

Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 2

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/. 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

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*

Mister Shivers series by Max Brallier

Get ready for the shivers when you read this series of spooky short stories. Each book in the series has five short stories with a surprising twist!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Brallier*

Bumble and Bee series by Ross Burac

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*

King and Kayla series by Dori Hillestad Butler

King is a cute dog and Kayla is his favorite human. Together they form a team of detectives that solve mysteries for Kayla's friends and family.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Butler*

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*



Desmond Cole: Ghost Patrol series by Andres Miedoso

Desmond Cole is a fearless ghost hunter, always on the lookout for ghosts, monsters who, along with his best friend Andres, is willing to tackle even the toughest case.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Miedoso

Magic Tree House series 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

A-Z Mystery series by Ron Roy

Dink, Josh and Ruth Rose are three very smart and determined kids who solve crimes and mysteries. Their cases will challenge you as they start with The Absent Author and work their way through The Call

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Roy

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 Reader 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 Reader 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 is the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Call #: Children's First Reader Hillert



Geeger the Robot series by Jarrett Lerner

Geeger the Robot is starting school - not robot school, but normal school with normal human kids. Geeger has never been around humans so he makes some zany mistakes trying to fit in with his new friends.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Lerner

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 Reader Acorn bin

Friendship Stories

Monkey and Cake series by Walt Daywalt

Monkey is a monkey and cake is, well - a piece of cake! Cake has lots of questions and Monkey is good at finding answers. Most of all, no matter what, they are best friends.

Call #: Children's First Reader Daywalt

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

Thunder and Cluck series by Jill Esbaum

Thunder is big and Cluck is small. They are both dinosaurs and they both have BIG personalities. Can they become friend? A funny series about making friends and how opposites can become best friends.

Call# Children's First Reader Esbaum



Pepper and Boo series by Charise Mericle Harper

Pepper and Boo are both dogs who have a suspicious housemate - Cat. Pepper and Boo love to have fun and so does Cat. But, Cat's kind of fun is different from Pepper and Boo's!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Harper*

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*

The Pet Club series, by Gwendolyn Hooks

It's fun to have a group of friends, especially when you all like the same kind of things. Lucy, Jake, Kalya and Andy are best friends and what they love are animals, especially their pets. Together, they make up the Pet Club.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Hooks*

Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker series by Shelley Johannes

Beatrice Zinker is a thinker and she does her best thinking when upside down - hanging from a tree, doing handstands or anything upside down. She has a best friend, Lenny, that shares her love of coming up with new ideas.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Johannes*

Every Day With April & Mae series by Megan Dowd Lambert

April and Mae are very best friends and they celebrate their friendship every day. There is one book for each day of the week. Join them as they have a sleepover, a friendship movie night, go to the animal shelter and celebrate the joys and compromises of friendship.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Lambert*

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*

Owl and Penguin series by Vikram Madan

Owl loves the peace and quiet and Penguin loves to sing – real LOUD. Two best friends that have fun and funny adventures.

Call#: *Children's First Readers Madan*

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*

Really Bird series by Harriet Ziefert

Really Bird is never happy or scared or thirsty, but REALLY happy or REALLY scared or REALLY thirsty! His two best friends try to be fair, but Really Bird feels so strongly that they always get the best or always go first. Can they work it out?

Call#: *Children's First Reader Ziefert*



Funny Stories

Inspector Flytrap series by Tom Angleberger

Inspector Flytrap is actually a Venus Flytrap with a skill for detection. His assistant, Nina the Goat, is a goat who can't stop trying to eat the clues. Together they are an unstoppable team who break codes, find clues and solve tricky mysteries.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Angleberger

Roscoe Riley Rules series by Katherine Applegate

Roscoe Riley understands that there need to be rules, but he just can't stop himself from breaking them to hilarious effect!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Applegate

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

Mercy Watson series by Kate DiCamillo

Mercy Watson is a pig, but 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

Chicken in Charge series by Adam Lerhaupt

The farmer is away and Zoey the Chicken decides she knows everything so she should be in charge! First off, she will help the baby lambs get to sleep - they need baths and lots of bedtime stories - right?

Call #: Children's First Reader Lerhaupt

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 Reader 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 Reader 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 Reader Willems



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 Arnold*

***Narwhal and Jelly* series by Ben Clanton**

A wonderfully silly graphic novel series about two best friends who, while they are different, both love waffles, parties, adventures, and most of all- each other.

Call #: *Children's Comics Clanton*

***Blue, Barry & Pancakes* series by Dan and Jason**

Three very best friends, a bunny, a frog and a worm have adventures and comical mishaps as they try to understand and work with their very different personalities.

Call #: *Children's Comics Abdo*

***Kraken Me Up* by Jeffrey Ebbler**

It's time for the County Fair and all the kids are entering their favorite pet. There are lots of chickens and pigs. Izzy is excited to show off her pet - a Kraken! No one has ever seen a huge sea monster from the legend before and are terrified. But they don't understand - Kraken is sweet and shy - like Izzy. How can they make everyone understand?

Call #: *Children's Comics Ebbler*

***Kondo and Kezumi* series by David Goodner**

Kondo is big and Kezumi is small. Kondo likes to stay home and Kezumi longs for adventure. They are happy on their island until a bottle washes up on shore with a map and a message - "WE ARE NOT ALONE!" Kezumi wants to follow the map, Kondo wants to stay home and pick fruit. What should they do?

Call #: *Children's Comics Goodner*

***Archie and Reddie* series by Candy James**

Fans of Elephant and Piggie will love Archie and Reddie, two very best fox friends that always seem to find themselves in the middle of a crazy mystery, competition, conundrum, or discovery!

Call #: *Children's Comics James*

***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*

***Johnny Boo* series by James Kochalka**

Johnny Boo is the best little ghost in the world. He has Boo Power - a very loud boo! His pet Squiggle (also a ghost) has Squiggle Power and can fly really fast and do amazing loops! Together they go on the very best ghost adventures in the world!

Call #: *Children's Comics Kochalka*



Pea, Bee and Jay series by Brian “Smitty” Smith

When Pea (who is a pea) gets lost, he meets Bee (a honey bee) and Jay (a blue jay) who agree to help him find home. He not only finds his way home, but two friends to share adventures.

Call #: *Children’s Comics Smith*

Agent Moose series by Mo O’Hara

Agent Moose is the best (or is it really, the worst) secret agent in the forest. Fortunately, his sidekick, Owlfred, is a little bit more intelligent and savvy! Together they make a great team to solve all the mysterious happenings in the forest.

Call #: *Children’s Comics O’Hara*

Baloney and Friends series by Greg Pizzoli

Baloney, the pig, has three special friends - kind Peanut the horse, practical Bizz the bee, and Krabbit a grumpy rabbit who doesn’t really want to be with them. Each graphic novel has three funny short stories about the friends’ adventures. Also, learn to draw them at the end of each book.

Call #: *Children’s Comics Pizzoli*

Sprinkles and Swirls series by Lola M. Schaefer

A delicious duo of cupcakes, Sprinkles and Swirls, are always leaping into daring fun. Follow their adventures and, also, find out how to read a graphic novel!

Call # *Children’s First Reader Schaefer*

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*

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’s Early Chapter Anderson*

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*

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*



Katie Woo series by Fran Manuskin

Katie is a girl who has lots of big ideas. For her, every day is a grand adventure. She loves her two best friends JoJo and Pedro. They do everything together from losing teeth at the same time to hunting for ghosts.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Manuskin*

Life of Ty series by Lauren Myracle

Second grader Ty is a big-hearted, sweet and wacky boy with lots of thoughts. He always seems to be in the middle of a new scheme to help out his friends, but quite often his method is wild and crazy!

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Myracle*

Emma Everyday series by C.L. Reid

For Emma, every day is the opportunity to try something new and have fun! She looks forward to things like riding her bike, playing with her goldfish, writing new ideas, and eating tacos, her favorite food. She is a positive and determined girl who is also deaf. Each book includes the American Sign Language fingerspelling chart and opportunities to learn ASL while reading.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Reid*

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 Reader Rylant*

Nonfiction

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 – On top of the shelf*

Dactyls! Dragons of the Air by Dr. Robert T. Bakker

Paleontologist Dr. Robert T. Bakker will share with you how scientists studied modern day animals to learn how dactyls flew, lived, ate, and thought, and his discovery of a very unusual dactyl he called SnaggleTooth.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 567.9 Bakker*

Dealing with Feelings series by Courtney Carbone

Using a relatable story each story in the series explores a strong feeling. So far the series deals with the feelings of jealousy, sadness, silliness, anger, fear, and happiness.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 152.4 Carbone*

Glowing Animals by Rose Davidson

On land and in the water be on the lookout for animals that glow in the dark. Check out the wild colors and shapes, and find out why and how they developed this survival skill!

Call#: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 572.435 Davidson*



Wild Kratts series by Chris and Martin Kratt

The Kratt Brothers are fun on television, but they are even more fun in this informational series about all kinds of wild creatures!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Kratt*

Pirate Attack! by Deborah Lock

Ahoy Me Hearties! Come aboard a pirate ship and find out if the pirates' life is for you!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 910.45 Lock*

I Am series by Brad Meltzer

Brad Meltzer's *I Am* series is the perfect biography for new readers. It has beautiful illustrations, puts the subject's life in perspective and has amazing information. There are presidents, scientists, humanitarians, prominent historical figures and more - all fascinating and clear.

Call #: *Children's Biographies Various*

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 #: *Children's Nonfiction 590 Pallota*

Truth or Lie: Dinosaur by Erica S. Perl

Find out how much you know about dinosaurs by guessing whether some facts are true or false. Don't worry, you will find out the truth!

Call #: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 567.91 Perl*

Koko's Kitten by Dr. Francine Patterson

Koko is a gorilla who has been part of an experiment by Dr. Francine Patterson to learn to communicate using sign language. One day Koko surprised Francine by signing that she wanted a kitten. But what kind of kitten do you get for a gorilla?

Call #: *Children's Nonfiction 599.884 Patterson*

Adorable Animals by Mary Quattlebaum

Get ready to smile at the cute pictures of totally adorable animals! You'll learn some great info, and again, you'll look at adorable animals.

Call #: *Children's First Reader Nonfiction 591.6 Quattlebaum*

Backpack Explorers series by Kathleen Yale

The *Backpack Explorers* series encourages kids to step outside and use their curiosity to learn about the world beyond their front door. Each is an activity book to take along and read while exploring. There are five titles: *Discovering Trees*, *Bug Hunt*, *Beach Walk*, *Bird Watch*, and *On the Nature Trail*.

Call #: *Children's Nonfiction Yale*

National Geographic Little Kids' First Big Book of series by Various Authors

National Geographic is known for its gorgeous photography and clear scientific writing. This series for kids K-3 doesn't disappoint! It has great information and pictures, plus experiments, games and activities. It encourages the scientist inside all of us! Some topics are Space, Bugs, Birds, Dinosaurs, Animals, Rocks and Minerals, Things that Go, Why, Where, How, plus more.

Call #: *Children's Nonfiction Various*



Books For Two Readers (Collection is on top of the Nonfiction Readers)

***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 Book 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 First Reader 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 First Reader Nonfiction*

Picture Book Read Alouds

***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*

***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 wonderful illustrations.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Colon*

***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 Fleischman*

***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 Pett*



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 Phi*

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 Pinkney*

Thank You, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco

Patricia has a secret. She has been able to keep it hidden for many years at school. It was not until a perceptive and kind teacher knew her problem and helped her with her struggle to read. A wonderful autobiographical picture book that is affirming for kids who struggle with reading and for others to understand.

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Polacco*

Favorite Daughter by Allen Say

Dedicated to Say's own daughter, *Favorite Daughter* is an ode to learning pride in one's heritage and finding inspiration in one's passion.

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Say*

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka

I'll bet you think you know the story of The Three Little Pigs! Well, think again! You will not know the real truth until you read this book!

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Scieszka*

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 Shea*

Dr. DeSoto by William Steig

Dr. DeSoto's most important rule is that he will not treat dangerous animals. He is after all a mouse dentist. When a fox with a terrible toothache begs him to relieve the pain, Dr. DeSoto and his wife decide to take pity on the creature and agree to help him. How could the kind-hearted dentist do otherwise? But, what will happen after the treatment is complete?

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Steig*

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 Book Thomkins-Bigelow*

Many Moons by James Thurber

A classic, loved by kids since 1943. A young Princess is ill and insists that she will not be well again unless her Father, the King, brings her the moon. Her Father calls upon his wisest Wise Men, but they only tell him why his order is impossible. Will anyone be able to give the moon to Princess Leonore?

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Thurber*



The Sweetest Fig by Chris Van Allsburg

Bibot, an unpleasant French dentist, with an even unhappier dog, reluctantly takes two figs from an old woman in exchange for dental services. The woman tells him the figs will make his dreams come true. But, what **are** his dreams? The wickedly clever ending will reveal all!

Call #: *Children's Illustrated Fiction Van Allsburg*

Because by Mo Willems

A random series of events leads a girl to find, and accomplish, her dream. This inspirational story challenges children to dream.

Call #: *Children's Picture Book Willems*

The Watcher by Jeanette Winter

Jeanette Winter, one of the best writers of children's biographies, has created a beautiful and compelling look at the life and importance of Jane Goodall. Animal lovers will love this true look at a woman who devotes her life to understanding and protecting wild chimpanzees.

Call #: *Children's Biography Goodall*

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*

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*

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

Book Uncle and Me by Uma Krishnaswami

Yasmin loves books and has plans to read one every day. She gets her books from Book Uncle, a retired teacher, who has a free lending library on the corner. Yasmin stops each day to get the next perfect book. When her town's mayor wants to shut down Book Uncle's rickety stand, Yasmin realizes she has to help keep the bookstand open for all the kids. She may not be old enough to vote, but she has friends and family to support Book Uncle. An excellent book filled with humor and dedication about community activism, friendship, and the love of reading.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Krishnaswami

Frog and Toad Are Friends series by Arnold Lobel

Frog and Toad are very best friends. From writing each other letters, looking for lost buttons, swimming in the pond, or just enjoying spending time together, the adventures of these two friends are a joy to read. This series is an early reader that could be read by children entering second grade, but sharing the friendship as a family is a gift.

Call #: Children's First Reader Lobel

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. This series is an early reader, but all members of the family will enjoy sharing (and laugh) at the predicaments Mr. Putter and Tabby find themselves in.

Call #: Children's First Reader Rylant

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 piglet 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

