



Every child, every opportunity, every time!

**Summer 2013 Recommended Reading List  
Rising Second Grade  
2013-2014**

**Non-Fiction Books**

**Bishop, Nic. *Butterflies***

Full-color photographs and illustrations describe the physical characteristics, behaviors, habits, and life cycle of butterflies.

**Holub, Joan. *Zero the Hero***

Zero believes that he is a hero, but the counting numbers think he is worthless until they get into trouble with some Roman numerals, and only Zero can help.

**Jenkins, Steve. *Prehistoric Actual Size***

What is it like to come face-to-face with the ten-foot-tall terror bird? Or stare into the mouth of the largest meat eater ever to walk the earth?

**Leake, Diyan. *People in the Community***

What do you want to be when you grow up? Books in this series include *Veterinarians, Teachers, Police Officers, Firefighters, Doctors, and Dentists*.

**Levenson, George. *Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden***

Rhyming text and photographs follow a pumpkin patch as it grows and changes, from seeds to plants to pumpkins ready to harvest, to jack-o-lanterns and then to seeds again.

**Lichtenheld, Tom. *E-mergency!***

The letter "e" has fallen and injured herself. Which letters will replace her and how will words be spelled without her? Full of verbal and visual puns, this book is sure to tickle the brain.

**Locker, Thomas. *Mountain Dance***

A poetic description of various kinds of mountains and how they are formed. Includes factual information about mountains.

**Lyon, George Ella. *All the Water in the World***

Water doesn't come. It goes. Around. The water cycle is explained in lyrical verse that celebrates its power to give life.

**Murphy, Stuart. *Captain Invincible and the Space Shapes***

While piloting his spaceship through the skies, Captain Invincible encounters three-dimensional shapes, including cubes, cylinders, and pyramids.

**Ochiltree, Dianne. *Molly, by Golly!***

Read about the first known female firefighter, Molly Williams, an African American cook for New York City's Fire Company 11. When many firefighters were sick with influenza, she jumped into action to help stop a house fire.

**Sidman, Joyce. *Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature***

A beautifully illustrated free-verse poem explores various examples of spirals appearing in nature, looking at snail shells, flower petals, elephant tusks, crashing waves, and more.

**Smith, Charles R. *I Am America***

Through a series of pictures accompanied by poetic text, this book explains that all children have similar appearances, feelings, likes, dislikes, and cultures.

## Fiction Books

**Browne, Anthony. *Little Beauty***

When a gorilla who knows sign language tells his keepers that he is lonely, they bring him a very special friend.

**Henkes, Kevin. *Penny and Her Doll***

Penny instantly loves the doll her grandmother sends her, but finding the perfect name for her is a challenge.

**Hills, Tad. *Rocket Writes a Story***

Rocket loves books, and he wants to make his own, but he can't think of a story. Encouraged by the little yellow bird to look closely at the world around him for inspiration, Rocket sets out on a journey.

**Hoberman, Mary Ann. *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Scary Tales to Read Together***

Uses traditional teaching techniques to invite young children to read short scary stories along with an adult.

**Kenah, Katharine. *The Best Chef in Second Grade***

A famous chef is coming to visit Mr. Hopper's second grade class, and every one is excited about bringing in their family's favorite dish to share except Ollie. He loves to cook but cannot find a dish his whole family likes. Will he find one?

**Leedy, Loreen. *Mapping Penny's World***

After learning about maps in school, Lisa maps all the favorite places of her dog, Penny.

**Lin, Grace. *Ling and Ting: Not Exactly the Same***

Ling and Ting are identical twins that people think are exactly the same, but time and again they prove to be different.

**Maclear, Kyo. *Virginia Wolf***

Vanessa's sister, Virginia, is in a "wolfish" mood -- growling, howling and acting very strange. Using art to transform her bad mood, this is an uplifting story for readers of all ages.

**Meister, Cari. *Buzz Beaker and the Outer Space Trip***

Buzz travels to outer space with his dog, Raggs, and wonders if it was just a dream.

**Reynolds, Aaron. *Creepy Carrots***

The carrots that grow in Crackenhopper Field are the fattest and crispiest around and Jasper Rabbit cannot resist pulling some to eat each time he passes by, until he begins hearing and seeing creepy carrots wherever he goes.

**Rylant, Cynthia. *Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover***

Henry and his dog, Mudge, are invited to a sleepover in Patrick's attic where they watch monster movies, eat pizza, and enjoy a contest to determine whose dog is the best popcorn catcher.

**Williams, Karen Lynn. *A Beach Tail***

When his father tells him not to leave the lion he draws on the beach, a little boy makes a very, very long tail as a trail to follow back as he wanders down the beach.