

SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 2

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.

Your librarians are happy to help and can be reached at wakyouth@noblenet.org.

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

ADVENTURE & MYSTERY

Jack series by Mac Barnett

Jack, a mischievous snack-loving rabbit, lives in a treehouse and has two best friends - a cranky old lady and a sweet dog. Jack finds himself in crazy, even out-of-this-world adventures, that he'll have to use all his wiles, and help of his friends, to solve.

Call #: Children's First Reader Barnett

Bumble and Bee series by Ross Burach

Best friends Bumble and Bee have some wacky ideas about things that are fun to do. Can they tempt grumpy Froggy into joining in their adventures?

Call #: Children's First Reader Burach

The Magic School Bus Rides Again series by Judy Katscke

The Magic School bus is back and being driven by Ms Frizzle's sister, Fiona. She has the same motto as her sister, "Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy," and the kids will have wild adventures and learn lots about science!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Magic

Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne

This first Magic Tree House adventure introduces readers to Jack and Annie, a brother and sister who find a treehouse filled with books. When Jack wishes he could see dinosaurs, they realize they have been transported to the Cretaceous times and dinosaurs abound and threaten. The series has plenty of magic, suspense and adventure, plus time-travel!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Osborne



Geronimo Stilton series by Geronimo Stilton

Geronimo Stilton is the editor of a newspaper who would love to live a quiet life, but finds himself in the middle of most challenging mysteries that take him all over the world. Oh, by the way, Geronimo is a mouse.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Stilton

Black Lagoon Adventures series by Mike Thaler

You never know what's going to happen in Mean Mrs. Green's class. All you know is that it will be a wild adventure, and there will probably be monsters!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Thaler

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

Unicorn and Yeti series by Heather Ayris Burnell

Unicorn is magic and has an amazing horn. Yeti is furry and big and can't do magic; What they do have in common is a love of sparkly things, and being very best friends.

Call #: Children's First Readers Burnell

Princess Truly series by Kelly Greenawalt

No job is too big for Princess Truly who is a superhero with magical powers! She solves problems and saves the day, but her most amazing superpower is her kindness.

Call #: Children's First Readers Greenawalt

Princess in Black series by Shannon Hale

Princess Magnolia seems the perfect princess, but she has a secret! When monsters threaten the kingdom, she throws off her pink gown and becomes the Princess in Black, a monster-fighting hero.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Hale

The Magic Beans by Margaret Hillert

The Magic Beans, the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, is just **one** of Margaret Hillert's excellent first fairy tales for new readers.

Call #: Children's First Readers Hillert

The Adventures of Otto series by David Milgrim

Otto the Robot and his friend Pip encounter all sorts of oddities on Planet Earth.

Call #: Children's First Reader Milgrim

The Alien Next Door series by A. I Newton

Second grader Harris notices something strange about the new kid in his class, Zeke. The more he observes him, he forms a theory - Zeke is an alien.



Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Newton*

Ricky Ricotta and His Mighty Robot series by Dav Pilkey

Ricky is a little mouse who is being bullied, until one day a mighty robot (built by an evil genius to destroy the city) helps Ricky and the two become best friends. Also, they save the universe from bad guys trying to create trouble! Silly and fun!

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Pilkey*

The Kingdom of Wrenly series by Jordan Quinn

Prince Lucas is an only child who spent his whole life within the walls of the castle. He longs for adventure, but needs someone who understands life outside the palace to help him. He chooses Clara, the daughter of the queen's seamstress, to join him on a quest to recover his Mom's missing emerald necklace. The first of many adventures!

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Quinn*

Fairylight Friends series by Jessica Young

Ruby, Iris and Pip are best friends and go to the same fairy school. They venture out to have adventures and discover their special fairy powers.

Call #: *Children's First Readers Young*

FRIENDSHIP STORIES

Owl Diaries series by Rebecca Elliot

Eva Wingdale, a little owl, recounts through her diary the mishaps of planning a Spring Festival for her school. The problem - Eva tries to do everything herself, not accepting help offered by her friends. Will the festival actually happen?

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Elliot*

Good Dog series by Cam Higgins

Bo is an adorable and rambunctious puppy who lives on a farm. While he is cute and loveable, he just can't help getting into trouble. His adventures will take him and his friends all over the farm.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Higgins*

Frog and Toad series by Arnold Lobel

Frog and Toad are best friends. The three books in the series have been beloved classics since they were introduced in 1970. The gentle warmth and humor, plus the great friendship shown in the books make them a must-read for everyone.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Lobel*

Ballet Cat series by Bob Shea

Fans of dancing and all things sparkly will love the stories of Ballet Cat and her friends.



Call #: *Children's First Reader Shea*

FUNNY STORIES

Humphrey's Tiny Tales series by Betty Birney

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 playing and getting into all sorts of silly shenanigans.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Birney*

Pete the Cat series by James Dean

Pete the Cat is too cool a cat to be believed as he wanders the world jammin' and brings pop coolness to all situations. Groovy...

Call #: *Children's First Readers Dean*

Mercy Watson series by Kate DiCamillo

Mercy Watson is not a pig. According to Mr. and Mrs. Watson, her owners, she is a "porcine wonder." Read about her marvelous adventures, and make sure to have hot buttered toast on hand!

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter DiCamillo*

My Weird School series by Dan Gutman

Meet the kids and teachers in the weirdest and funniest school ever! Find out why the principal Mr. Klutz is nuts, and Miss Daisy is crazy, and what's up with all the staff at the Ella Mentary School.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Gutman*

Amelia Bedelia series by Peggy Parrish

Amelia Bedelia has been making kids laugh for 50 years! Both the older series when she is an adult and the new series about Amelia as a girl, are hilarious because Amelia does *exactly* what she is told to do!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Parrish*

Dragon series by Dav Pilkey

The creator of *Dog Man*, Dav Pilkey, has another winner perfect for 2nd graders with the adventures of silly and sweet Dragon.

Call #: *Children's First Readers Pilkey*

The Giggle Gang series by Jan Thomas

Get ready to laugh. Jan Thomas's characters embark on ridiculous adventures based on misunderstandings and slapstick.

Call #: *Children's First Readers Thomas*



Unlimited Squirrels series by Mo Willems

Unlimited Squirrels series has a furry cast of quirky characters with lots of acorns, guest visitors, puzzles, facts and jokes.

Call #: Children's First Readers Willem

GRAPHIC NOVELS

The Noodleheads series by Tedd Arnold

Follow Mac and Mac's absolutely ridiculous adventures full of slapstick, word play and crazy misunderstanding. Based on folktales of foolish characters.

Call #: Children's Comics Noodleheads

Boris series by Andrew Joyner

Share adventures and laughs with Boris, an enthusiastic and very imaginative warthog, then be challenged by the activity at the back of each book in the series.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Joyner

The Glorkian Warrior series by James Kolchalka

The Glorkian Warrior marauds through space, with one adventure more comical than the next. Although he may not be the brightest star in the galaxy, his talking super backpack serves as his savvy wing man and sets him back on course.

Call #: Children's Comics Glorkian

Binky the Space Cat series by Ashley Spires

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.

Call #: Children's Comics Spires

NONFICTION

Magnets Push, Magnets Pull by David Adler

Curious kids will find out the secret of how magnets work.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction 538 Adler

Fly Guy Presents series by Tedd Arnold

Snakes, monster trucks, space, sharks, dinosaurs, weird animals and many more true subjects are presented factually, but with all the humor of the *Fly Guy* books.

Call #: Children's First Reader Nonfiction



***Rivers of Sunlight : How the Sun Moves Water Around the Earth* by Molly Bang**

Beautifully illustrated book that explores the water cycle and its effect on life on Earth.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction 551.48 Bang

***Moonshot: the Flight of Apollo 11* by Brian Floca**

Experience the first journey to the surface of the Moon and back. Floca's perfect illustrations really create the excitement and wonder of this historic event.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction 629.54 Floca

***Firefly July: a Year of Very Short Poems* by Paul B. Janeczko**

Celebrate all four seasons through evocative short poems by brilliant American poets.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction 811 Janeczko

***Prehistoric Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins**

Steve Jenkins' illustrations allow kids to experience the real size of dinosaurs that inhabited the Earth.

Call #: Children's Nonfiction 567.9 Jenkins

***Who Would Win* series by Jerry Pallota**

Get ready for battle as two dangerous animals are pitted against each other to see who would win. Find out lots of facts about some of the most dangerous creatures in the animal world.

Call #: Nonfiction various

***Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos* by Stephanie Roth Sisson**

A lovely picture book biography of the scientist Carl Sagan as a young boy who looked up at the sky, saw the stars, and wondered what they were. He spent the rest of his life studying and sharing his knowledge of the Cosmos with the masses.

Call #: Children's Biography Sagan

***Joan Proctor, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved Reptiles* by Patricia Valde**

While other girls had tea parties and played with dolls, Joan would rather spend her time with reptiles. Her passion led her to study reptiles and become the Curator of Reptiles at The British Museum. She even hosted tea parties with a Komodo Dragon as the guest of honor!

Call #: Children's Biography Proctor

PICTURE BOOKS

***Norman: One Amazing Goldfish* by Kelly Bennet**

Norman, a goldfish, is excited to have his owner show him off at the Pet-O-Rama. He has his tricks all ready, but then he gets stage fright. Can his owner help him get comfortable?

Call #: Children's Picture Book Bennet



***If You Come to Earth* by Sophie Blackall**

A boy writes a letter to an alien to explain what he would find if he comes to Earth.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Blackall*

***Hello, Lighthouse* by Sophie Blackall**

The 2019 winner of the Caldecott Medal for its illustrations, *Hello, Lighthouse* tells the story of one lighthouse, its work and life through the years and seasons, and the work of its final keeper.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Bl*

***Ten Ways to Hear Snow* by Cathy Camper**

A book full of love, empathy and quiet, *Ten Ways to Hear Snow* follows Lina on a snowy day spent with her grandmother. As Lina looks out the window at the wintery scene, we watch her try to experience the snow like her near-sighted grandmother.

Call #: *Children's Picture Books Ca*

***Imagine!* by Raúl Colón**

A boy ventures into the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art and has a life-changing realization. A wordless picture book with gorgeous illustrations.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Co*

***Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman**

School is out for the summer and Wes embarks on an ambitious project - creating his own civilization. At first the kids peeking over the fence think he is a strange kid, but at closer inspection want to find out exactly what he is doing.

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Fl*

***Giraffe Problems* by Jory John**

A funny look at self-esteem as a giraffe confronts a problem - his neck!

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Jo*

***The Boy and the Airplane* by Mark Pett**

A brilliant word-less book that allows you to tell the story of a boy who finds a way to rescue his stuck toy airplane.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Pe*

***A Different Pond* by Boa Phi**

Two ponds, one in Minnesota, one in Vietnam, creates a powerful story of understanding between a young boy and his father.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ph*

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

A gorgeous word-less retelling of the classic Aesop's fable of a small mouse who saves a lion's life.



Call #: *Children's Picture Book Pi*

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

Did you ever wonder what happened after “Humpty Dumpty had a great fall?” Here’s your chance to find out!

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Sa*

Don't Play With Your Food by Bob Shea

A hungry monster gets outwitted by a very cute group of bunnies in this funny book.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Sh*

Your Name is a Song by Jamilah Thomkins-Bigelow

Frustrated that people keep mispronouncing her name, a girl tells her mom she doesn't want to return to school. On the walk home, her mom shares the beauty and music behind her name,

Call #: *Children's Picture Books Th*

Hey Wall : A Story of Art and Community by Susan Verde

Angel is a boy with a vision. Remembering stories his grandmother told him about the beauty and community of their neighborhood, he starts thinking about an ugly blank wall. He can't change things by himself, so he enlists help. An inspiring book about community and the power of an idea.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ve*

Because by Mo Willems

A random series of events leads a girl to find, and accomplish, her dream.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Wi*

What Do You Do With an Idea? by Kobi Yamada

Ideas - we all have them. But what do we do with them? A boy has an idea, and the need to follow it through grows, no matter what others think.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ya*

REALISTIC FICTION

Jasper John Dooley series by Caroline Anderson

Quirky Jasper knows what he likes and how to get things done the right way. Why is the right way never his way?

Call #: *Children Early Chapter Anderson*



***Freckle Juice* by Judy Blume**

More than anything else, Andrew wishes he could have freckles - lots of freckles! He's so desperate that he buys a freckle recipe from a girl in his class. What could go wrong?

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Blume

***Sofia Martinez* series by Jacqueline Jules**

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

Call #: Children's First Reader Jules

***Ready Freddy* series by Abby Klein**

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.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Klein

***Horrible Harry* series by Suzy Kline**

Doug shares the exploits of his friend Harry, who loves to prank other kids in his second grade class. Sometimes Harry is Horrible and sometimes a good kid, so Doug explains to the reader why Harry is his best friend.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Kline

***Missy's Super Duper Royal Deluxe* series by Susan Nees**

Missy is a very creative girl who does things her own way - Super Duper Royal Deluxe! Can she stay true to her own style?

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Nees

***Henry and Mudge and Henry and Puppy Mudge* series by Cynthia Rylant**

Henry, an only child, asks his parents if he could have a dog. When he chose a cute little puppy, no one would know how big that little puppy would become!

Call #: Children's First Readers Rylant

***Mr. Putter and Tabby* series by Cynthia Rylant**

Mr. Putter is lonely. He decides a cat would be a good companion. He finds one at a shelter that has creaking bones, thinning fur and is a little deaf, just like Mr. Putter. Mr. Putter and his "fine cat Tabby" have many funny, wonderful adventures with his neighbor Mrs. Teaberry and her "good dog" Zeke.

Call #: Children's First Readers Rylant

BOOKS TO READ TOGETHER

***You Read to Me, I'll Read to You* series by Mary Ann Hoberman**

Hoberman's You Read to Me, I'll Read to you books are created for two readers to share. The series includes Very Short Stories, Very Short Fables, Very Short Mother Goose Tales, Very Short Fairy Tales



and Very Short Scary Stories. They are fun and funny, and offer a great opportunity for older readers to model fluent reading to incoming second graders. Also, the stories are perfect for two second grader friends to put on a play.

Call #: *Children's Picture Books Hoberman*

***We Both Read* series by Various Authors**

A series of books for two readers - one a new reader and the other a proficient reader. The *We Both Read* series includes both stories and informational books.

Call #: *Children's First Readers and Children's Early Readers Nonfiction*

***You Read, I Read* series by Various Authors**

For kids who love reading about true subjects, National Geographic Kids Level 1, *You Read, I Read* series should please. Both readers could be second graders or an older companion. Great photos and a variety of true subjects.

Call #: *Children's Early Readers Nonfiction*

FAMILY READ-ALOUDS

***The Only and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate**

Ivan is a gorilla who lives in a shopping mall zoo. He resigned himself to his unhappy life, but things change when the mall owner brings a baby elephant to the mall. Is it ever too late to become what you might have been? A book every child, parent, and grandparent should share!

Call #: *Children's Fiction Applegate*

***Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate**

Red is an old oak tree that for years people have tied a piece of red cloth with their dearest wish to her branches. For the first time ever, she decides she must see to it that a newcomer to the neighborhood's wish is granted. With the help of the animals that dwell on and within her, Red works to make sure Samar's simple wish is fulfilled.

Call #: *Children's Fiction Applegate*

***The End of the Beginning: Being the Adventures of a Small Snail (and an Even Smaller Ant)* by Avi**

A tiny snail dreams of having a big adventure. Snail, and his friend, Ant, set off along their branch home to see the world. A modern day Winnie the Pooh - a simple, charming, and philosophical story.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Avi*

***Poppy* by Avi**

Poppy, a little mouse, embarks on a brave quest to find the great horned owl who rules the wood (and eats mice) to save her family.

Call #: *Children Fiction Avi*



Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary

The classic book that launched the series about Henry, Ribsy, Beezus, and Ramona. It is funny and realistic, and makes a wonderful read aloud since each chapter tells a complete story that leads to the next scenario.

Call #: *Children's Fiction Cleary*

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Opal is a lonely girl, newly relocated to a small town in Florida by her pastor father. She is in need of a friend. When she befriends a mangy mutt that her father allows her to keep, she discovers that she is not the only person in the town that could use a friend. This book is the perfect multigenerational read aloud **and** it's magic!

Call #: *Children's Fiction DiCamillo*

The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes

Wanda, a strange girl with an odd name is rejected and teased by the other girls in her class. She wears the same faded blue dress to school every day, but tells the girls she has 100 dresses, which causes them to escalate their bullying. But what is the truth - Things are not always what they seem. Written in 1944, The Hundred Dresses has been a popular book since it was published and inspires great discussions about empathy.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Estes*

The Great Brain by John Fitzgerald

John recounts the dilemma of his brother Tom's "great brain." The problem is that Tom doesn't use his great brain to solve things, but to swindle people out of their money. Take a trip back to 1890s Utah and find you how John tries to cure Tom of his money-loving ways.

Call #: *Children's Fiction Fitzgerald*

Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner

Willy and his grandfather have a potato farm. When his grandfather becomes ill, Willy discovers that they might lose the farm due to unpaid taxes. To try to earn money, Willy enters the National Dog Sled Race. An exciting adventure, with a bittersweet conclusion.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Gardiner*

Book Uncle and Me by Una Krishnaswami

Book-lover Yasmin makes the plan to read a book a day for the rest of her life. So, every day she stops by Book Uncle's stall, a free lending library, and chooses her next book. When the town Council notifies Book Uncle that he must close his stall until he pays for a permit, Yasmin takes a lesson from a book she read, and decides to fight for the book stall.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Krishnaswami*

The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket

The Bad Beginning is the first book in the *Series of Unfortunate Events* series. The Baudelaire children find out their parents have "perished in a fire" and are being sent to their nearest relative, the scheming Count Olaf, who is interested only in their sizable inheritance. A clever book with one of the most intrusive and funny narrators in children's literature.

Call #: *Children's Fiction Snicket*



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

Charlotte's Web is one of the most well-crafted and beautifully written children's books. Emotional, yet not sentimental this book is a classic for all the right reasons. A little girl, Pearl, saves Wilbur, the runt of the litter, from being killed, but it is Charlotte, Wilbur's spider friend who teaches him about life's purpose.

Call #: Children's Fiction White

