and other summer fun, and we will write back!

Nancy Pelletier
34 Poplar Ave.
Pine Plains, NY 12567

Tracy Timson
P.O. Box 490
Dover Plains, NY 12522

Nancy Hathaway
415 Rte. 343
Millbrook, NY 12545

I hope you all have a wonderful summer filled with fun, rest and books. I look forward to greeting your first graders in September.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pelletier

Summer Reading List for Students Entering Grade 1

Allard, Harry	Miss Nelson books
Asch, Frank	Skyfire, Mooncake, Last Puppy
Bang, Molly	Paper Crane, Tye May and the Magic Brush
Baylor, Byrd	The Table Where Rich People Sit, Way to Start a Day
Bemelmans, Ludwig	Madeleine
Bloom, Suzanne	Treasure, A Splendid Friend Indeed
Brett, Jan	Honey Honey Lion, The Umbrella, Hedgie's etc...
Brown, Margaret Wise	Goodnight Moon, The Little Island etc...
Bunting, Eve	One Candle, Night Tree etc...
Carle, Eric	The Very Hungry Caterpillar, etc...
Cazet, Denys	Minnie & Moo Series
Cronin, Doreen	Click, Clack, Moo, Duck for President etc...
DePaola, Tomie	Bill & Pete Stories
DeCamillo, Kate	Mercy Watson Books
Falconer, Ian	Olivia books
Fisher, Valerie	When Ruby Tried to Grow Candy
Fox, Mem	Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge, Time for Bed
Freeman, Don	Corduroy, Dandelion
Henkes, Kevin	Kitten's First Full Moon, Chrysanthemum etc...
Hoban, Russell	Frances books
Hutchins, Pat	Surprise Party, The Wind Blew
Johnston, Tony	Quilt Story
Keats, Ezra Jack	Snowy Day, Whistle for Willie
Kellogg, Steven	Pinkerton books
Kinderskey, Dorothy	DK paperback Biographies
Kipling, Rudyard	Just So Stories
Lester, Helen	Tacky books
Lionni, Leo	Fredrick, Swimmy, Little Blue & Little Yellow etc...
Lumry, Amanda	The Adventures of Riley Books
McCloskey, Robert	Make Way for Ducklings, Blueberries for Sal, One Morning in Maine
Mosel, Arlene	Tikki, Tikki, Tembo
Numeroff, Laura	If You Give... books
O'Connor, Jane	Fancy Nancy Books
Parish, Peggy	Amelia Bedelia books
Polacco, Patricia	Thundercake, The Lemonade Club, etc.
Rylant, Cynthia	Henry and Mudge books, Mr. Putter & Tabby books
Schotter, Roni	Nothing Ever Happens on 90th Street, The Boy Who Loved Words
Schachner, Judy	Skippyjon Jones books
Seuss, Dr.	Horton Hears a Who, etc...
Thompson, Kay	Eloise books
Viorst, Judith	Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day
Willems, Mo	Elephant and Piggy, Knuffle Bunny
Yolen, Jane	How Do Dinosaurs... books

Also consider books and collections of poetry, fairy tales, myths, legends, etc...

To get you started:

Aardema, Verna

Who's in Rabbit's House, Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears

Dayrell, Elphinstone

Why the Sun and the Moon Live in the Sky

Florian, Douglas

Insectlopedia, bow wow meow meow, etc.

Kennedy, Caroline

Family of Poems, My Favorite Poetry for Children

Nelson, Kadir

He's Got the Who World in His Hands

Prelutsky, Jack

Its Raining Pigs & Noodles

Seeger, Pete

Abiyoyo

Silverstein, Shel

Where the Sidewalk Ends

Stephoe, John

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughter, Freedom Summer, Story of

Jumping Mouse

Misc. Authors

Poetry Speaks to Children