

Summer 2013 Recommended Reading List
Rising Third Grade
2013-2014

Non-Fiction Books

Barker, Charles Ferguson. *Under Michigan: The Story of Michigan's Rocks and Fossils*

This is an enjoyable treatment of the beautiful and orderly layered rock 'underworld' of the Great Lakes region.

Bishop, Nic. *Backyard Detective: Critters Up Close*

Welcome to the fascinating world of your own backyard, where more than 125 bugs, worms, and small critters play out the drama of life in miniature.

Carle, Eric. *The Rabbit and the Turtle*

A collection of Aesop's fables.

Greenfield, Eloise. *The Friendly Four*

Through individual poems and poems for multiple voices, four young people explore the bonds of friendship, family, and community.

Jenkins, Emily. *Lemonade in Winter: A Book about Two Kids Counting Money*

Pauline and her brother John-John set up a stand to sell lemonade, limeade, and lemon-limeade one cold, wintry day, then try to attract customers as Pauline adds up their earnings.

Jenkins, Steve. *Actual Size*

How big is a crocodile? What about a tiger, or the world's largest spider? Can you imagine a tongue that is two feet long or an eye that's bigger than your head? Sometimes facts and figures don't tell the whole story. Sometimes you need to see things for yourself—at their actual size.

Kalman, Maira. *Looking at Lincoln*

A young girl is curious about Abraham Lincoln and sets out to find out more about the life of the nation's sixteenth president.

Krull, Kathleen. *Harvesting Hope: the Story of Cesar Chavez*

A biography of Cesar Chavez, from age ten when he and his family lived on their Arizona ranch, to age thirty-eight when he led a peaceful protest against California migrant workers' miserable working conditions.

Leedy, Loreen. *Measuring Penny*

Lisa has an important homework assignment--to measure something in several different ways. Lisa decides to measure her dog, Penny.

Nelson. Vaunda Micheaux. *Juneteenth*

Describes how the holiday of Juneteenth began and discusses its traditions, symbols, how the holiday has changed, and how it is observed today.

Noble, Trina Hakes. *The Legend of Michigan*

An old warrior and a young boy travel through the frigid cold of the north to teach the fierce North Wind how to live peacefully with his brothers, allowing the formerly uninhabitable land of Michigan to be settled.

Stevens, Janet. *Tops and Bottoms*

Hare turns his bad luck around by striking a clever deal with the rich and lazy bear down the road.

Fiction Books

Barber, Barbara E. *Allie's Basketball Dream*

Allie's determination and infectious optimism are sure to reach young readers, as *Allie's Basketball Dream* teaches gentle lessons about the rewards of perseverance.

Barnes, Derrick. *Brand New School, Brave New Ruby*

When Ruby Booker starts third grade at the same school her three older brothers attend, she tries hard to make an impression of her own.

Coville, Bruce and Levy, Elizabeth. *Paula Danziger's Amber Brown is Tickled Pink*

Nine-year-old Amber is nervous and excited about her mother's wedding to Max, but Amber's father makes things complicated.

DiCamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*

After Mercy the pig snuggles to sleep with the Watsons, all three awaken with the bed teetering on the edge of a big hole in the floor.

Jules, Jacqueline. *Zapato Power: Freddie Ramos Springs Into Action*

When a very important inventor needs rescuing, Freddie Ramos activates his special sneakers and becomes a superhero.

Lester, Julius. *Black Cowboy, Wild Horses.*

Based on true accounts by Bob Lemmons, a former slave, "Black Cowboy, Wild Horses" chronicles Lemmons' adventures as he tracks wild horses across the plains.

McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer*

Judy's big plans for the summer seem ruined when two of her best friends go away, and then her parents leave her and Stink with Aunt Opal, but a new "thrill-a-delic" plan has her racing toward fun.

Ramsey, Calvin A., Stroud, Bettye. *Belle, the Last Mule at Gee's Bend: A Civil Rights Story*

In Gee's Bend, Alabama, Miz Pettway tells young Alex about the historic role her mule played in the struggle for civil rights led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Includes factual information about the community of Gee's Bend and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Roy, Ron. *The Absent Author* (A to Z Mystery Series)

Dink Duncan and his two friends investigate the apparent kidnapping of famous mystery author Wallis Wallace.

Say, Allen. *Grandfather's Journey*

Three generations of the author's family highlight the emotions common to the immigrant experience.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Third Grade Angels*

George 'Suds' Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first 'halo' of the year for good behavior, but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated.

Yee, Herbert Wong. *Mouse and Mole: Fine Feathered Friends*

When spring arrives, Mole and Mouse find a unique way to bird watch.