

## **Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 1**

This 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.

Starting on Monday, June 17, you can stop by the Youth Desk at Beebe Library and sign up for Summer at the Library 2024. It's FREE to sign up and to participate in all of the summer programs and activities at the library. To learn more, you can inquire at the Youth Desk or visit [www.wakefieldlibrary.org/satl-kids-2024/](http://www.wakefieldlibrary.org/satl-kids-2024/). Want to get involved? Just visit the Youth Desk and tell a librarian you want to be a part of Summer at the Library!

Happy reading! Your friends in the Youth Room,  
*Casey, Annie, Ariel, Heidi, & Holly*

### **Picture Books**

#### ***The Ocean Gardener* by Clara Anganuzzi**

Ayla lives on a beautiful tropical island surrounded by a coral reef. One day, Ayla notices that many of the fish have disappeared, and the once-vibrant corals have turned pale. She and her mom set out to save the corals--but is it too late?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book An*

#### ***Wonder Walkers* by Micha Archer**

*Is the sun the world's light bulb? Is dirt the world's skin?* When two curious kids embark on a "wonder walk," they let their imaginations soar as they look at the world in a whole new light.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ar*

#### ***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 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*

#### ***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*



***Song in the City* by Daniel Bernstrom**

A young blind girl, filled with the sounds of her beloved city, shares a song with her grandmother that changes the two forever. After helping Grandma realize that the city makes music as beautiful as the sounds they hear in church on Sunday morning, the two sit down and take in all the sounds of the city...together.

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*

***How to Bake a Universe* by Alec Carvlin**

Both scientifically accurate and also completely silly, this is a full recipe for making your own universe. Just set your oven to Absolute Hot and get started!

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ca*

***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*

***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*

***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*

***No Cats in the Library* by Lauren Emmons**

Clarisse is a clever cat who loves books. There's just one problem: NO CATS are allowed in the library! That's not going to stop clever Clarisse, though.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Em*

***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*



***From Here to There: A First Book of Maps* by Vivian French**

From routes to scale, symbols, and points of view, join Anna and her dad as they explore the wonderful world of maps!

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Fr*

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

Lucía loves playing superhero on the playground, but the boys 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*

***American Desi* by Jyoti Rajan Gopal**

A young girl longs to know where she fits in: Is she American? Or is she Indian? Can she be both? *American Desi* celebrates the experiences of young children growing up first and second generation Indian American.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Go*

***Pretty Perfect Kitty-Corn* by Shannon Hale**

Unicorn is perfect – everybody thinks so! Unicorn is especially eager for Kitty to see the perfection, but what happens when Unicorn makes a big fumble? Will Kitty even want to be his friend anymore?

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ha*

***My Block Looks Like* by written by Janelle Harper**

A lyrical and proud picture book that recognizes the beauty of the bodegas, subways, and playgrounds that characterize everyday life in the Bronx and pays homage to the ways that its residents have shaped pop culture through music, visual art, and dance.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ha*

***The Teeny-Weeny Unicorn* by Shawn Harris**

The teeny-weeny unicorn feels like the world is not made for his small stature and one day it bothers him so much he runs off, but soon after meeting a salty gnome he starts to wonder if he might just be the right size after all.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ha*

***Your Voice, your Vote* by Leah Henderson**

It's Election Day, and Quetta, her mother, and her grandmother embark on their journey to cast their vote. Quetta comes to discover the power of raising her voice.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book He*

***Like You, Like Me* by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw**

Pen pals Tulsi and Vanessa discover that even though life in their countries--Tanzania and America--is very different, they still have a lot in common.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ko*



***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. 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: a story about a simple act of kindness* 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*

***Summer is for Cousins* by Rajani LaRocca**

Ravi can't wait to spend summer vacation at the lake house with his family—especially his cousins! Ravi and his oldest cousin, Dhruv, had the same favorite ice cream flavor last year, but everything feels different now. Ravi's worried that Dhruv won't be interested in spending time with him.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book La*

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

For Mason's birthday, he's having a sleepover and scavenger hunt at the Museum of Natural History! 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...

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Le*

***Time to Make Art* by Jeff Mack**

When a little girl asks meaningful questions about creating art, her questions are answered by a diverse group of artists throughout time and history.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Ma*



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

Alma Sofía 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*

***A New Day* by Brad Meltzer**

When Sunday quits suddenly, the other days of the week need to come up with a replacement – quick! Pieday! Superheroday! But is there anyone who can take the place of Sunday?

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Me*

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

Omu is cooking up a stew that will be the best she's ever had. 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*

***The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family* by Ibtihaj Muhammad**

Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab – a hijab of beautiful blue fabric, like the ocean waving to the sky. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful, and in the face of hurtful words, Faizah will find new ways to be strong.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Mu*

***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.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Ny*

***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*

***All Are Neighbors* by Alexandra Penfold**

Moving to a new place can be hard, but when your neighbors welcome you with open arms, there are *so* many things to discover and celebrate.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book 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. Birdley to her natural habitat after she escaped to the grocery store.

*Call #: Children's Picture Book Re*



***A Place for Rain* by Michelle Schaub**

This engaging and educational picture book about protecting our waterways follows a classroom as they build a rain garden, empowering readers with the tools to reduce pollution, diminish flooding and create a habitat for wildlife.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Sc*

***Listen* by Gabi Snyder**

Illustrations and easy-to-read text urge the reader to go beyond the noise of the city to listen to a crow's caw, rain dripping onto a sidewalk, and whispered goodnights.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Sn*

***The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires**

A little girl has a wonderful idea. She is going to make the most MAGNIFICENT thing! She knows just how it will look. She knows just how it will work. All she has to do is make it, and she makes things all the time. Easy-peasy! But making her magnificent thing is anything but easy...

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Sp*

***The Blue Pickup* by Natasha Tripplett**

Ju-Girl's favorite days are the ones spent with Granddad in his garage, fixing cars and hearing stories about his old blue pickup. The pair soon finds out just what it takes to restore the memory of the blue pickup and to create new stories along the way.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Tr*

***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*

***Luli and the Language of Tea* by Andrea Wang**

When five-year-old Luli joins her new English as a Second Language class, the playroom is quiet. Luli can't speak English, neither can anyone else. That's when she has a brilliant idea to host a tea party and bring them all together.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Wa*

***What Rosa Brought* by Jacob Sager Weinstein**

When the Nazis arrive, everything changes. Soon, some Jews decide to leave the country, and Rosa wants to go, too. But where would they go? And what would Rosa be able to bring with her?

Call #: *Children's Picture Book We*

***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

### ***Mae Among the Stars* by Roda Ahmed**

Inspired by the true-life story of Mae Jemison, the first Black woman to go to space, this is a sweet story about following your dreams!

Call #: *Children's Biography Jemison*

### ***The Story of Climate Change: A First Book About How We Can Help Save Our Planet* by Catherine Barr**

Follow the story of Earth's changing climate from the beginning to now, and see how humans are doing their part to both hurt and help the environment.

Call #: *Children's 363.73 Barr*

### ***Blastoff! Readers* series by various authors**

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 (look for the rocket on the spine!)*

### ***Bullfrog Books* series by various authors**

Beautiful nonfiction for emerging readers. 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 (look for the bullfrog on the spine!)*

### ***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*

### ***Curious Critters* by David FitzSimmons**

Detailed photographs accompany little vignettes told from the perspective of curious critters that live in our world.

Call #: *Children's 591.97 FitzSimmons*

### ***Shaped by Her Hands: Potter Maria Martinez* by Anna Harber Freeman & Barbara Gonzales**

Maria started as a girl who wanted to learn to make clay pots from her aunt. She grew into the most famous Native American Indian potter, known for her shiny, black works of art.

Call #: *Children's Biography Martinez*

### ***Thank a Farmer* by Maria Gianferrari**

Bread, milk, wool, fruits, and things that fill our day to day lives. But where, and who, do they come from? Thank a Farmer traces the food and clothing that a family uses back to the people who harvested and created them.

Call #: *Children's 630 Gianferrari*



***The Shark Book* by Steve Jenkins**

Ever wonder which shark is the smallest? Or the fastest? Even the most deadly? Learn what makes a shark a shark, what sharks like to eat, and how these predators of the deep have evolved.

Call #: *Children's 597.3 Jenkins*

***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*

***The Book of Blast Off! : 15 Real-Life Space Missions* by Timothy Knapman**

Simple rhyming text and engaging illustrations introduce children to the space crafts and missions that changed the way we understand the universe.

Call #: *Children's 629.4 Knapman*

***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*

***Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner**

A young girl and her Nana tend the vegetables and flowers up in the garden, while the worms, bugs, and animals play down in the dirt.

Call #: *Children's 635 Messner*

***We Are Still Here!: Native American Truths Everyone Should Know* by Traci Sorell**

Twelve Native American kids present historical and contemporary laws, policies, struggles, and victories in Native life, each with a powerful refrain: We are still here!

Call #: *Children's 970.1 Sorell*

***The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps* by Jeannette Winter**

Follow Jane Goodall's life with the chimpanzees in Africa as she earns their trust, becomes their friend, and works to save their habitat and their lives.

Call #: *Children's Biography Goodall*

***Who Would Win? Series* by Jerry Pallotta**

Which dangerous animals would win in a fight? Find out in this awesome series. The collection features a range of mammals, sea creatures, insects, and dinosaurs for all kinds of animal fans.

Call #: *Children's 590 Pallotta*





## 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*

### **Flip-a-Word series by various authors**

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*

### **Splat the Cat series by Rob Scotton**

When it comes to story time, the lovable Splat is a real top cat!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Scotton*

### **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*



## Chapter Books (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*

### ***Press Start!* series by Thomas Flintham**

Uh-oh, Animal Town is in trouble! Meanie King Viking has created a dreaded robot army. There is only one person who can save the day: Super Rabbit Boy! What will happen when Sunny, the boy playing the game, loses each level? Will it be game over for Super Rabbit Boy?

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Flintham*

### ***Diary of a Pug* series by Kyla May**

Baron von Bubbles, a.k.a. "Bub," is the self-proclaimed cutest pug on the planet! Things he loves: fashion, peanut butter, and his human, Bella. Things he does NOT love: Nutz the squirrel, baths, and the rain.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter May*

### ***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*

## Graphic Novels (Perfect for family read-alouds!)

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

In this 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 Clanton*

### ***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 Kochalka*

### ***Pizza and Taco* series by Stephen Shaskan**

A hilarious series about Pizza and Taco. Two best friends, lots of toppings... but only one of them can be the BEST, right? Fans of Narwhal and Jelly will eat this book up... and be hungry for more!

Call #: *Children's Comics Shaskan*

