



2019 Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 1

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 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.

The Wakefield Public Schools invites students to participate in Beebe Library's 2019 Summer Reading Program, *A Universe of Stories*. Check out the summer activities calendar at www.wakefieldlibrary.org.

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

Picture Books

Amato, Max.

Perfect

An eraser tries to keep the page blank and perfect, but a mischievous and creative pencil keeps thwarting him. Before long, Eraser realizes that working together could be even more perfect.

Barnes, Derrick.

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut

A fresh haircut can turn a boy from a lump of clay into a brilliant, blazing star.

Barnett, Mac.

The Wolf, the Duck, & the Mouse

A mouse gets swallowed by a wolf and finds out it's not the worst thing in the world.

Bauer, Marion Dane.

The Stuff of Stars

Before the universe was formed, there was nothing. Then BANG! Stars, light, and dust flinging everywhere, forming planets, and then forming people. We are all the stuff of stars.

Beaton, Kate.

The Princess and the Pony

Princess Pinecone wants to be a fearsome warrior, but everyone thinks she is cute. She hopes a horse will change her image. Unfortunately, her parents give her a pony that only adds to the problem.

Becker, Bonnie.

A Library Book for Bear

Bear has all the books he will ever need: three knight books, three honeybee books, and a pickle book. When his friend Mouse drags him to the library, Bear discovers that his bookshelf may have space for books on more topics.

Bell, Cece.

Bee-Wigged

All Jerry Bee wants is to make friends, but everyone he meets is terrified of him. Disguising himself with a wig he finds on the sidewalk, Jerry goes to school determined to win over the students and teachers. He gets more than he bargained for with his new wig!





Brosgol, Vera.

Leave Me Alone!

Grandmother badly needs peace and quiet to finish knitting for her grandchildren, so she leaves her tiny home and her big family to journey to the moon and beyond.

Brown, Peter.

My Teacher is a Monster! No, I am Not.

Bobby has a monster for a teacher. When he runs into her outside of school, he discovers she might not be so bad after all.

Campoy, F. Isabel.

Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood

Mira lives in a gray and hopeless urban community until a muralist arrives and, along with his paints and brushes, brings color, joy, and togetherness to Mira and her neighbors.

Cordell, Matthew.

King Alice

Alice decides demands to be called King Alice on this, the snowiest of days. Of course, her most royal brave knight, Dad, is there to help with all her royal decrees, including a Unicorn Party Stampede.

Davies, Nicola.

The Pond

After his father dies, a young boy tries to continue his dream of creating a pond in the backyard. Suffering from setbacks and grief, the boy struggles to make the pond a reality, but slowly the pond (and his grief) transform.

Daywalt, Drew.

The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors

You've played the game, now find out how Rock, Paper, and Scissors came to be the last remaining warriors in a never-ending battle for supremacy.

de la Peña, Matt.

Last Stop on Market Street

In this 2016 Newbery Medal-winner and Caldecott Honor, a young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

DiPucchio, Kelly.

Gaston

Raised in a poodle family, Gaston works hard to meet his mother's standards of propriety, but her lessons do not come easily to him. When his family meets a bulldog family in the park, the mothers realize that they may have made "a terrible mistake."

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. **Grandma and the Great Gourd: a Bengali folk tale**

Grandma wants to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, but dangerous creatures live there. Can she outwit foxes, bears, and tigers in order to make her journey there and back?

Docherty, Helen.

The Snatchabook

All the bedtime books have disappeared from Burrow Down. Eliza Brown sets a trap, and to her surprise, catches the elusive Snatchabook.





Ellis, Carson.

Du Iz Tak?

Du is tak? What is that? Learn to speak bug and imagine the dramatic possibilities in even the humblest back garden.

Fishman, Seth.

A Hundred Billion Trillion Stars

Did you know there are (approximately) a hundred, billion, trillion stars? Can you even conceive of such a number?

Garza, Cynthia Leonor.

Lucía the Luchadora

Lucía loves playing superhero on the playground, but the boys won't let her play with them. They think girls can't be heroes. Lucía's Abuela knows the boys are wrong, because once upon a time, she was a special superhero – a Luchadora!

Henkes, Kevin.

Chrysanthemum

Chrysanthemum loves her unusual name until she starts school and the other kids make fun of her for it.

Isadora, Rachel.

Say Hello!

A little girl greets people in her neighborhood in many different languages.

Jeffers, Oliver.

This Moose Belongs to Me

A young boy learns that moose do not always follow the rules of proper pet behavior.

Jory, John.

The Good Egg

He's a good egg. A verrrrrry good egg. Practically perfect. And it starts getting a little hard to be so very good when all the other eggs are all so very rotten. When the egg starts to crack under the pressure of being so perfect, he decides it's time for a big change.

Kerascoet.

I Walk with Vanessa

In this wordless picture book, a young girl takes steps to stop bullying and make a friend. Her simple act of kindness grows until the whole town is walking with Vanessa.

LeFrak, Karen.

Sleepover at the Museum

For Mason's birthday, he's having a sleepover at the Museum on Natural History! And if he and his friends can finish the scavenger hunt through the museum, he'll get to choose which room they'll be sleeping in. This mystery invites the reader to help solve the clues.

Lehrhaupt, Adam.

This is a Good Story

A young writer tries to tell a story, but the characters soon take on a life of their own! Can she turn it into a *good* story? You'll find out!

Lê, Minh.

Drawn Together

A young boy and his grandfather search for common ground in this boldly illustrated story. They don't speak the same language, eat the same foods, or watch the same television shows, but they do share a love a drawing that brings them together.





McCarty, Peter.

Jeremy Draws a Monster

Jeremy, a shy kid and excellent artist, draws a monster that comes to life. Quickly, the monster becomes too demanding, and Jeremy has to figure out how to get rid of it.

McCloskey, Robert.

Blueberries for Sal

In this classic tale, little Sal and Little Bear are both separated from their mothers while eating blueberries and almost end up with each other's mother.

Miller, Pat Zietlow.

Sophie's Squash

On a trip to the farmers' market with her parents, Sophie chooses a squash and names it Bernice. From then on, Sophie brings Bernice everywhere. As winter nears, Sophie starts to notice changes in her friend. What is a girl to do when the squash she loves is in trouble?

Monroe, Chris.

Monkey with a Tool Belt series

Clever monkey Chico Bon Bon builds many things with his abundant tool collection. Captured by an organ grinder, Chico Bon Bon uses his gadgets to help him escape and get back home.

Mora, Oge.

Thank You, Omu!

Omu is cooking up a thick red stew that she knows will be the best dinner she's ever had. The neighbors smell the scrumptious scent and it's not too long before they're knocking on the door asking for a taste. Omu is happy to share, but when the neighbors keep coming, Omu is in danger of running out of soup.

O'Connor, Jane.

Fancy Nancy series

This popular series features a young girl who loves fancy things and has an even fancier vocabulary.

O'Leary, Sara.

A Family is a Family is a Family

When a teacher asks the children in her class to think about what makes their families special, they have very different answers—but those answers share a common, important theme.

Olien, Jessica.

The Blobfish Book

Did you know that the deepest parts of the ocean stretch over one mile deep, too far down for any sunlight to reach? Blobfish lives in those dark depths. But this book isn't about Blobfish...or is it?

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?

Perkins, Lynne Rae.

Frank and Lucky Get Schooled

A boy and his dog learn about each other, go to school to learn more, then explore the world around them as they study science, geography and even foreign languages together.





Pinkney, Jerry.

The Lion and the Mouse

In this wordless retelling of the Aesop fable, an adventuresome mouse rescues the King of the Jungle, proving that even small creatures are capable of great deeds.

Reynolds, Aaron.

Dude!

Dude! In this nearly wordless picture book, two friends spend the day surfing and eating ice cream. They also make an unexpected friend.

Santat, Dan.

After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again

It turns out that all the king's men and horses were able to put *most* of Humpty together again after he fell. Unfortunately, they couldn't put his broken spirit back together. Faced with a crippling fear of heights, Humpty doesn't think he'll ever enjoy birdwatching again. Or will he?

Seuss, Dr.

Horton Hears a Who

To save The Whos' city on a speck of dust, the mayor of Whoville works with Horton the Elephant to convince Horton's friends that Whos really exist.

Sima, Jessie.

Love, Z

When the robot Z finds a note signed "Love, Beatrice," he doesn't understand. What does "love" mean? The other robots can't help, so he sets out on an adventure to find the one person who could answer his question – Beatrice.

Stein, David Ezra.

Because Amelia Smiled

A little girl's smile as she skips down the street in New York inspires a neighbor to send cookies to her grandson in Mexico, and the good will soon spreads around the world.

Turk, Evan.

The Storyteller

In a time of drought in the Kingdom of Morocco, a storyteller and a boy weave a tale to thwart a Djinn and his sandstorm from destroying their city.

Warnes, Tim.

Dangerous

Mole loves to stick labels on objects. One day, he finds something unusual in the woods. He dubs the beast lumpy, bumpy, and gigantic. Then the thing frightens Mole, so Mole adds the label "dangerous." But is the Lumpy-Bumpy Thing really all that dangerous?

Wenzel, Brendan.

They All Saw a Cat

In simple, rhythmic prose and stylized pictures, a cat walks through the world, and all the other creatures see and acknowledge the cat.

Willems, Mo.

Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed

Wilbur, a naked mole rat with a flair for the dramatic, teaches his fellow naked mole rats a bit about self-expression.

Woodson, Jacqueline.

The Day You Begin

Sometimes beginning something new can be scary, especially when no one else in the room looks or sounds like you. But with a touch of courage, you can find a way to make connections.





Nonfiction

Bang, Molly.

Ocean Sunlight: How Tiny Plants Feed the Seas

Life on Earth, including all ocean life, directly or indirectly depends on light. Everything, from the tiniest plankton to great whales, forms a web that uses sunshine.

Blastoff.

Blastoff! Readers series

These leveled nonfiction books cover a variety of awesome topics, from baby animals to monster trucks. They guide readers as they transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

Bullfrog.

Bullfrog Books series

The publisher, Jump, dubs these books, “Beautiful nonfiction for beginning and struggling readers.” They are! These high-interest, low-level titles help young readers learn to read and, more specifically, learn to decode nonfiction.

Chin, Jason.

Gravity

Gravity makes objects fall to Earth – but what would happen if gravity did not exist?

Florian, Douglas.

UnBEElievables

Interesting facts about honeybees accompany fun poems.

Keller, Laurie.

Do unto Otters: A Book about Manners

Mr. Rabbit wonders if he will be able to get along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the golden rule.

Lamothe, Matt.

This is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from Around the World

From where they live, to what they’re called, to how they spend their free time, these seven real kids from around the world show us how they live.

Rockliff, Mara.

Lights, Camera, Alice!: The Thrilling True Adventures of the First Woman Filmmaker

Jump into the exciting life of Alice Guy-Blaché, one of the first ever filmmakers, and certainly one of the most exciting ones. Nothing was off limits with this new art form, and Alice was going to prove it to the world!

Sisson, Stephanie Roth.

Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos

This picture book biography about Carl Sagan explores his early fascination with the cosmos, as well as his role in expanding our knowledge of space.

Slade, Suzanne.

A Computer Called Katherine

Katherine Johnson always loved numbers and math, and she was good at it, too. Really good. Overcoming segregation and sexism, she became an integral part of the elite team of engineers that put a man on the moon.





Winter, Jeanette.

The World is Not a Rectangle

A picture book biography about the first woman to win the Pritzker Prize – the most prestigious architecture award in the world. Zaha Hadid’s daring designs and unique perspective can be found in buildings all over the world.

First Readers

(Perfect for the child who is just beginning to read on their own)

Alinas, Marv.

Rhyming Word Families series

This series uses simple sentences and bold pictures to tell stories using rhyming word families.

Arnold, Tedd.

Fly Guy series

When Buzz captures a fly to enter in “The Amazing Pet Show,” his parents and the judges tell him that a fly cannot be a pet. Fly Guy proves everyone wrong.

Flip.

Flip-a-Word series

Humorous illustrations and die-cut pages introduce short vowel sounds, consonant blends, and word families in these Flip-a-Word books.

I Like.

I Like to Read series

This unique series combines a larger picture book size with the characteristics of first readers (controlled vocabulary, repetition, helpful illustrations). Created by award-winning, popular authors, these books make learning to read enjoyable.

Passport.

Passport to Reading series

Read stories from your favorite shows, including Rescue Bots, Super Hero Squad, and My Little Pony, or try out books by popular authors, including Todd Parr and Marc Brown.

Penguin.

Penguin Young Readers, Levels 1 & 2 series

Penguin Young Readers feature award-winning books and authors, critically acclaimed classics, and new titles from established authors. Level One, Emergent Reader, and Level Two, Progressing Reader, are well suited to new readers.

Willems, Mo.

Cat the Cat and Elephant and Piggie series

Cat the Cat has fun with friends, and Gerald the elephant and Piggie have very silly adventures in these two early reader series told completely in dialogue.

World.

World of Reading series

These early readers feature Disney characters, Marvel superheroes, and Star Wars characters among other popular topics.





Chapter Books & Graphic Novels

Greene, Stephanie.

Princess Posey series

Posey worries about starting first grade, but the prospect brightens when her teacher invites the students to wear their most comfortable clothes to school on the first day.

Clanton, Ben.

Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea

In this new graphic novel series, a happy-go-lucky, waffle-loving narwhal and a cynical, no-nonsense jellyfish forge an unlikely friendship and share adventures in the ocean.

Green, Poppy.

Sophie Mouse series

Sophie Mouse loves her home in Silverlake Forest, painting, making friends, and having adventures!

Jump.

Jump into Chapters series

Join Andy, Mr. Ball, and others on their silly adventures in these early reader comics.

Kochalka, James.

Johnny Boo series

In this graphic novel series, Johnny Boo, the best little ghost in the whole world, and his pet ghost named Squiggle have the world's greatest ghost adventures.

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

