



Dear Families,

Did you know that many students lose a month or more reading proficiency over the summer? Thankfully, keeping kids engaged with books can stop the summer slide and keep them growing academically.

This summer your child can read books and complete different activities based on their grade level. If students fulfill their summer reading requirements for their grade level, they will earn a casual day when they return to school in the fall. The student with the highest AR points for each grade level will be recognized during Chapel this fall and will also receive an additional casual day.

AR quizzes can not be taken over the summer. However, students may take tests when they return during the first week of school. These points will not count towards their first nine week goal. However, they will count towards the year end total for the 2023-2024 school year.

Attached is your child's grade level optional Summer Reading Challenge. I hope you have a blessed summer and enjoy reading at least 20 minutes each day. I look forward to hearing about what books you read!

Jacquelyn Conover  
Plant St. Principal

# Summer Reading for 2nd Graders

(entering 3rd Grade)

Please Select **ONE** book from the Fiction and Nonfiction category. After reading the selected book complete a 5 Finger Retell for each book. The An example of a completed 5 Finger Retell is attached.



## Nonfiction

### ***Wild tracks! : a guide to nature's footprints*** by Jim Arnosky

A terrific beginning field guide to North American wildlife.

### ***Who was George Washington?*** by Roberta Edwards \*

A biography of the life of the first president of the United States including his childhood in Virginia, his military career, Mount Vernon, the Boston Tea Party, his death, and other related topics. Get a jump on the 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum! The “Who was ...” biography series is popular with students.

### ***Who Would Win?\**** by Jerry Pallotta

This book pits two ocean carnivores against each other. First, you’ll learn facts about a sperm whale, then you’ll learn about the giant squid. Finally, read what happens when these two creatures face-off. Can you predict who will win?

### ***Animal Heroes : True Rescue Stories*** by Sandra Markle

Stories of animals that save human lives, from Roselle the service dog guiding her owner from the burning World Trade Center to dolphins circling around lifeguard trainees to shield them from sharks, these amazing animals protect people in astonishing ways.

### ***Pop!: The Invention of Bubble Gum*** by Meghan McCarthy

Bubbling with humor, this light-hearted tale of an unlikely inventor’s trials and errors on the way to creating a brand new kind of gum will give you plenty to chew over!

### ***The Story of Olympic Swimmer Duke Kahanamoku\**** by Ellie Crowe

Kids will love learning about cool but lesser-known people like Duke, a famous Hawaiian who is known for his dominance of the sport of surfing as well as being an Olympic swimmer. Helpful informational insets give readers background on topics covered in the biography such as how surfboards are made. Love it.

### ***Little Guides to Great Lives: Anne Frank\**** by Isabel Thomas

Anne started a diary that would share how the world was changing with the rise of the Nazis in Europe. In her diary, Anne described her life in hiding which was in the building of her father’s business. She dreamed of becoming a writer after the war but never got the chance.

### ***The Inventors of Lego Toys*** by Erin Hagar

This informational book rocks! It’s well-written, nicely illustrated, and very interesting! Learn the history of Ole Kirk Christiansen and his start as a woodworker. From yo-yos to plastic bricks to LEGO now, this is one of the best nonfiction books I’ve seen. Highly recommended.

### ***From an Idea to Disney How Imagination Built a World of Magic\**** by Lowey Bundy Sichol

I’ve read many other biographies about Walt Disney but this one stands out for its writing, pertinent information, and appeal. It shares about the business that continued on even after Walt’s death and his brother’s death including the merger with Pixar and the successful but controversial CEO, Michael Eisner. Fascinating!

### ***I Wish I Had A Wookiee and Other Poems for Our Galaxy*** by Ian Doescher **Poetry Book**

This playful book of poems will delight Star Wars fans with poems all about kids and their relationship to (and love for) Star Wars. I honestly adore these poems — and there are SO many to read. For example, “Counting Jawas” is a new take on the counting sheep bedtime ritual. “My Room’s the Millennium Falcon” shares how much the boy loves his room and imagines adventures there as if he’s flying in the Millennium Falcon.

## **Fiction**

### ***Judy Moody: In a Monday Mood\**** by Meg McDonald (Family Read Aloud, Funny!)

Judy Moody is Monday-morning mopey. Another week in her same-old seat at her same-old desk in her same-old school. Even worse, there aren't any days off from school for ages. But when she steps into Class 3T, Judy's Monday frown turns upside down. *Pop! Pop! Pop-pop-pop!* Mr. Todd is making Monday special by celebrating Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day (no lie)! This gives Judy an idea that just-might-maybe turn her week around: why not make every day of the week a holiday? But after she and her friends come up with a week's worth of wacky celebrations, from feeding ninja squirrels to honoring National Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day, will the weekend be one big letdown?

### ***Amelia Bedelia (chapter Books)\**** by Peggy Parish

Laugh along with literal-minded Amelia Bedelia as she earns money for a new bike, gets a dog, goes on a road trip, and so much more!

### ***Flat Stanley\**** by Jeff Brown

When Stanley Lambchop wakes up one morning, his brother, Arthur, is yelling. A bulletin board fell on Stanley during the night, and now he is only half an inch thick! Amazing things begin happening to him. Stanley gets rolled up, mailed, and flown like a kite. He even gets to help catch two dangerous art thieves. He may be flat, but he's a hero.

### ***Magic Tree House\**** by Mary Pope Osborne

The story begins with *Dinosaurs Before Dark*, when Jack and Annie discover a mysterious tree house filled with books and a trip back to the time of the dinosaurs follows.

### ***Amber Brown is Not A Crayon\**** by Paula Danzinger

Amber Brown and Justin Daniels are best friends. They've known each other for practically forever, sit next to each other in class, help each other with homework, and always stick up for each other. Justin never says things like, "Amber Brown is not a crayon." Amber never says, "You're Justin Time." They're a great team—until disaster strikes. Justin has to move away, and now the best friends are fighting. Will they be able to work it out before it's too late?

### ***Horrible Harry\**** by Suzy Kline

Doug discovers that though being Harry's best friend in Miss Mackle's second grade class isn't always easy, as Harry likes to do horrible things, it is often a lot of fun.

### ***Dog Gone Hollywood\**** by Majorie W. Sharmat

Duz's new movie is a huge success. The critics even say he might win an Academy Award! But then a Hollywood scandal turns everyone against him. Nasty child star Billy Brat accuses Duz of biting his leg. Fred knows it isn't true. Can he prove that Duz is innocent? Or will Billy Brat see to it that Duz never eats kibble in this town again?

### ***Real Pigeons: Fight Crime*** by Ben Wood

In the first of three silly stories, Rock Pigeon is a crime-fighting pigeon who helps Grandpouter and the other park pigeons solve the problem of the vanishing bread crumbs. Hilarious disguises, charming illustrations, quirky characters, and funny mysteries, this is an entertaining romp that is sure to entice even the most reluctant of young readers.

### ***The World According to Humphrey\**** by Betty G. Birney

Humphrey the hamster, everyone's favorite class pet, soon becomes one of the top pupils of the class as he learns to read and write and play tricks on his human classmates.

### ***Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon\**** by Tracy West

In the times of castles and kingdoms, Drake learns he is a dragon master (and that dragons are real!) He must train with the other kids to master his dragon, an earth dragon. This is a fun chapter book series that will interest almost any child as it has just the right amount of conflict, adventure, and excitement.

### ***Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot*** by Dav Pilkey

Meet Ricky Ricotta, a little mouse with a big problem! Ricky Ricotta lives in Squeakyville with his mom and dad. Ricky has a hard time making friends at school, and the neighborhood bullies are always picking on him. If only Ricky could find someone to be his best buddy and keep those creepy bullies away! Meanwhile, on the other side of town, a mad scientist named Dr. Stinky McNasty has created a Mighty Robot who is as gentle as he is powerful.

## **Additional Books:**

### **TITLE**

Jigsaw Jones Mystery\*  
Ivy and Bean\*  
Soccer Cats  
Clara Lee and The Apple Pie Dreams  
Marvin Redpost  
The Adventures of Taxi Dog  
Inky and Rex \*  
Ninja Kid  
The Magic Mirror\*  
Kid Spy\*

### **AUTHOR**

James Preller  
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Debra Barracca  
James Howe  
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Anna Staniszewski  
Mac Barnett

***Look for other books  
by these wonderful  
authors, as well.***

*NOTE: A star \* means the book is part of a series or has sequels.*

