

2018 Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 2

The suggested reading list provides a wide array of reading choices for students. The books on this list do not indicate reading level or achievement, but will hopefully spark discussion between you and your children and inspire an interest in stories and reading. The titles listed below are samplings of the many works produced by these authors. You can also read other titles by these authors for your suggested reading.

An asterisk (*) indicates a S.T.E.A.M title.

The Wakefield Public Schools invites students to participate in the 2018 Summer Reading Program, *Libraries ROCK!* To participate in the library's Summer Reading Program, check out wakefieldlibrary.org to set up your online account. Earn prizes for reading, take part in activities, and learn how libraries can ROCK your world by making life easier.

For information about the Wakefield Public Schools' Summer Reading initiative and assignment updates, visit wakefieldreads.org.

Beginning Chapter Books

Adventure

Brown, Jeff. **Flat Stanley** series

Stanley Lambchop awakes to find himself only one half an inch thick! In these adventures, poor Stanley gets mailed, rolled up, and treated like a piece of paper everywhere he goes.

Flintham, Thomas. **Press Start** series

Super Rabbit Boy lives in a video game world. That is because he is a character in a video game. Share his adventures as he interfaces with other gaming characters. Find out if he survives challenges and lives to fight another game. Or is it 'game over' for our hero?

Jules, Jacqueline. **Sofia Martinez** series

Seven-year-old Sofia makes every day an adventure, whether she is doing mundane household chores or pursuing a career as a triple threat.

Montgomery, R. A. **Choose Your Own Adventure** series

In this series of gamebooks, the reader takes on the role of the main character and is asked to make choices, which will determine his actions and the story's outcome.

 You Choose Batman series
 You Choose Justice League series

Superheroes meet the Choose Your Own Adventure series format where the reader can choose one of several courses of action that changes the story outcome.

Fantasy

Citro, Asia. **Zoey and Sassafrass** series

Zoey and her feline sidekick Sassafras encounter magical animals that need a very human helping hand. Whether they meet monsters, mermaids, dragons, or other creatures, the pair finds a way to help their new, magical friends.

Jones, Noah. **Princess Pink and the Land of Fake-Believe** series

In this series of fractured fairy tale stories, Princess Pink is charged with restoring order to the land of Fake Believe.

Luper, Eric. **The Key Hunters** series

Cleo and Evan embark on a number of dangerous missions regarding their collection of dangerous books, so dangerous that these are kept under lock and key. As Cleo and Evan try to find the right key to unlock each mystery, they wonder if the lives of their friends, or even themselves, are in jeopardy.

Quinn, Jordan. **The Kingdom of Wrenly** series

Join Lucas and Clara and the other residents of Wrenly as they harness the powers of the universe in an effort to keep their kingdom safe from monsters, ill-intentioned fairies, and natural disasters.

Scott, Lisa Ann. **Enchanted Pony Academy** series

The Glitter Ponies enter their new school aware that they have superpowers, but do not yet realize the extent of their natural gifts. As new situations arise, they discover their strengths and use them to help others.

Friendship Stories

Elliot, Rebecca. **The Owl Diaries** series

Owl friends Hailey, Eva, and Lucy juggle their friendships and families, and their adventures growing up as young owls in a sometimes challenging world.

Green, Poppy. **The Adventures of Sophie Mouse** series

Sophie and the other animals at Silverlake Elementary School set their ambitions high, leading to silly situations where they work together to help each other out.

Grimes, Nikki. **Dyamonde Daniel** series

Dyamonde always thinks she has big problems. But when she sees some of the situations that her friends go through, she realizes that her creative spirit and quick thinking get her, and her struggling friends, out of jams.

Klein, Abby. **Ready Freddy** series

First-grader Freddy Thresher struggles with the trials of being six, such as keeping up with his peers, learning to deal with pushy classmates, and making sense of life.

Medina, Juana. **Juana & Lucas**

Why does English make so little sense? Learning this new, complicated language gets so frustrating. However, Juana changes her tune when she learns that she is going on a special trip where she must know her new language well.

*Moss, Marissa. **Max Disaster** series

Max shares his worst fears and best brainstorm, often breaking down problems using the scientific method, which he learns does not solve every human problem.

*Potter, Ellen. **Piper Green** series

Piper Green has everything... A lobster boat that takes her to school, a fairy garden in her yard, and enough bravery to say what is on her mind. But does she truly have it all?

Rylant, Cynthia. **Cobble Street Cousins** series

Nine-year-olds Lily, Rosie and Tess make a cozy haven with Aunt Lucy while their ballet dancer parents tour the world. Each book holds several stories of their creative, crafty adventures with their fun-loving aunt.

*Stadelmann, Amy. **Olive & Beatrix** series

Twins Olive and Beatrix are nothing alike. They do not even get along most of the time. One is a scientist, while the other is a witch. Find out if science and magic mix when these two get together!

Watson, Tom. **Stick Dog** series

Stick Dog and his friends perpetually troll Picasso Park in search of hamburgers. Will they find their hearts' desires?

Funny Stories

Birney, Betty. **Humphrey's Tiny Tales** series

Humphrey the Hamster lives in Miss Brisbane's classroom at Longfellow School, where the children in classroom 26 are his friends. They spend their days, and the entire school year, playing and getting into all sorts of silly shenanigans.

*Cronin, Doreen. **The Chicken Squad** series

Dirt, Sweetie, Poppy, and Sugar are the Chicken Squad. Can our feckless, fluffy heroes defeat enemies that could very well be from out of this world?

Flack, Marjorie. **Walter the Lazy Mouse**

Walter changes his slovenly ways and transforms into a more ambitious mouse when his family moves from Mouse Island and forgets to bring the lazy mouse with them.

Peschke, Marci. **Kylie Jean** series

Whether playing basketball, designing jeans, or baking cupcakes, her hobbies teach Kylie Jean lessons to help her become the ultimate beauty queen contestant.

Smith, Alex T. **Claude** series

With plenty of repetitive text to amuse children and reinforce literacy skills, silly Claude the dog and his sillier friends find themselves out and about on all sorts of excursions.

Stilton, Geronimo.

Geronimo Stilton series

Geronimo Stilton is the mild-mannered editor of *The Rodent's Gazette*, the largest newspaper on Mouse Island.

Thaler, Mike.

Black Lagoon Adventures series

Mean Mrs. Green puts her class through torture after torture in these beginning chapter books, inspired by the picture book series of the same name.

Vernon, Ursula.

Hamster Princess series

Never a conventional princess, Harriet becomes an adventurer after learning she is cursed to fall into a deep sleep on her twelfth birthday, but after two years of slaying ogres, cliff diving, and more with her riding quail, Mumfrey, things go awry at home and she must seek a prince to set things right.

Mystery

Chabert, Jack.

Eerie Elementary series

At Eerie Elementary School, something is always 'not quite right'. In each episode, the students try to fix what ails their classrooms, grounds, and facility, but all too soon something entirely different seems to go wrong.

Cummings, Troy.

Notebook of Doom series

When Alexander moves to town, he finds a notebook with the word DOOM inscribed on the front cover. Is his new home cursed? What sort of top secret information will he find in the notebook to help him and his new friends?

Sharmat, Marjorie.

Nate the Great series

Nate the Great and his dog Sludge work together to untangle mysteries together.

Stanley, George E.

Third-Grade Detectives series

Help the Third-Grade Detectives solve mysteries! Help them find the clues and decode problems with the help of their teacher, Mr. Merlin.

Science Fiction and Time Travel

*Cole, Joanna.

Magic School Bus Rides Again series

Seatbelts, everyone! The Magic School Bus is back and ready to ride again. Teacher Fiona Frizzle teaches at Walkerville Elementary and has a familiar motto: take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!

*Franco.

Dino Mike series

Michael Evans, son of a famed paleontologist, travels the world with his dinosaur-hunting dad, uncovering mysteries of a prehistoric kind.

Hopper, Ada. **The Data Set** series
The Data Set, Gabe, Laura, and Cesar are the whiz kids of Newtonburg Elementary School. Their quiet school days take a turn for the unusual when they meet Dr. Gustav Bunsen, a mad scientist who instigates wild adventures for the trio.

How. **How to be an Earthling** series
Alien Spork is trying his best to learn the customs and culture of planet Earth. Mrs. Buckle's third-graders were sort of hoping that something a little different might happen this year.

Roland, Timothy. **Monkey Me** series
Life is so unfair! Excitable Clyde, zapped by lasers during a field trip to a museum, discovers that he has a new superpower. When he gets excited, he becomes a monkey!

*Stone, Rex. **Dinosaur Cove** series
Tom and Jamie cannot believe their fortune when they encounter an entrance into a prehistoric world, filled with real dinosaurs! Will they be able to travel back to the time they came from?

First Readers

Archer, Dosh. **Urgency Emergency** series
Some familiar characters are rushed to the emergency room with very peculiar illnesses, all requiring medical attention. Find out what fate awaits the Big Bad Wolf, the Itsy Bitsy Spider, and other characters in these silly early chapter books.

Dean, James. **Pete the Cat I Can Read** series
Pete the Cat is too cool a cat to be believed as he wanders the world jammin' and bringing pop coolness to all situations. Groovy...

*DK. **DK Nonfiction Readers** series
These easy-to-read books include science, history, and culture. This wide range of high interest topics is sure to appeal to a wide range of children.

Penguin. **Penguin Young Readers, Level 3 and 4** series
Penguin Young Readers feature award-winning books and authors, classics, and new titles from established authors.

Picture Books

*Andros, Camille. **Charlotte the Scientist Is Squished**
Charlotte the rabbit lives in a crowded home with so many brothers and sisters that she has no space to work. However, Charlotte is a scientist and solves problems using the scientific method. Can she find a science-based solution to her own problem?

*Mantchev, Lisa. **Someday, Narwhal**
Narwhal lives safely inside her fishbowl, secure and safe in the limited views of her world. She dreams of seeing new places, but realizes that she is powerless to overcome her obstacles alone. With the help of some new friends, she ventures out into the world.

McGhee, Holly. **Come With Me**

Concerned by the state of world affairs as depicted on the news, a child asks her mother and father, each in turn, to help her make the world a better place. After each parent takes her to positive places in the world, the girl and her puppy wish to venture out alone.

Novak, B.J. **The Book with No Pictures**

The author uses sight words to tell this completely unillustrated story for children, making the point that even though there are no pictures for visual clues, cues, or stimulation, words can spark the imagination to provide imagery, and still be uproariously funny.

Palacio, R. J. **We're All Wonders**

Augie is an ordinary kid. He likes to bike, play with his dog, eat ice cream, and play ball. But he doesn't look ordinary. When people see him, they stare, point, and laugh, or talk about him behind his back. Can Augie show the other kids that he is just like them – a wonder?

*Spires, Ashley. **The Most Magnificent Thing**

A little girl knows that she will make “the most magnificent thing.” She tinkers, designs, undoes, re-designs, gets frustrated, takes a break, and goes back at it again. Finally, she creates her most magnificent thing. A true tutorial of the inventing process.

Nonfiction

*DK. **DK Nonfiction Readers** series

These easy-to-read books include science, history, and culture. This wide range of high interest topics is sure to appeal to a wide range of children.

*Judge, Lita. **Bird Talk: What Birds Are Saying and Why**

This illustrated book pays tribute to birds of all kinds and the funny, fascinating things they do.

*Kamkwamba, William. **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**

When 14-year old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought in 2001, everyone's crops began to fail. He came across a book on windmills at the library and figured out how to build a windmill that could bring electricity to his village. Several years later, he figured out how to use the windmill for irrigation purposes.

*Levine, Sara. **Tooth By Tooth**

This interactive book asks children which animals they would resemble if different bones kept growing.

*Pallotta, Jerry. **Who Would Win** series

If you pitted a killer whale against a great white shark, the shark would win. Right? No? Jerry Pallotta explores the natural defenses in a variety of species and engages kids to answer the age-old question: who would win in this fight?

*Stewart, Melissa. **American Museum of Natural History** series

This tribute to animals features photographs of amazing animals that run, dig, and even lick at high rates of speed.

Tavares, Matt.

Growing Up Pedro

Before Pedro Martínez pitched the Red Sox to a World Series championship, before he was named to the All-Star team eight times, before he won the Cy Young Award three times, he was a kid from a place called Manoguayabo in the Dominican Republic. Pedro dreamed of the day he and his brother, a gifted pitcher, could play together in the major leagues. This is the story of how that dream came true.

Walker, Sally M.

Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh

During World War I, a Canadian soldier adopts an orphaned female bear named Winniepeg. When the soldier can no longer keep the bear with his army unit, he has to find a new place for the bear to live.

Books to Read to Your Second Grader

Angleberger, Daniel. **The Strange Case of Origami Yoda**

Initially a gag, a boy's invention of a folding paper guru lends soothing comfort and wisdom to a confusing and chaotic world, affecting others in a strangely serene way.

Avi.

Poppy

A deer mouse named Poppy stands up to a tyrannical owl named Mr. Ocax, who threatens the other small residents of Bannock Hill.

Baum, Frank L. **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz**

Dorothy, Scarecrow, the Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion, and Toto venture to the Emerald City to seek the Wizard's help in returning Dorothy and Toto home to Kansas, despite the evil interference from the Wicked Witch of the West.

Curtis, Neal Paul. **The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963**

After thirteen-year-old Byron gets in one too many scrapes, the Watson family travels to grandmother's Alabama home to help straighten out this spirited young man, who is not easy to tame. Hilarious hijinks turn to tragedy when grandmother's church is bombed.

Estes, Eleanor. **The Hundred Dresses**

Wanda Petronski, the sole Polish girl at school, is looked down upon by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day. Conflict escalates over Wanda's claim that she owns a hundred dresses that she keeps at her home.

Gannett, Ruth Stiles. **My Father's Dragon**

A young boy tells his father's mission of going off to Wild Island, where he rescues a rare dragon.

Jacobson, Jennifer R. **Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Dolores Starbuckle**

Andy Shane faces his nemesis every day at school, until his custodial grandmother decides to volunteer and get to know the opinionated Dolores.

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

Set in Concord, Massachusetts, Alvin Ho faces numerous obstacles to life, school, and social situations, despite having a superhero alter-ego.

Montgomery, R. A. **Choose Your Own Adventure** series

Imagine being able to re-write the ending of a book. This series lets you choose options at several turns throughout the books, changing the plot each time. If you have more than one listener, the possibilities could be endless as they take turns choosing plot twists.

Reid-Banks, Lynne. **The Indian in the Cupboard** series

For his ninth birthday, Omri gets a magical cupboard that brings Little Bear, a toy Indian figure, to life. Things turn dangerous when a friend brings his gun-toting cowboy figure to life as well.

The Suggested Reading List was compiled by the Wakefield Public Schools' Reading Specialists and the Beebe Library's Children's Librarians.

