SUMMER READING LIST-Grades K-2

A Chair for My Mother

by Vera B. Williams Greenwillow Books, 2007 ISBN: 9780688040741 After their home is destroyed by a fire, Rosa, her mother, and grandmother save their coins to buy a really comfortable chair for all to

enjoy. Be You!

by Peter H. Reynolds Orchard Books, 2020 ISBN: 9781338572315 Discover a joyful reminder of the ways that every child is unique and special.

Boss Stories: 11 Real Life Stories about the Impact of Incarceration on Students & Educators

by Dr. Jaclyn Walker, et. al. INPB, 2019
ISBN: 9781094697369
These stories are from the perspective of 9 children and 2 adults that have been impacted by incarceration. However, these B.O.S.S. (Breaking Obstacles to Seek Success) stories will encourage others in similar situations that regardless of your circumstances, then you can still be a BOSS!

Brave Irene

by William Steig BYR, 1986 ISBN: 9780312564223 This winning heroine will inspire every child to cheer her on as she ventures through a bitter cold snowstorm.

Can I Play Too?

by Mo Willems

Hyperion Books, 2010 ISBN: 9781423119913 In Can I Play Too? Gerald and Piggie meet a new snake friend who wants to join in a game of catch. But don't you need arms to catch?

Flowers Are Calling

by Rita Gray
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt,
2015, ISBN: 9780544340121
Playful rhyming text alternates
with factual callouts that
describe flowers and the
pollination process. The
watercolor illustrations are
gorgeous and sure to inspire
young naturalists everywhere!

Giraffes Can't Dance

by Giles Andreae
Watts Pub Group, 2014
ISBN: 9780545392556
Gerald would love to join in
with the other animals at the
Jungle Dance, but everyone
knows that giraffes can't dance
...or can they?

Give Bees A Chance

by Bethany Barton
Puffin Books, 2019
ISBN: 9780593113721
This book is for anyone who
doesn't quite appreciate how
extra special and important
bees are to the world, and even
to humankind!

Hair Love

by Matthew A. Cherry Illustrated by Christian Robinson Kokila, 2019 ISBN: 9780525553366 Tender and empowering, Hair Love is an ode to loving your natural hair -- and a celebration of daddies and daughters everywhere.

Have Fun Molly Lou Melon

Patty Lovell
G.P. Putnam Sons Books, 2012
ISBN: 9780399254062
Molly Lou Melon's grandma
taught her to be happy with
herself no matter what, but
that's not all she learned.
Molly learned the best thing to
play with is a huge
imagination.

How to Read a Story

by Kate Messner Chronicle Books, 2015 ISBN: 9781452112336 This picture book playfully and movingly illustrates the idea that the reader who discovers the love of reading finds, at the end, the beginning.

Hula Hooping Queen

by Thelma Lynne Godin Lee & Low Books, 2017 ISBN: 9781620145791 Kameeka yearns to continue her hula hooping competition with her rival, Jamara, rather than help prepare for Miz Adeline's birthday party, and "the itch" almost ruins the party before the girls learn who the real winner is.

Ich

by Peter H. Reynolds Candlewick, 2004 ISBN: 9780763623449 A creative spirit learns that thinking "ish-ly" is far more wonderful than "getting it right".

Our Moms

by Q. Futrell
Morgan James Kids, 2018
ISBN: 9780692525586
Our Moms is an easy-to-read
guide that lets kids with
incarcerated parents know
they're not alone.

Peanut Butter & Cupcake

by Terry Border
Philomel Books, 2014
ISBN: 9780399167737
What's a little piece of bread to
do when he's feeling lonely?
Find a friend, of course!
And that's exactly what Peanut
Butter tries to do.

Please Please the Bees

by Gerald Kelley INDPB, 2017 ISBN: 9780807551837 Benedict has a pretty sweet life for a bear. Every morning the bees leave a jar of honey on his doorstep, and every day he has honey for breakfast and honey in his tea. It's an important part of his day. But all that changes when the bees go on strike.

Spaghetti in a Hotdog Bun by Maria Dismondy

Cardinal Rule Press, 2008 ISBN: 97800615473932 This charming story empowers children to always do the right thing and be proud of themselves, even when they are faced with someone who is challenging.

Stick and Stone

by Beth Ferry HMH Books, 2015 ISBN: 9780544032569 When Stick rescues Stone from a prickly situation with a Pinecone, the pair becomes fast friends. But when Stick gets stuck, can Stone return the favor?

Strictly No Elephants

by Lisa Mantchev Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2015 ISBN: 9781481416474 Pets—and friends—come in all shapes and sizes.

Swimmy

by Leo Lionni
Dragonfly Books, 2017
ISBN: 9780399555503
heir watery world is full of wonders, but there is also danger, and the little fish are afraid to come out of hiding . . . until Swimmy comes along. Swimmy shows his friends how—with ingenuity and teamwork—they can overcome any danger.

The Feelings Book

by Todd Parr LB Kids, 2005 ISBN:9780316012492 Kids and adults will appreciate Todd Parr's quirky intelligence as he pays special attention to the ever-changing, sometimes nonsensical emotions that we all feel.

The Pigeon Finds a Hotdog

by Mo Willems
Hyperion Books, 2004
ISBN: 9780786818693
When Pigeon finds a delicious
hot dog, he can hardly wait to
shove the entire thing in his
beak. But... then a very sly and
hungry duckling enters the scene
and wants a bite. Who will be
the more clever bird?

The Kissing Hand

by Audrey Penn
Tanglewood, 1993
ISBN:9781933718002
School is starting in the forest,
but Chester Raccoon does not
want to go. To help ease
Chester's fears, Mrs. Raccoon
shares a family secret called the
Kissing Hand to give him the
reassurance of her love any time
his world feels a little scary.

This is Not a Good Idea

by Mo Willems
Balzer & Bray, 2013
ISBN: 9780062203090
Inspired by the evil villains and innocent damsels of silent movies, Willems tells the tale of a hungry fox who invites a plump goose to dinner.

What If?

by Samantha Berger Little Brown Books, 2018 ISBN: 9780316390965 Stunning mixed media illustrations, lyrical text, and a breathtaking gatefold conjure powerful magic in this heartfelt affirmation of art, imagination, and the resilience of the human spirit.



Adapted from
Portsmouth Public
Schools