



2018 Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 3

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.

Fiction

Adventure

Blabey, Aaron.

Bad Guys series

They sound like bad guys, they look like bad guys and they even smell like bad guys, but they are about to change all that. Will the Bad Guys really become Good Guys? Meet Mr. Wolf, Mr. Piranha, Mr. Snake, and Mr. Shark as they embark on a series of daring adventures.

*DeLaurentiis, Giada.

Recipe for Adventure series

When their great-aunt comes to live with Alfie and his older sister Emilia, they learn that food can not only take you places but also bring you back home.

*Earhart, Kristin.

Race the Wild series

Each chapter in this action-packed adventure series is bursting with totally true facts about wild and wonderful creatures, dangerous habitats, maps and more!

Kirby, Lee.

Super Turbo series

He's not just the class pet hamster, He's Super Turbo! You know Turbo as the crime-fighting hamster from the Captain Awesome books. But ever wonder what actually goes on when the last school bell rings and Turbo is left to his own devices?





Kirby, Stan. **Captain Awesome** series
Eugene McGillicuddy and Charlie Thomas Jones are best friends. They are also supersecret superheroes and members of the Sunnyview Superhero Squad. It's Captain Awesome and Nacho Cheese Man to the rescue!

Montgomery, R. A. **Choose Your Own Adventure** series
In this series of gamebooks, the reader takes on the role of the main character, making choices, which will determine the story's outcome.

Patton, Jack. **Battle Bugs** series
Bug Island is under attack! The lizard army is invading and the Battle Bugs are losing. Their only hope against the intruders is a strange creature they've never seen before-- a human being named Max.

Rumble, Chris. **The Adventures of Uncle Stinky** series
Uncle Stinky is a superhero with a heart of gold and a stink to high heaven! And it's a good thing that a superhero lives in the little town of Hootenholler, because there's always someone who needs saving from the Dreadful Plague of Embarrassment.

Animals

*Barkley, Callie. **The Critter Club** series
Read about four best friends who band together to form a rescue shelter to save lost and lonely animals in their town. Amy, Ellie, Liz, and Marion each have different personalities and interests, but they all have one thing in common: a serious love of animals.

Birney, Betty. **The World According to Humphrey** series
Humphrey the hamster is puzzled when unfamiliar students fill Mrs. Brisbane's classroom at summer's end, but he soon learns that his friends from last year are fine and the new class needs his special help.

*Branford, Anna. **Violet Mackerel** series
As the youngest in her family, seven-year-old Violet identifies with small creatures in the natural world, but when she tries to help a special ladybug, she learns an important lesson about animal habitats.

*Dillard, Sarah. **Mouse Scouts** series
To earn their "Sow It and Grow It" badge, Violet, Tigerlilly, and the other Mouse Scouts plant a vegetable garden. Friendships will be tested and opposites will find they have more in common than they thought as the Acorn Scouts figure out what it takes to be true friends.





*Klimo, Kate.

Dog Diaries series

For anyone who has ever wanted a puppy, the Dog Diaries series tells a dog's story in a new way – from the dog's point of view and focuses on a different breed for each book.

McAnulty, Stacy.

Dino Files series

During a summer at his grandparents' dinosaur museum and dig, Frank, aided by his cousin Sam and a cat named Saurus, cares for a newly-hatched dinosaur while trying to keep its existence secret, both from his grandparents and from the neighbors.

Messner, Kate.

Ranger in Time series

Ranger, a golden retriever, could have been a great search-and-rescue-dog except for the squirrels--but one day he unearths a mysterious box and finds himself transported back to the year 1850 where his faithful service is really needed by a family traveling west along the Oregon Trail.

*Orr, Wendy.

Rainbow St. Shelter series

Owning a pet is a big responsibility. This series incorporates the importance of that responsibility in taking gentle and consistent care of pets.

Chillers and Thrillers

Butler, Dori Hillestad.

The Haunted Library series

When ghost boy Kaz's haunt is torn down and he is separated from his ghost family, he meets a real girl named Claire, who lives above the town library with her parents and her grandmother. Claire has a special ability to see ghosts when other humans cannot and she and Kaz quickly form a friendship.

Cyrus, Kurt.

Your Skeleton is Showing

The spectacular poetry, paired with deliciously grim illustrations, take readers on an adventure through the friendliest and wackiest graveyard you will ever find.

Kennedy, Mariane.

Disaster Strikes series

Each featuring a different disaster, the heroes learn that when disaster strikes, the only thing you can count on is yourself!

Preller, James.

Home Sweet Horror series

After the death of his mother, eight-year-old Liam and his father and sister move to a new house for a fresh start, but Liam soon discovers that the house is haunted.





Classics

Lindgren, Astrid. **Pippi Longstocking**
Escapades of a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey--but without any parents--at the edge of a Swedish village.

MacDonald, Betty. **Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle**
From her upside-down house, the eccentric Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle issues to parents her marvelous cures for such common children's diseases as Won't-Put-Away-Toys-itis, Answerbacksim, and Fighter-Quarrelitis.

Various. **Classic Starts** series
Young readers can experience the wonder of timeless stories with these abridged editions. Each easy-to-read classic is filled with all the magic and excitement that made the original a beloved favorite.

*Warner, Gertrude Chandler. **Boxcar Children** series
Four Orphans take shelter in an old boxcar during a storm, and determined to make it their own, turn it into a safe, cozy home.

Fantasy and Science Fiction

*Dadey, Debbie. **Mermaid Tales** series
Mermaids Shelly and Echo are excited to begin third grade at the prestigious Trident Academy, but snooty Pearl, jokester Rocky, brilliant Kiki, grumpy Mr. Fangtooth, and an argument over their first project challenge the best friends. Includes facts about marine plants and animals and words to the Mermaid Tales Song.

Harrison, Paula. **Rescue Princesses** series
These are no ordinary Princesses! They are rescue princesses. Follow them as they spend their time rescuing animals and saving their kingdoms!

Lubar, David. **Looniverse** series
When ordinary third-grader Ed finds a coin with the words "strange" and "stranger" on both sides, weird things start happening around him--but when his friends start blaming him for all the weirdness, Ed wonders if this coin is too strange for comfort.

*Mass, Wendy. **Space Taxi** series
On "Take Your Kid to Work Day," eight-year-old Archie discovers that his father drives a space taxi that shuttles aliens from one area of the universe to another.

O'Ryan, Ray. **Galaxy Zack** series
Moving from Earth to the futuristic planet Nebulon in 2120, eight-year-old Zack is nervous about starting school and meeting people.





Scieszka, Jon.

Spaceheadz series

On his first day at Brooklyn's P.S. 858, fifth-grader Michael K. is teamed with two very strange students, and while he gradually comes to believe they are aliens who need his help, he has trouble convincing anyone else of the truth.

Thorpe, Kiki.

Never Girls series

When four friends are whisked out of their ordinary lives to Never Land, home to fairies and mermaids, Queen Clarion and Tinker Bell have to figure out a way for them to get home.

Vernon, Ursula.

Dragonbreath series

Danny Dragonbreath and his friend Wendell get an up-close underwater tour of the Sargasso Sea from Danny's sea-serpent cousin, encountering giant squid and mako sharks--and learn about standing up to bullies in the process.

West, Tracey.

The Dragon Masters series

Eight-year-old Drake is snatched up by the King's soldiers and taken to the castle where he is told by the wizard Griffith that he has been chosen to be a Dragon Master like Ana, Rori, and Bo. His first task will be to discover whether his dragon, Worm, has any special powers.

Friends

Amato, Mary.

Please Write in This Book

When Ms. Wurtz leaves a blank book in the Writer's Corner with a note encouraging those who find it to "talk to each other" in its pages, the student's entries spark a classroom-wide battle.

Adderson, Caroline.

Jasper John Dooley series

Jasper John Dooley is a charismatic and funny character. An only child with active, loving parents (and a most impressive lint collection), Jasper is a true original.

DiCamillo, Kate.

Bink and Gollie series

Two roller-skating best friends--one tiny, one tall--share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion.

Egan, Kate.

Magic Shop series

Mike reluctantly bonds with good-girl neighbor Nora while learning fun skills at The White Rabbit magic shop, the owner of which believes Mike could become a great magician.

Fagan, Cary.

Wolfie and Fly

Wolfie, a lone wolf who does not like using her imagination, reluctantly befriends Fly, a slightly weird and wordy boy, and soon they find themselves navigating through deep water in a submarine made from a cardboard box.





Hanlon, Abby.

Dory Fantasmagory series

Dory, the youngest in her family, is a girl with a very active imagination, and she spends the summer playing with her imaginary friend, pretending to be a dog, battling monsters, and generally driving her family nuts.

Ostow, Micol.

Louise Trapeze series

Fearless Louise performs on a trapeze with her parents and her best friend, Stella, in the Sweet Potato Circus. On her seventh birthday, she becomes old enough to fly way up high on the real flying trapeze. Uh-oh! Might she actually—gulp—be afraid of heights?

Pennypacker, Sara.

Clementine series

Clementine is an ingenious third-grader with a talent for trouble and a good heart. While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

*Zemke, Deborah.

My Life in Pictures series

When budding artist Bea Garcia's best friend moves to Australia and a loud, rambunctious boy moves into her old house, Bea must learn to make new friends.

Mystery

Ain, Beth.

Starring Jules: Super-Secret Spy Girl series

Second grader Jules Bloom lives in a New York City apartment building with her parents and little brother Big Henry. Jules is destined for stardom, taking on the ups-and-downs of a child-actor's life. She is funny and feisty, dramatic and witty, yet realistic and kind.

Angleberger, Tom.

Inspector Flytrap series

Welcome to Inspector Flytrap's Detective Agency, home to the world-renowned solver of BIG DEAL mysteries. Inspector Flytrap, a Venus flytrap, works tirelessly with his assistant Nina the Goat, on his community's unsolved cases.

*Draper, Sharon.

Clubhouse Mysteries series

Four friends create the "Clubhouse" where they solve a series of mysteries. They encounter the Underground Railroad, attend Space Camp, help a Wildlife Rescue Center and enter a talent show.

Hunt, Elizabeth Singer.

Jack Stalwart series

Nine-year old secret agent Jack Stalwart travels the globe in search of his missing older brother Max while solving international crimes for the Global Protection Force.

Pastis, Stephan.

Timmy Failure series

Meet Timmy Failure, the founder, president, and CEO of the best detective agency in town, probably the nation and his lazy sidekick, Total, a 1,500-pound polar bear.





Roy, Ron.

A to Z Mysteries series

Follow the adventures of three, nine-year old detectives as they solve twenty-six mysteries: one for each letter of the alphabet.

School Stories

Adler, David.

Danny's Doodles series

Two unusual friends, Oddball Calvin who likes to conduct experiments and purposefully annoy their teacher Mrs. Cake and Danny, an easygoing kid who mostly goes along with Calvin's ideas. Together, they make one humorous team.

*Benton, Jim.

Franny K. Stein series

Franny K. Stein is a mad scientist who prefers all things spooky and creepy, but when she has trouble making friends at her new school, she experiments with fitting in--which works until a monster erupts from the trashcan.

English, Karen.

Carver Chronicles series

Gavin wants to make a good impression at Carver Elementary, where no one knows he excels at soccer and skateboarding, but an annoying big sister, a bully, and his great aunt's Pomeranian are not helping.

Gutman, Dan.

My Weird School series

Arlo Jervis, better known as "A.J.", is a boy who dislikes school. He attends Ella Mentry School, together with his archenemy, Andrea Young, and his friends Alexia, Ryan, Michael, and Neil. There, the staff exhibit all sorts of strange behaviors, personalities, and traits.

Johannes, Shelley.

Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker

Beatrice is afraid she is losing her best friend so she uses her topsy-turvy way of thinking to get things looking up.

May, Kyla.

Lotus Lane series

Written in diary format, Kiki and her best friends, Coco and Lulu, all live on Lotus Lane, attend Amber Acres Elementary School, and have their own club.

McDonald, Megan.

Judy Moody series

Third-grader Judy Moody has a mood to fit every occasion and a face to go with it.

*Mills, Claudia.

Franklin School Friends series

Meet Izzy the athlete, Annika the math wizard, Simon the spelling bee champ, Cody the king of pets, and Kelsey Green the reading queen in this five book series about some exceptional third graders.





*Sheinmel, Courtney. **Stella Batts** series

Meet Stella Batts. She is eight years old and loves to write. She loves to write lists: like her favorite things and kids in her class. And she's even writing her autobiography. Stella's favorite color is yellow and she LOVES fudge.

Tashjian, Janet. **Sticker Girl**

Martina has always struggled to carve out her place at school, but she finds tremendous excitement in a treasure all her own: a sticker collection that comes to life!

Sports

Kelley, David A. **MVP (Most Valuable Player)** series

This sports-themed chapter book series features the coolest club around—the Most Valuable Players! They solve mysteries and compete in competition while showing real team spirit and never giving up!

Maddox, Jake. **Sports Stories** series

With an emphasis on speed, skill, and fair play, the boys and girls in these books face obstacles on deck, on the field, on the court and on the ice. They tackle mental and social challenges and discover that an athlete's inner game, persistence, and courage are just as important as a steady hand or a chance for a goal.

Graphic Novels

Braddock, Paige. **Stinky Cecil** series

The hilarious tale of a group of amphibians (and one free-range hamster) who set out to save their tiny pond home from one very large steamroller.

Dillard, Sarah. **Extraordinary Warren** series

An ordinary chicken discovers what makes him super--inside and out!

Eaton, Maxwell. **The Flying Beaver Brothers** series

Ace and Bub's plans for a quiet vacation are put on hold when they are stranded on an island where their nemesis had stirred up trouble among the local animals.

*Hatke, Ben. **Little Robot**

When a little girl finds an adorable robot in the woods, she presses a button and accidentally activates him for the first time. Now, she finally has a friend. But the big, bad robots are coming to collect the little guy for evil purposes, and it's all up to the young girl to save the day!





Holm, Jennifer L.

Squish series

Squish is a comic book-loving, twinkie-eating, grade school Amoeba trying to find his place in the world, or at least making it through a school day.

*McCranie, Stephen.

Mal and Chad series

Fourth-grade genius Mal and his talking dog Chad shrink themselves to microscopic size and travel through time, but girls and the school bully present bigger challenges.

McDonnell, Patrick.

Mutts series

Earl is a small mutt with a big heart. Earl is Mooch the cat's innocent friend, as well as a witness and often a reluctant participant to Mooch's lively and silly antics.

Pilkey, Dav.

Dog Man series

When Greg the police dog and his cop companion are injured on the job, a life-saving surgery changes the course of history, and Dog Man is born.

Rubin, Sean.

Bolivar

Sybil knows that there is something off about her next-door neighbor, but she can't seem to get anyone to believe her. Everyone is so busy going about their days on the busy streets of New York City, that they don't notice Bolivar. They don't notice his odd height, his tiny arms, or his long tail. What does Sybil really see?

Spires, Ashley.

Binky the Space Cat series

Binky's blast-off into outer space (outside) to battle aliens (bugs) is delayed when he realizes he has left something behind--and it's not the anti-gravity kitty litter.

Nonfiction

*Bredeson, Carmen.

Weird but True series

Wacky facts, fascinating information, and lively art combine to make these books irresistible for young readers.

*DK.

DK Find Out series

An exciting book series full of amazing images, incredible quizzes, and cutting-edge information kids need to know. This series helps kids become experts on their favorite subjects—from dinosaurs to outer space.

*Kensky, Jessica.

Rescue & Jessica

When he is paired with a girl who has lost her legs, Rescue worries that he isn't up to the task of being her service dog.

*Lewis, Patrick.

Edgar Allan Poe's Pie: Math Puzzlers

Famous poems are adapted into math problems involving boxer shorts, pizza, termites, and more.





*McCallum, Ann.

Eat Your Math Homework

Explore math in the kitchen using six simple recipes: Variable Pizza Pi, Fraction Chips, Probability Trail Mix and more!

*MacDonald, Fiona.

You Wouldn't Want to... series

This humorous series will introduce you to all kinds of jobs you wouldn't have wanted to do throughout history. Find out what's so bad about being a Greek slave, a Viking explorer, a World War II secret agent, a medieval knight and many other jobs.

*Muntean, Michaela.

Stay: The True Story of Ten Dogs

After a circus accident rendered Luciano Anastasini unable to perform his circus stunts, he undertook the task of training rescue dogs to perform a circus act.

*Overdeck, Laura.

How Many Guinea Pigs Can Fit on a Plane

If have you ever wondered how many birds it would take to pick you up and fly with you? Or if you were as strong as ant, how much weight could you lift? Or when will you be a billion seconds old? Then, this is your book! *Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw.

*Patent, Dorothy.

Super Sniffers: Dog Detectives on the Job

A dog's nose is 300 times more powerful than a human nose, so it's no wonder that dogs use their incredibly advanced sense of smell to do some very important jobs. Dorothy Hinshaw Patent explores the various ways specific dogs have put their super sniffing ability to use.

Silverstein, Shel.

Where the Sidewalk Ends

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.

***Who Was.../ Who Is...,What was.../ What Is...and Where is... series**

History comes alive in these three series about famous people, landmarks, and geography.





Books to Read to Your Third Grader

Applegate, Katherine.

The One and Only Ivan

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Catling, Patrick.

The Chocolate Touch

John Midas is a normal boy, except that he has an abnormal love for candy, especially chocolate. But when he acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate, he finds out that too much of a good thing isn't so great.

Dahl, Roald.

The BFG

Snatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling giants.

DiCamillo, Kate.

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit who loves only himself. And then, one day, he gets lost. He is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country.

Eager, Edward.

Half Magic

It all begins with a strange coin on a sun-warmed sidewalk. It turns out the coin grants wishes—but only by half, so that you must wish for *twice* as much as you want. Wishing for two times some things is a cinch, but other doubled wishes only cause twice as much trouble. What is half of twice a talking cat? Or to be half-again twice not-here?

Grabenstein, Chris.

Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library series

Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.

Howe, James.

Bunnacula series

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.

Lewis, C.S.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe series

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

Sachar, Louis.

Sideways Stories From Wayside School series

Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.





Snicket, Lemony.

The Series of Unfortunate Events series

Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire are taken in by a series of oddball relatives after their wealthy parents are killed in a fire. The first to take them in is the dastardly and cunning Count Olaf, who is only interested in their inheritance.

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

