

May 31, 2022

To our STCS Parents and Students, new and returning,

In response to numerous requests—on the part of both parents and students—for summer reading ideas, I propose these titles. Enjoy!

Wishing you a summer that is fully booked,
Dr. Catherine Bilow, Library Manager

Summer 2022 Suggested Enrichment Reading

Incoming Pre-Kindergartners

Bemelmans, Ludwig. *Madeline* series

Betts, Ethel Franklin. *The Complete Mother Goose* (Find the Blanche Fisher Wright illustrations!)

Brown, Margaret Wise. *Goodnight, Moon*

Burton, Virginia Lee. *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*

Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Fisher, Aileen. *The Story of Easter*

Freeman, Don. *Corduroy*

Gag, Wanda. *The ABC Book and Millions of Cats*

Rising Kindergarteners

Aesop. *Aesop's Fables* (Find the Arthur Rackham illustrations)

Brett, Jan. *The Mitten*; also, *Beauty and the Beast* (others, too. Great illustrator!)

dePaola, Tomie. *Saint Patrick* (LOTS of other memorable stories AND illustrations)

Godden, Rumer. *Saint Jerome and the Lion*

Gramatky, Hardie. *Hercules: The Story of an Old-Fashioned Fire Engine*

Greenaway, Kate. *The Language of Flowers* (Look for other illustrations of Greenaway)

Hodges, Margaret. *Brother Francis and the Friendly Beasts*

Juster, Norton. *The Hello, Goodbye Window*

Rising 1st Graders

- Berger, Melvin. *Look Out for Turtles*
- Dewdney, Anna and Reed Duncan. *Llama, Llama* series
- Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad* series
- Myron, Vicki and Bret Witter. *Dewey: There's a Cat in the Library*
- Rylant, Cynthia. *The Relatives Came*
- Sharmat, Marjorie W. *Nate the Great* series
- Williams, Vera B. *A Chair for my Mother*
- Parish, Peggy. *Amelia Bedelia* series

Rising 2nd Graders

- Aloian, Molly. *A Rainforest Habitat*
- Emberley, Barbara. *The Story of Paul Bunyan*
- Freeman, Don. *Dandelion*
- Gramatky, Hardie *Hercules: The Story of an Old-Fashioned Fire Engine*
- Gross, Ruth Belov and Jack Kent. *The Bremen Town Musicians*
- Hope, Laura Lee. *The Bobbsey Twins* series
- Ringold, Faith *Tar Beach*
- Warner, Gertrude Chandler *The Boxcar Children Series*

Rising 3rd Graders

- Anderson, M.T. *Handel, Who Knew What He Liked*
- Barrie, J.M. *Peter Pan*
- Bond, Michael. *A Bear Called Paddington*
- Cleary, Beverly. *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*
- Donnelly, Judy. *Moonwalk: The First Trip to the Moon*
- Godden, Rumer. *The Kitchen Madonna*
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall*
- White, E.B. White. *The Trumpet of the Swan*; also, *Stuart Little*

Rising 4th Graders

- duBois, William Pène. *The Twenty-One-Balloons*
- Estes, Eleanor. *Ginger Pye*
- Farley, Walter. *The Black Stallion*
- Frost, Robert. *You Come, Too* (poetry)
- Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague*
- Kipling, Rudyard. *The Jungle Book*; also, *Just-So Stories* and *Kim*
- Lofting, Hugh. *The Voyages of Dr. Dolittle*
- Lovelace, Maud Hart. *Betsy-Tacey* series

Rising 5th Graders

- Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women* (and any other of her stories)
- Carroll, Louis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Find John Tenniel's illustrations)
- Gray, Elizabeth Janet. *Adam of the Road* (13th-century England; story of a young troubadour)
- Lagerlöf, Selma. *The Wonderful Adventures of Nils* (Finish this story!)
- Latham, Jean Lee. *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* (This is a sea adventure, biofiction)
- Mukerji, Dhan. *Gay-Neck: The Story of a Pigeon* (Finish this story on your own!)
- Peck, Richard. *A Year Down Under* (A Chicago girl's adventures in Australia)
- Schlitz, Laura Amy. *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village*

Rising 6th Graders

- Avi. *The Good Dog*
- Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451* (an introduction to satire)
- Fox, Paula. *The Slave Dancer* (a stunning tale about an unfamiliar world)
- Jacques, Brian. *Redwall* series
- Konigsburg, E.L. *A Proud Taste for Scarlet and Miniver*
- Lomask, Milton. *Cross Among the Tomahawks*
- Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
- Wochiechowska, Maia. *Shadow of a Bull*

Rising 7th Graders

- Clark, Ann Nolan. *Secret of the Andes* (a great far-away story—another time and place)
- Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*; also, *Jacob Have I Loved*
- Pollard, Madeleine. *Beorn the Proud* 9th-century Ireland, beset by Viking raiders
- Pyle, Howard. *Men of Iron* A.D. 1400. England: Henry II succeeds the wicked Richard II
Otto of the Silver Hand
- Rawls, Wilson. *Where the Red Fern Grows*
- Sacher, Louis. *Holes*
- Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* (the BEST graphic novel) Claim to fame: This book won the Caldecott Medal (for ourstanding illustrations), the first NOVEL to receive the prize.
- Sutcliff, Rosemary. *Outcast* Read ANY of her stories!

Rising 8th Graders

- Cooper, James Fenimore. *The Last of the Mohicans* (memorable tale; steep but rewarding reading). Try to find the illustrations of N.C. Wyeth.
- Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe*
- Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan. *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*
- Dumas, Alexandre. *The Three Musketeers*
- Hawes, Charles Boardman. *The Dark Frigate* (a pirate story)
- Nordoff and Hall. *Mutiny on the Bounty* (Check: Get the original story by [these](#) authors)
- Verne, Jules. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*
- Wallace, Lew. *Ben-Hur, a Tale of the Christ* (See the Charlton Heston film [afterwards!](#))

This [final category](#) lists books that have appeal across grade levels. **I recommend these for home libraries.** These are books you can read over and over. Some make great read-aloud stories!

- Arroyo, Raymond. The *Will Winder* series. Only vols. 1-3 have been published. Count on a series of 7. Compelling! Think of the title character, Will Wilder, as a Catholic Percy Jackson.
volume 1, *The Relic of Perilous Falls*
volume 2, *The Lost Staff of Wonders*
volume 3, *The Amulet of Power*
- Bishop, Jennie. *The Squire and the Scroll* (directly in line with our STCS Virtues program)

Fraze, Marla

trilogy: *The Farmer and the Clown, The Farmer and the Monkey, The Farmer and the Circus*

DeStefano, Anthony. *Our Lady's Wardrobe and Our Lady's Picture Book*

de Paola, Tomie Many excellent titles. These, in particular, are notable:

The Legend of the Bluebonnet

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush

Goring, Mark. *You're Not a Chicken* (variation of The Ugly Duckling story)

Nobisso, Josephine. The Theological Virtues trilogy.

The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith

Take it to the Queen: A Tale of Hope

Portrait of the Son: A Tale of Love

The Oxford Treasury of Children's Stories

Politi, Leo *Song of the Swallows* (about the annual tradition at San Juan Mission in California)

Swegart, Kathryn Griffin. *Heavenly Hosts: Eucharistic Miracles for Kids*

Warner, Kate and Meg Whelan. *Cloud of Witnesses: A Child's First Book of Saints*

Rainy-Day Fun at your Local **Public Library** (a family outing)

First, if each member of your family does not yet have his or her own **personal patron card**, take the time to do that! Before you head to the library, go to the library website. Learn what is needed for a complete application. Must you, for example, present an envelope that has been mailed to your home address? Take along any required credentials.

Second, take with you a printed list (or cell phone list) of the Caldecott Medal books. This prize has been awarded annually since 1938. Let your little ones browse while you and the eldest children collect as many Caldecott medal books as you can amass within 20 minutes' time. Place these on a table large enough to accommodate your family.

Third, spend some time just looking through the medal-winning books! Quiet talking is in order here. These images are too appealing to enjoy them alone and in silence. In fact, you may wish to check out a few of them to take home for extended enjoyment.

Finally, have each child keep a record of the books he/she reads on these library trips. You will be surprised at how handy and attractive your local public library will become!