

2024 Suggested Reading for Students Entering Grade 3

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 Tuesday, 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

Kid Spy series by Mac Barnett

A thrilling, hilarious, fast-paced spy series that offers adventure, intrigue, history and humor. Experience what it's really like to be a kid spy!

Call #: Children's Fiction Barnett

Bad Guys series by Aaron Blabey

They sound like bad guys, they look like bad guys, and they even smell like bad guys, but they are about to change all that. Meet Mr. Wolf, Mr. Piranha, Mr. Snake, and Mr. Shark as they embark on a series of daring adventures.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Blabey

Zeus the Mighty series by Crispin Boyer

Greek mythology meets cute talking animals in this hilarious fiction series, starring Zeus the mighty, king of the gods, ruler of minions, along with the crazy critters of the Mount Olympus Pet Center.

Call #: Children's Fiction Boyer

Heroes in Training series by Joan Holub

After pulling a magical thunderbolt from a stone, ten-year-old Zeus goes on the adventure of a lifetime in this funny and thrilling mythology series, as a group of young Olympians discover their powers and prepare to rule the universe.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Holub

Definitely Dominguita series by Terry Catasus Jennings

A new chapter book series featuring a young girl who tries to find adventure based on classic stories she read with her abuela.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Jennings

Ms. Frogbottom's Field Trips series by Nancy Krulik

Ms. Frogbottom possesses a magical map that transports her class to different places around the world for field trips that no one will ever forget.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Krulik



Girls Survive series by Various Authors

The *Girls Survive* books are historical adventure stories of young girls fighting for survival. Fans of the *I Survived* series will enjoy.

Call#: *Children's Fiction Girls*

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Fabled Stables series by Jonathan Auxier

A magical building filled with one-of-a-kind creatures is taken care of by Auggie, the only human boy at the Stables. When the building SHAKES and SHUDDERS, TWITCHES and SPUTTERS—it's making room for a new arrival! It's Auggie's job to venture out and rescue a new creature from mortal danger.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Auxier*

Enormous Egg by Oliver Butterworth

One morning Nate looked in the henhouse and saw the biggest egg he'd ever seen. Six weeks later, no one--not the townspeople, the scientific world, the senators from Washington-- was prepared for what hatched.

Call#: *Children's Fiction Butterworth*

Lily to the Rescue series by W. Bruce Cameron

This chapter book series features the dog Lily, rescued by her human, Maggie Rose. Now Lily has a very important purpose: to rescue other animals in trouble.

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter Cameron*

The Wish Library series by Christine Evans

This delightful series weaves together kids' everyday lives with the possibility of endless wishes, and layers the stories with great lessons about communication, friendship, consequences, and more. Raven and Luca have relatable struggles, and readers have likely wished for similar things at school and with their own friends.

Call#: *Children's Early Chapter Evans*

Two Dogs in a Trench Coat series by Julie Falatko

Sassy and Waldo are good dogs. They spend their day keeping their house safe. Every day their boy, Stewart, comes home from this terrible place called school. They want to help Stewart. So, the dogs get creative. They put on an old trench coat and hilarious adventures begin!

Call #: *Early Chapter Falatkio*

Once Upon a Tim by Stuart Gibbs

Tim is just a peasant, but he dreams big. He wants more out of life than growing up to be a woodsman like his father. Unfortunately, the only route to success in the kingdom of Wyld is to be born a prince. Still, Tim is determined. He is brave and clever and always tries to do the right thing—even though he rarely gets the credit for it.

Call #: *Children's Fiction Gibbs*



Princess Pulverizer series by Nancy Krulik

A princess who would rather be a knight accepts her skeptical father's challenge to perform good deeds in order to prove her worthiness to attend knight school.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Krulik

Wind Riders series by Jen Marlin

Hop aboard Wind Rider, a magical sailboat, with Max and Sofia, two kids trying to save the environment one problem at a time.

Call#: Children's Early Chapter Marlin

Upside Down Magic series by Sarah Mlynowski

With their magic being unpredictable, Nory, Elliott, Andres, and Bax are sent to the upside-down magic room at Dunwiddle Magic School.

Call #: Children's Fiction Mlynowski

My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish by Mo O'Hara

When Tom's big brother decides to become an Evil Scientist, his first experiment involves dunking Frankie the goldfish into toxic green gunk.

Call #: Children's Fiction O'Hara

Dog Diaries series by James Patterson

Dog Diaries is a laugh out loud illustrated series told from a dog's perspective that is perfect for newly independent readers.

Call#: Children's Fiction Patterson

Sea Keepers series by Coral Ripley

Emily, Grace, and Layla are chosen to become guardians of the underwater world. When they rescue a dolphin from a fishing net, they get swept away on a magical mermaid adventure where they meet an evil mermaid.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Ripley

The Boy Who Grew Dragons series by Andy Shepherd

Thomas discovers a strange old tree in his Grandad's garden which bears dragon fruit. To his astonishment, out pops a tiny dragon from the fruit with many others who hatch from the same tree. What will he do?

Call #: Children's Fiction Shepherd

The Lost Library by Rebecca Stead

When a mysterious little free library (guarded by a large orange cat) appears overnight in the small town of Martinville, eleven-year-old Evan plucks two weathered books from its shelves, never suspecting that his life is about to change.

Call #: Children's Fiction Stead

Kit the Wizard series by Louie Stowell

A funny, fast-paced fantasy adventure series starring a reluctant reader-turned-wizard who finds power in books and saves the library and the world!

Call #: Children's Fiction Stowell



Mia Mayhem series by Kara West

Mia Macaroonery is a regular eight-year-old girl who finds out that she's A SUPERHERO! Her life literally goes from totally ordinary to totally *super* when she's invited to attend the after school program for In-Training Superheroes a.k.a. THE PITS!

Call #: *Children's Early Chapter West*

Graphic Novels

Catwad series by Jim Benton

He's blue, a bit of a grouch, and his best friend is a happy-go-lucky cat named Blurmp. This furball has a funny take on just about everything, and he's not afraid to share it.

Call #: *Children's Comics Benton*

Arcade World series by Nate Bitt

Life in Normal used to be, well, pretty normal. Many of the kids would meet up at the local arcade to hang out. Arcade World was the weirdest, coolest place. It had a collection of video games that no one had ever heard of before. But one day, the video games in Arcade World came alive.

Call #: *Children's Comics Bitt*

CatStronauts series by Drew Brockington

Alerted to a global energy crisis, the President consults with the World's Best Scientist, who suggests sending a special group of astronauts to turn the Moon into a solar power plant.

Call #: *Children's Comics Brockington*

Kitty Quest by Phil Corbett

"Dog Man meets Lord of the Rings" in this funny graphic novel debut about two aspiring adventurers who face off against startling ghosts, rampaging monsters, and bumbling wizards.

Call #: *Children's Comics Corbett*

Flying Beaver Brothers series by Maxwell Eaton

Ace and Bub's plans for a quiet vacation are put on hold when they are stranded on an island where their nemesis, Walter, has stirred up trouble between the birds and the rabbits.

Call #: *Children's Comics Eaton*

Max Meow series by John Gallagher

After taking a bite of a radioactive space meatball, Max, a regular cat, gains superpowers and begins to fight crime.

Call #: *Children's Comics Gallagher*

Kitten Construction Company series by John Patrick Green

Fed up with not being taken seriously as an architect, Marmalade bands together with a group of other kitten builders to prove their worth.

Call #: *Children's Comics Green*



The InvestiGators series by John Patrick Green

With their Very Exciting Spy Technology and their tried-and-true, toilet-based travel techniques, the InvestiGators are undercover and on the case!

Call #: Children's Comics Green

Surviving the Wild series by Remy Lai

Planet Earth meets Narwhal and Jelly in this funny and suspenseful early reader graphic novel series featuring heroic animals surviving in the perilous wilderness! Inspired by true events, the story includes facts about climate change, sharks, and how kids can help protect the environment.

Call#: Children's Comics Lai

Real Pigeons series by Andrew McDonald

Did you know your town is protected by a secret squad of crime-fighting feathered friends? These comical birds solve mysteries, fight bad guys and won't stop until your neighborhood is safe.

Call #: Children's Comics McDonald

Max and the Midnight series by Lincoln Pierce

Max and a group of friends dubbed the Midnighters go on a quest to rescue a kingdom from the mean King Gastley. Magic and misadventures follow the group in this funny illustrated novel by the author of Big Nate.

Call #: Children's Comics Pierce

Agent Moose series by Mo O'Hara

Agent Moose, the best (worst) secret agent in the Big Forest, and his slightly-more-intelligent sidekick Owlfred are on the case in this funny graphic novel series.

Call#: Children's Comics O'Hara

Dog Man series by Dav Pilkey

When Greg the police dog and his cop companion are injured on the job, a life-saving surgery changes the course of history, and Dog Man is born.

Call #: Children's Comics Pilkey

Pea, Bee, & Jay series by Brian Smith

Get ready to roll with Pea, Bee, & Jay in this funny graphic novel series. It's perfect for emerging readers and comic lovers alike! Like all peas, Pea loves to roll. So, when a no-good strawberry dares him to roll all the way off the farm, he swears he can do it—"eazy me-zee."

Call#: Children's Comic Smith

Mr. Wolf's Class series by Aron Nels Steinke

Mr. Wolf has just started teaching at Hazelwood Elementary. He wants the first day of school to go well, but he's got his hands full with his new fourth grade class.

Call#: Children's Comics Steinke

Secret Coders series by Gene Yang

Welcome to Stately Academy, a school which is just crawling with mysteries to be solved! The founder of the school left many clues and puzzles to challenge his enterprising students.

Call #: Children's Comics Yang



Mystery

The Stolen Sapphire: A Samantha Mystery by American Girl

This installment of the American Girl Mystery series has Samantha investigating when a valuable jewel is stolen during an ocean liner trip to Europe.

Call #: Children's Fiction American

Inspector Flytrap series by Tom Angleberger

Welcome to Inspector Flytrap's Detective Agency, home of the world-renowned solver of BIG DEAL mysteries. Inspector Flytrap, a Venus flytrap, works tirelessly with his assistant, Nina the Goat, on his community's unsolved cases.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Angleberger

The Best of Iggy by Annie Barrows

It seemed like a good idea at the time except for that one time when the Best Idea Ever turned into the Worst Idea of All Time.

Call #: Children's Fiction Barrows

Clubhouse Mysteries series by Sharon Draper

Four friends create the "Clubhouse" where they solve a series of mysteries. They encounter the Underground Railroad, attend Space Camp, help a Wildlife Rescue Center, and enter a talent show.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Draper

Pup Detectives series by Felix Gumpaw

The Pup Detectives of Pawston Elementary join forces to solve the crimes happening all around them.

Call #: Children's Comics Gumpaw

Spy Penguins series by Sam Hay

Adventure-loving penguin Jackson dreams of being a secret agent like his Uncle Bryn, who works for the Frosty Bureau of Investigation. Jackson and his gadget-inventing best friend Quigley might officially be too young to join the FBI, but they aren't going to let that stop them! They just need to come up with the right plan to prove that they are worthy.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Hay

Key Hunters series by Eric Luper

Getting lost in a good book has never been this dangerous! Cleo and Evan have a secret. A collection of books so dangerous that they are locked up tight. A friend has vanished inside the pages of one of them. It's up to them to find the key that will set her free.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Luper

Timmy Failure series by Stephan Pastis

Meet Timmy Failure, founder, president, and CEO of the best detective agency in town, and his lazy sidekick, Total, a 1,500-pound polar bear.

Call #: Children's Fiction Pastis



***Boxcar Children* series by Gertrude Chandler Warner**

One warm night, four children stood in front of a bakery. No one knew them. No one knew where they had come from. Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny are orphans. Can they find a home where they can stay together as a family?

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Warner

Nonfiction

***Animal Rescue* by Aubre Andrus**

Twelve heart-warming true stories about animals that have been rescued from tough situations.

Call #: Children's 636.088 Andrus

***Weird but True* series by Carmen Bredeson**

Wacky facts, fascinating information, and lively art combine to make these books irresistible for young readers.

Call #: Children's 031 National

***Sniffer Dogs: How Dogs Save the World* by Nancy F. Castaldo**

Discover how detection dogs are able to use their noses to find everything from people, to explosives, to whale poop.

Call #: Children's 636.73 Castaldo

***I'm Just No Good at Rhyming* by Chris Harris**

An illustrated collection of comically rhyming poems for mischievous kids and immature grown-ups. Readers of all ages will enjoy these verses ranging in topic from avocados and anacondas to zombies and zebras (dressed like ghosts). Move over Shel Silverstein!

Call #: Children's 811 Harris

***Junior Genius Guides: Maps and Geography* by Ken Jennings**

A book from the Junior Genius Guide series that arranges trivia in chapters that follow a complete school day schedule. There is often a craft project in art class, a recipe at lunch as well as pure reading fun! Other books from this series can be found under the call number for each specific subject.

Call #: Children's 910 Jennings

***If You Had Your Birthday on the Moon* by Joyce Lupin**

What if your birthday lasted 30 days? Find out how candles and balloons would work at a party on the moon, as well as "moon" angels and gravity! Would your cake stay on your plate?

Call #: Children's 523.3 Lupin

***One Plastic Bag* by Miranda Paul**

Plastic bags are cheap and easy to use. But what happens when a bag breaks or is no longer needed? In Njau, Gambia, people simply dropped the bags and went on their way. One plastic bag became two. Then ten. Then a hundred. Then something fabulous!

Call #: Children's Biography Ceessay



***Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein**

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in this classic collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.

Call #: Children's 811 Silverstein

Who Was.../ *Who Is..., *What Was.../ *What Is...and *Where Is... series

History comes alive in these three series about famous people, landmarks, and geography.

Call #: Children's Biography, Children's 900 Was, Children's 910 Where

***Can You Hear the Trees Talking* by Peter Wohlleben**

Did you know that trees have parents and grandparents with wrinkles? That tree kids go to school for hundreds of years? That there is such a thing as the forest internet? The author shares the magic of the forest, asking surprising questions about trees with exciting quizzes, photographs, and hands-on activities.

Call #: 582.16 Wohlleben

Realistic Fiction

***Just Harriet* series by Elana Arnold**

Third Grader Harriet Wermer is unhappy about having to spend her summer with her grandmother on Marble Island until she discovers a mystery involving her dad from when he was a boy living on the island.

Call #: Children's Fiction Arnold

***The Critter Club* series by Callie Barkley**

Read about four best friends who band together to form a rescue shelter to save lost and lonely animals in their town.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Barkley

***Kate the Chemist* series by Kate Biberdorf**

Science explosions, theater, mystery and friendship abound as Kate uses STEM knowledge to do incredible things!

Call #: Children's Fiction Biberdorf

***Ribsy* by Beverly Cleary**

Henry finds an abandoned dog named Ribsy in a shopping center parking lot.

Call #: Children's Fiction Cleary

***J. D. and the Great Barber Battle* series by J. Dillard**

Eight-year-old J.D. turns a tragic home haircut into a thriving barber business and discovers he's a genius with the clippers in this hilarious new illustrated chapter book.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Dillard

***Mallory* series by Laurie Friedman**

Eight-and-a-half-year-old Mallory McDonald always makes the best plans...but they usually don't turn out quite the way she imagined.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Friedman



***Year of Billy Miller* by Kevin Henkes**

Introducing second-grader Billy Miller in this fast-paced and funny story about friendship, sibling rivalry, and elementary school.

Call #: Children's Fiction Henkes

***Maybe, Maybe, Marisol Rainey* series by Erin Kelly**

Marisol has a big imagination and is trying to overcome her fears and anxieties. Maybe she'll climb the huge tree in her yard or get to know her bossy classmate. Or maybe she won't be scared of the dog next door. Marisol's story touches on friendship, bullies, siblings, having a parent who lives away from home, and having a parent from another country.

Call #: Children's Fiction Kelly

***Total Mayhem* series by Ralph Lazar**

A hilarious action comedy chapter book series about Dash Candoo, who must defeat extraordinary foes every school day. There is no such thing as a boring day for Dash Candoo.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Lazar

***Mindy Kim* series by Lyla Lee**

Mindy Kim just wants three things: a puppy, to fit in at her new school and for her dad to be happy again. Bu getting all three of the things on her list is a lot trickier than she thought it would be.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Lee

***Judy Moody* series by Megan McDonald**

Third-grader Judy Moody has a mood to fit every occasion and a face to go with it.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter McDonald

***Planet Omar* series by Zanib Miam**

Imaginative Omar goes through the ups and downs of starting a new school and making new friends with the help of his wonderful (and silly) Muslim family.

Call #: Children's Fiction Miam

***Franklin School Friends* series by Claudia Mills**

The author incorporates realistic school situations with everyday challenges with which kids can identify. Each book is based around a different school topic.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Mills

***Clementine* series by Sara Pennypacker**

Clementine is an ingenious third-grader with a talent for trouble and a good heart.

Call #: Children's Fiction Pennypacker

***Waylon!* series by Sara Pennypacker**

Waylon, a boy with the mind of a scientific genius and the vulnerable heart of an eight year old, is trying to understand his older sister and deal with changes among the kids at school.

Call #: Children's Fiction Pennypacker



Jasmine Green Rescues series by Helen Peters

Jasmine Green loves animals. Her mother is a veterinarian. Her father is a farmer. And her brother and sister are . . . well, they're mostly annoying. But being in the Green family means seeing and taking care of animals all the time.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Peters

Stella Batts series by Courtney Sheimel

Stella Batts is an eight year old who loves to write. She loves to write lists, like her favorite things and kids in her class. And she's even writing her autobiography.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Sheimel

Funny Kid series by Matt Stanton

When eleven-year-old Max Walburt decides to run for class president claiming he is the funniest student, he must survive poop scandals, crazy teachers, and stalker ducks to win the election.

Call #: Children's Fiction Stanton

Classic Starts series by various authors

Young readers can experience the wonder of timeless stories with these abridged editions. Each easy-to-read classic is filled with all the magic and excitement that made the original a beloved favorite. Read the works of Louise May Alcott, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, and more.

Call #: Children's Fiction Alcott / Dickens / Twain / surname of the original author

Trouble at Table 5 series by Tom Watson

A series about three third grade best friends whose plans, missions, and schemes are sure to shake up their school.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Watson

Spooky Stories

Franny K. Stein series by Jim Benton

Franny K. Stein is a mad scientist who prefers all things spooky and creepy, but when she has trouble making friends at her new school, she experiments with fitting in--which works until a monster erupts from the trash can.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Benton

13th Street series by David Bowles

Cousins Malia, Ivan, and Dante are visiting their aunt for the summer. But on their way to the water park, they get lost on 13th Street. Only it's not a street but a very strange world with dangerous beasts.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Bowles

The Haunted Library series by Dori Hillestad Butler

When ghost boy Kaz's haunt is torn down and he is separated from his ghost family, he meets a real girl named Claire, who has a special ability to see ghosts when other humans cannot.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Butler



Spooky Sleuths series by Natasha Dean

Asim's new town is freaking him out! There are weird noises at night, eerie lights, and now an evil tree that is growing way faster than it should. He's sure there's something supernatural going on. Find out...if you dare!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Dean

Bunnacula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery by James Howe

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny is a vampire.

Call #: Children's Fiction Howe

Disaster Strikes series by Marlane Kennedy

Each story features a different disaster, as the heroes learn that when disaster strikes, the only thing you can count on is yourself!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Kennedy

Night Frights series by Joe McGee

Monsters, magic and other strange, curious and quirky things abound in this new suspense series as three members of the Midnight Owl Detective Agency solve cases in the mysterious town of Wolver Hollow.

Call #: Children's Fiction McGee

Junior Monster Scouts series by Joe McGee

Although Wolfy, Franky, and Vampyra are children of classic monsters, all they want to do is help those in need, so they join the Monster Scouts.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter McGee

Scary Tales series by James Preller

After the death of his mother, eight-year-old Liam, his father, and his sister move to a new house for a fresh start, but Liam soon discovers that the house is haunted.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Preller

Sports Stories

MVP (Most Valuable Player) series by David A. Kelley

This sports-themed chapter book series features the coolest club around—the Most Valuable Players! They solve mysteries and compete in athletics while showing real team spirit and never giving up!

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Kelly

Fred Bowen's Sports Stories series by Fred Bowen

Fast-paced action with surprising twists.

Call #: Children's Fiction Bowen

Sports Stories series by Jake Maddox

With an emphasis on speed, skill, and fair play, the boys and girls in these books face obstacles on deck, on the field, on the court and on the ice.

Call #: Children's Early Chapter Maddox

