

## **2021 SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 1**

The recommended 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.

Join us for our 2021 Summer Reading Program, Tails and Tales! Learn more at [wakefieldlibrary.org](http://wakefieldlibrary.org).

Your librarians are happy to help and can be reached at [wakyouth@noblenet.org](mailto:wakyouth@noblenet.org).

Happy reading! Your Youth Librarians,  
*Casey, Amanda, Annie, Heidi, & Holly*

### **PICTURE BOOKS**

#### ***Perfect by Max Amato***

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Am*

#### ***I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes***

An ode to all the good that a kid can be, even when the world tells him otherwise.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ba*

#### ***The Wolf, the Duck, & the Mouse by Mac Barnett***

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ba*

#### ***The Stuff of Stars by Marion Dane Bauer***

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ba*

#### ***The Princess and the Pony by Kate Beaton***

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Be*



***Sofia Valdez, Future Prez* by Andrea Beaty**

Sofia Valdez is a real go-getter, so when her Abuelo gets hurt on the neighborhood trash heap, Sofia leads the way to get it cleaned up so the community can have a park.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Be*

***A Library Book for Bear* by Bonnie Becker**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Be*

***Bee-Wigged* by Cece Bell**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Be*

***Leave Me Alone!* by Vera Brosgol**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Br*

***Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood* by Isabel F. Campoy**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ca*

***King Alice* by Matthew Cordell**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Co*

***The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors* by Drew Daywalt**

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.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Da*

***Milo Imagines the World* by Matt de la Peña**

As Milo and his sister ride the subway, Milo draws his ideas of how the people around him on the train live. As they reach their destination, Milo realizes that sometimes you can't tell what someone's life is like by looking at them.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book De*



***Gaston by Kelly DiPucchio***

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."

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Di*

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

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?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Di*

***A Hundred Billion Trillion Stars by Seth Fishman***

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Fi*

***Fearsome Giant, Fearless Child: A Worldwide Jack and the Beanstalk Story by Paul Fleischman***

A clever boy, sometimes thumb-sized, sometimes average, finds himself confronting a man-eating creature in this tale told in pieces from all over the world.

*Call #: Children's 398 Fleishman*

***Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella by Paul Fleischman***

A familiar tale of rags-to-riches told as a patchwork of interwoven international versions of the Cinderella story.

*Call #: Children's 398 International Fleishman*

***Pokko and the Drum by Matthew Forsythe***

The worst mistake Pokko's parents ever made was giving her the drum. Now she has to wrangle a band of wild animals without anyone eating each other.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Fo*

***Lucía the Luchadora by Cynthia Leonor Garza***

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!

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ga*



***Hello Goodbye Dog by Maria Gianferrari***

Zara's dog, Moose, is a master of escaping and rushing to Zara's side. Unfortunately, dogs aren't allowed in school! Can the two friends find a way to keep Moose by Zara's side?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Gi*

***Eyes That Kiss in the Corners by Joanna Ho***

Her friends might have eyes that are sapphire pools, but this young girl loves her eyes that kiss in the corners and are like warm tea in this ode to asian eyes.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ho*

***Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora***

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Is*

***The Good Egg by Jory John***

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Jo*

***I Walk with Vanessa by Kerascoet***

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ke*

***7 Ate 9: The Untold Story by Tara Lazar***

Private I is called to solve the mystery of the missing 9. 6 is certain that 7 ate him and will be coming for her next! Will Private I get to the bottom of this mystery, or are 6's days numbered?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book La*

***Sleepover at the Museum by Karen LeFrak***

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Le*

***This is a Good Story by Adam Lehrhaupt***

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!

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Le*



***Drawn Together* by Minh Lê**

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Le*

***We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom**

A young girl takes courage and stands up to defeat the black snake that is destroying the water and her people.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Li*

***Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal**

Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has such a long name that it never fits! But when her father tells the story of her names, Alma may find them a better fit than she imagined.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ma*

***Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey**

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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Mc*

***Sophie's Squash* by Pat Zietlow Miller**

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?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Mi*

***Thank You, Omu!* by Oge Mora**

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Mo*

***Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o**

Sulwe is darker than anyone in her family, and anyone in her school. She feels like she doesn't fit in, until a magical journey in the sky opens her eyes to the beauty found in the darkness and in the light.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ny*

***Fancy Nancy* by Jane O'Connor**

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Oc*



***A Family is a Family is a Family by Sara O’Leary***

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.

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Ol*

***The Blobfish Book by Jessica Olien***

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?

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Ol*

***Frank and Lucky Get Schooled by Lynne Rae Perkins***

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.

*Call #: Children’s Illustrated Fiction Pe*

***The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney***

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.

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Pi*

***Rescuing Mrs. Birdley by Aaron Reynolds***

A teacher’s natural habitat is the classroom. Animal expert Miranda has to employ all the tricks she knows to return Mrs. Birdly to her natural habitat after seeing she has escaped to the grocery store.

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Re*

***After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again by Dan Santat***

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 bird watching again. Or will he?

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Sa*

***Love, Z by Jessie Sima***

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.

*Call #: Children’s Picture Book Si*



***The Storyteller by Evan Turk***

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.

*Call #: Children's Illustrated Fiction Tu*

***Reading Beauty by Deborah Underwood***

A familiar tale is turned on its head. Instead of a spinning wheel, this princess is cursed with a papercut, causing her parents to destroy her beloved collection of books! Can she find the fairy responsible to get her curse reversed?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Un*

***Dangerous by Tim Warnes***

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?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Wa*

***Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed by Mo Willems***

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

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Wi*

***The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson***

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.

*Call #: Children's Illustrated Fiction Wo*

**NONFICTION**

***Ocean Sunlight: How Tiny Plants Feed the Seas by Molly Bang***

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.

*Call #: Children's 577.7 Bang*

***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.

*Call #: Children's First Reader - Nonfiction Section*



**Bullfrog Books series**

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

*Call #: Children’s First Reader - Nonfiction Section*

***Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré by Anika Denise***

When Pura Belpré first arrives in NYC in 1921, she finds that none of the stories she grew up with in Puerto Rico have made their way to the library shelves. In an effort to change that, she introduces stories from her native land, in her native language, to the citizens of New York.

*Call #: Children’s Biography Belpré*

***UnBEElievables by Douglas Florian***

Interesting facts about honeybees accompany fun poems.

*Call #: Children’s 811 Florian*

***She Made a Monster: How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein by Lynn Fulton***

One dark and stormy night, Mary Shelley went to bed worried she wouldn’t come up with a story scary enough to win a friendly competition. By the time she woke up the next day, she had dreamed up one of the world’s most recognizable monsters.

*Call #: Children’s Biography Shelley*

***Do unto Otters: A Book about Manners by Laurie Keller***

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.

*Call #: Children’s 395.122 Keller*

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

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.

*Call #: Children’s 305.23 Lamothe*

***Lights, Camera, Alice! The Thrilling True Adventures of the First Woman Filmmaker by Mara Rockliff***

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!

*Call #: Children’s Biography Guy-Blache*





## FIRST READERS

(PERFECT FOR THE CHILD WHO IS JUST BEGINNING TO READ ON THEIR OWN)

### ***Mo Jackson series by David Adler***

Mo may not be the tallest player on his team, or the fastest or the strongest, but that never stops him from trying his best no matter what shape that takes.

*Call #: Children's First Reader Adler*

### ***Rhyming Word Families (series), by Marv Alinas***

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

*Call #: Children's First Reader Alinas*

### ***Fly Guy, series by Tedd Arnold***

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.

*Call #: Children's First Reader Arnold*

### ***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.

*Call #: Children's First Reader Flip*

### ***Beginning to Read series by Margaret Hillert***

Simple, easy to read retellings of well-known fairy tales, like Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, and Hansel and Gretel.

*Call #: Children's First Reader Hillert*

### ***Horse and Buggy series by Ethan Long***

Horse and Buggy are best friends who get up to all kinds of antics in this fun - and funny - series!

*Call #: Children's First Reader Long*

### ***The Adventures of Otto series by David Milgrim***

Join Otto the robot as he navigates friendship here on Earth.

*Call #: Children's First Reader Milgrim*

### ***Puppy Mudge series by Cynthia Rylant***

Mudge is Henry's puppy, and he's full of mischief and energy. He's also full of love!

*Call #: Children's First Reader Rylant*



***The Giggle Gang series by Jan Thomas***

These wacky animals get up to all sorts of misadventures! Whether it's searching for a missing toothbrush or baking a birthday cake for a friend, you can count on the Giggle Gang to give you a few laughs!

*Call # Children's First Reader Thomas*

***Cat the Cat and Elephant and Piggie series by Mo Willems***

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.

*Call #: Children's First Reader*

**CHAPTER BOOKS & GRAPHIC NOVELS  
(PERFECT FOR FAMILY READ-ALOUDS!)**

***The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure by Doreen Cronin***

The Chicken Squad is ready to fight crime and solve mysteries - especially the mystery of the alien spacecraft! But what if the aliens want the chickens for -gulp! - dinner?

*Call #: Children's Early Chapter Cronin*

***My Father's Dragon by Ruth Gannett***

Elmer Elevator heads off on an adventure to rescue a dragon from its cruel captors.

*Call #: Children's Early Chapter Gannett*

***Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea, by Ben Clanton***

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.

*Call #: Children's Comics Narwhal*

***Jump into Chapters series***

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

*Call #: Children's Comics Jump*

***Johnny Boo, by James Kochalka***

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.

*Call #: Children's Comics Johnny*

***Lulu and the Duck in the Park by Hilary McKay***

The rule about pets at Lulu's house is simple: The more the merrier - as long as Lulu cleans up after them! But does Lulu get in over her head when she brings a duck egg to school?

*Call #: Children's Early Chapter McKay*

