

BOOK YOUR SUMMER



Mount Prospect School District 57
Summer Reading List 2011



Dear Parents and Students of District 57,

Summer should be filled with lots of activities that get children out of doors and enjoying rigorous exercise. However, rainy days, lazy days, and evenings should be filled with books. Continuing the reading habit through the summer is key to your child becoming a successful reader. This brochure is designed to help you keep the literacy fire burning all year long by providing some suggestions of books for your child to read this summer.

For the elementary students, we have based our list on the 2012 Illinois Monarch (K-3) Readers' Choice Award nominee books, on the 2012 Bluestem Book Award list, and the 2012 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award nominees for intermediate and middle school students. Students can get a head start on their reading to prepare to vote for their school's favorite Caudill and Monarch book, as well as to participate in the balloting for the state of Illinois favorite. Students at Lincoln have one book of required reading (honors students have two) along with others from which to choose their summer reading.

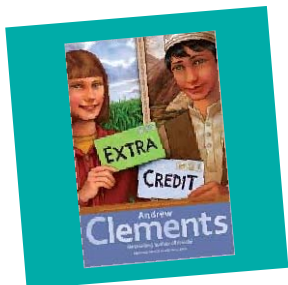
We have also included some helps for parents on how to reinforce students' reading, particularly comprehension skills, by using some suggested questions and activities with your child for any book he/she reads. We hope these ideas will start great conversations in the family. We encourage you to read the books right along with your children.

Look for new places to read that will build summer memories. Try reading in a tree, in a tent, on a boat, along the water, in a park, under the bed, behind the couch, with the whole family on the couch, in the car, on a plane, and certainly every night in bed! Help your child build a habit of daily reading and a love of new books. Get started right away and BOOK YOUR SUMMER! The Mount Prospect Public Library is waiting for you.

This list is only the beginning. Many other suggested book lists and activities are available at www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources.

Thank you to the District 57 Library Resource Center directors and Literacy Support teachers for their help in generating these lists and ideas for parents.

Susan Woodrow Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mount Prospect School District 57





2012 Illinois
Monarch Award

Books for Primary (K-3) Readers

A Birthday for Bear by *Bonny Becker*

Despite Bear's efforts to ignore his birthday, Mouse will not rest until his friend celebrates.

Bridget's Beret by *Tom Lichtenheld*

When Bridget loses the beret that provides her with artistic inspiration like other great artists, she thinks she will never be able to draw again.

Butterflies and Moths by *Nic Bishop*

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

The Case of the Lost Boy by *Dori Hillestad Butler*

While searching for his mysteriously lost human family, Buddy the dog is adopted by another family and helps solve the mystery of their missing boy.

Dogku by *Andrew Clements*

Tells a story through haiku about a dog named Mooch and the many things it does, such as riding in a car, barking at the neighbors, and chewing on dirty socks.

Duck at the Door by *Jackie Urbanovic*

When Max the duck decides to stay behind when his flock flies south, Irene invites him to stay with her for the winter.

Duck! Rabbit! by *Amy Krouse Rosenthal*

Two unseen characters argue about whether the creature they are looking at is a rabbit or a duck.

Grace for President by *Kelly DiPucchio*

After finding out there has never been a female U.S. president, Grace decides to run in her school's mock election, where she learns about the American electoral system and sets out to be the best person for the job even though her opponent, Thomas, seems to be winning all the boys' votes.

Imogene's Last Stand by *Candace Fleming*

Enamored of history, young Imogene Tripp tries to save her town's historical society from being demolished in order to build a shoelace factory.

Interrupting Chicken by *David Ezra Stein*

Little Red Chicken wants Papa to read her a bedtime story, but interrupts him almost as soon as he begins each tale.

Let's Do Nothing! by *Tony Fucile*

Young friends Frankie and Sal, believing they have "done it all," decide to do nothing for a while, but Frankie has a little trouble with the concept and it is not long before the boys realize there is no way to do nothing.

Little Mouse Gets Ready by *Jeff Smith*

Little Mouse gets dressed so he can go to the barn with his mother, brothers, and sisters.

Memoirs of a Goldfish by *Devin Scillian*

A goldfish gives a personal account of his experiences while swimming around his bowl as it slowly fills with fish and other accessories, only to realize when he is relocated for a cleaning how much he misses them.

The Mitten by Jim Aylesworth

A retelling of the traditional tale of how a boy's lost mitten becomes a refuge from the cold for an increasing number of animals.

Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11 by Brian Floca

An illustrated account of the flight of Apollo 11 in 1969, the first manned mission to land on the moon. Includes bibliographical references and filmography.

Never Smile at a Monkey: and 17 Other Important Things to Remember by Steve Jenkins

Presents an illustrated discussion of what not to do around various dangerous animals, with warnings about petting a platypus, touching a tang fish, or pulling a python's tail.

Otis by Loren Long

When a big new yellow tractor arrives, Otis the friendly little tractor is cast away behind the barn, but when trouble occurs Otis is the only one who can help.

Panda Kindergarten by Joanne Ryder

Photographs and text follow sixteen panda cubs at the Wolong Nature Preserve, where they are raised and observed by scientists and workers while they learn survival skills that will allow them to be re-released into the wild.

Shark vs. Train by Chris Barton

A shark and a train compete in a series of contests on a seesaw, in hot air balloons, bowling, shooting baskets, playing hide-and-seek, and more.

Testing the Ice: A True Story about Jackie Robinson by Sharon Robinson

As a testament to his courage, Jackie Robinson's daughter shares memories of him, from his baseball career to the day he tests the ice for her, her brothers, and their friends.

Books for Grades 3-5 Readers



2012 Master List
Bluestem Book Award
Illinois Children's Choice Award

14 Cows for America by Carmen Agra Deedy

Presents an illustrated tale of a gift of fourteen cows given by the Maasai people of Kenya to the U.S. as a gesture of comfort and friendship in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001.

Adventures in Cartooning by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold, and Alexis Frederick-Frost

Uses a story about a magical elf who helps a princess learn how to draw a comic to present techniques for and advice about drawing comics.

All Stations! Distress! April 15, 1912: The Day the Titanic Sank by Don Brown

Presents an illustrated account of the Titanic's deadly voyage on April 12, 1912, when two thousand passengers, rich and poor alike, fought to survive the tragedy while partially filled lifeboats launched into the night with seven hundred people as some family members stayed behind.

Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories by Sandra Markle

Contains true accounts of animals who have protected or rescued their owners or other humans in dangerous situations.

Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal

by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson

An illustrated biography of Bass Reeves, a former slave who was recruited as a deputy United States marshal, based on his ability to communicate with the Native Americans in the area that was to become Oklahoma.

Bunnica: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery by Deborah Howe, James Howe, and Alan Daniel

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.

Dying to meet you by Kate Klise

In this story told mostly through letters, children's book author, I. B. Grumpy, gets more than he bargained for when he rents a quiet place to write for the summer.

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements

Three young middle-school-age children, Abby, Amira, and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan and begin to bridge a gap across cultural and religious divides.

Faith, Hope, and Ivy June by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

During a student exchange program, seventh-graders Ivy June and Catherine share their lives, homes, and communities, and find that although their lifestyles are total opposites they have a lot in common.

Flight of the Phoenix by Robin L. LaFevers

Ten-year-old Nate is sent to live with a family cousin, the world's last beastologist, after his parents are declared lost at sea, but danger mounts when he is brought on an expedition to the Arabian Desert, gets lost, and must protect a newly hatched phoenix egg and rescue his guardian.

Just Grace by Charise Mericle Harper

Misnamed by her teacher, seven-year-old Just Grace prides herself on being empathetic, but when she tries to help a neighbor feel better, her good intentions backfire.

Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories about Growing up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka

Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.

Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story by Ken Mochizuki

Tells the true story of Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat stationed in Lithuania in 1940 who risked the safety of his own family members and put his job on the line by issuing visas to as many as 10,000 Jews who were facing death at the hands of the Nazis.

Riding Freedom by Pam Munoz Ryan

A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, moved to California, and fooled everyone by her appearance.

Rules by Cynthia Lord

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook by Eleanor Davis

Eleven-year-old Julian Calendar thought changing schools would mean leaving his "nerdy" persona behind, but instead he forms an alliance with fellow inventors Greta and Ben and works with them to prevent an adult from using one of their gadgets for nefarious purposes.

Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar

Presents humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives by Michael Buckley

Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

Swindle by Gordon Korman

After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the Smart Pick fruit picker.

The World According to Humphrey by Betty G. Birney

Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, learns that he has an important role to play in helping his classmates and teacher.



Rebecca Caudill Young
Readers' Book Award 2012

Books for Intermediate and Middle School Readers

Books for 4th Grade and up

All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg (Interest levels grades 6-8.*)

Two years after being airlifted out of Vietnam in 1975, Matt Pin is haunted by the terrible secret he left behind and, now, in a loving adoptive home in the United States, a series of profound events forces him to confront his past.

Every Soul a Star by Wendy Mass (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

Ally, Bree, and Jack meet at Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, to watch a total eclipse of the sun; but soon they begin to learn a great deal about themselves, each other, and the universe.

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements (Interest levels grades 4-6.*)

Three young middle-school-age children, Abby, Amira, and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan and begin to bridge a gap across cultural and religious divides.

Flygirl by Sherri L. Smith (Interest levels grades 7-8.*)

During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

The Girl Who Threw Butterflies by Mick Cochrane (Interest levels grades 6-8.*)

Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, it helps in other aspects of her life, as well.

Greetings from Nowhere by Barbara O'Connor (Interest levels grades 4-7.*)

In North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains, a troubled boy and his mother, a happy family seeking adventure, a man and his lonely daughter, and the widow who must sell the run-down motel that has been her home for decades, meet and are transformed by their shared experiences.

Heart of a Shepherd by Rosanne Parry (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

Ignatius "Brother" Alderman, nearly twelve, promises to help his grandparents keep the family's Oregon ranch the same while his brothers are away and his father is deployed to Iraq, but as he comes to accept the inevitability of change, he also sees the man he is meant to be.

Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories about Growing up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka

(Interest levels grades 4-8.) Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.

Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld (Interest levels grades 6-8.*)

In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts.

The Magic Thief by Sarah Prineas (Interest levels grades 4-8.*)

Conn's life is forever changed when he tries to pick the pocket of the wizard Nevery and instead gets a strong jolt of magic, but, instead of punishing the boy, Nevery takes Conn under his wing, teaches him magic, and enlists his help in finding the person responsible for stealing the city's dwindling magic supply.

Masterpiece by Elise Broach (Interest levels grades 4-6.*)

After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick (Interest levels grades

5-8.*) Homer P. Figg escapes from his wretched foster home in Pine Swamp, Maine, and sets out to find his beloved older brother, Harold, who has been illegally sold into the Union Army.

One-Handed Catch by Mary Jane Auch (Interest levels grades 4-8.*)

After losing his hand in an accident in his father's butcher shop in 1946, sixth-grader Norman uses hard work and humor to learn to live with his disability and to succeed at baseball, art, and other activities.

Peak by Roland Smith (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Powerless by Matthew Cody (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them.

The Rock and the River by *Kekla Magoon* (Interest levels grades 7-8.*)

In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African-Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by *Grace Lin* (Interest levels grades 4-8.*)

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River.

Wild Things by *Clay Carmichael* (Interest levels grades 5-8.*)

Stubborn, self-reliant, eleven-year-old Zoe, recently orphaned, moves to the country to live with her prickly half-uncle, a famous doctor and sculptor, and together they learn about trust and the strength of family.

Woods Runner by *Gary Paulsen* (Interest levels grades 6-8.*)

From his 1776 Pennsylvania homestead, thirteen-year-old Samuel, who is a highly-skilled woodsman, sets out toward New York City to rescue his parents from the band of British soldiers and Native Americans who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community.

***Interest levels are a general guide but readers should choose books that are a good personal fit, given the wide grade span served by the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award list.**

Stretch Books for 5th Grade and up

All Shook Up by Shelley Pearsall

When thirteen-year-old Josh goes to stay with his father in Chicago for a few months, he discovers--to his horror--that his dad has become an Elvis impersonator.

The Mailbox by Audrey Shafer

When twelve-year-old Gabe tries to hide his uncle's death from the local authorities, he is not prepared for what happens when this secret is discovered.

Savvy by Ingrid Law

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

Scarlett by Cathy Cassidy

After being expelled from yet another school in London, twelve-year-old Scarlett is sent by her exasperated mother to live with her father, stepmother, and stepsister in Ireland, where, with the help of a mysterious boy, she eventually overcomes her anger and resentment and feels part of a family again.

Waiting for Normal by Leslie Connor

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.

Best for Middle School Readers

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

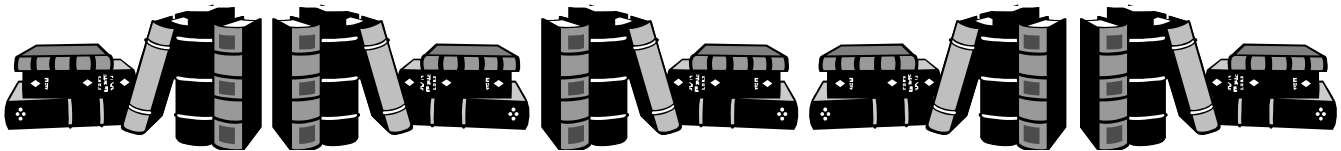
After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War

The Great Wide Sea by M.H. Herlong

Still mourning the death of their mother, three brothers go with their father on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys and have a harrowing adventure at sea.

Scat by Carl Hiaasen

Nick and Marta are both suspicious when their biology teacher, the feared Mrs. Bunny Starch, disappears, and try to uncover the truth despite the police and headmaster's insistence that nothing is wrong.



Lincoln Readers (Students entering grades 6-8):

Lincoln
Middle School



Note to parents and Lincoln students:

The first book listed below is assigned and required to be read over the summer for all students entering the grade level specified. Books are listed by grade level for the 2011-2012 school year. Projects will be assigned during the first two weeks of school for students to offer response to their reading of the required novels. Additional books are listed that are required reading for students in honors classes, but certainly offered for all to enjoy.

Sixth Grade

Required of all students:

Schwa was Here by Neal Shusterman

A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone. (Realistic fiction)

Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (Required for honors.)

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. (Fantasy/Greek mythology)

Parents and students should check the Lincoln Website, www.lincoln.d57.org, for a corresponding REQUIRED reflection and assignment.

Seventh Grade

Required of all students:

Wolf Brother by M. Paver

6,000 years ago, twelve-year-old Torak and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father. (Fantasy Adventure)

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt (Required for honors.)

Thirteen-year-old Dicey takes care of her three siblings over the course of a summer in New England and tries to find a new home for all of them after they are abandoned by their mother.

Parents and students should check the Lincoln Website, www.lincoln.d57.org, for a corresponding REQUIRED reflection and assignment.

Eighth Grade

Required of all students:

Black Duck by Janet Taylor Lisle

Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum-smuggling trade. (Historical fiction)

Red Scarf Girl by Ji-Li Jiang (Required for honors.)

Expand your world with Ji-Li Jiang's memoir as a teenager growing up during Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution. Former farm workers and factory laborers are promoted as medical doctors without proper training, and educated people are forced to work in the fields. Jiang watches helplessly as her family and neighbors' homes are ransacked and looted, people are brutally beaten in the streets, and the experience of living under totalitarianism.

Parents and students should check the Lincoln Website, www.lincoln.d57.org, for a corresponding REQUIRED reflection and assignment.



Suburban Mosaic

Community Reading Program for Suburban Communities in Cook and Lake County

Mission: **Fostering cultural understanding through literature**

Book of the Year

2011 - 2012

Making a Difference

Selected Readings

Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora

The Sandwich Swap by Queen Rania of Jordan

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Girl in Translation by Jean Kwok

What is 'Suburban Mosaic Book of the Year'?

Suburban communities in northern Illinois, home for many of us, continue to grow in diversity - with many people from many races and ethnic backgrounds. Our communities reflect a "mosaic" - a work of art patterned from distinct pieces - but together making something beautiful. We realize, however, that racism, religious bigotry and ethnic hostilities are still present in our communities. Now in its seventh year, the Suburban Mosaic Book of the Year is a program that wants to confront issues - issues of racial and social justice. We believe that education and communication can break down barriers between people.

When will the program start?

You can begin reading the books at any time. The program officially begins in June 2011. The discussion groups are scheduled to begin in the fall of 2011 and continue through the winter.

How can I participate?

All of the libraries listed in this brochure will present book discussions and make copies of the book available.

Your own book club might be willing to read and discuss one of these books. Or you can start a group. The children's books will be read and discussed in the school districts listed. You can also ask your school to join the program. Finally, you can just read them on your own.

Where can I find the books?

Each participating library will have multiple copies. Books are available at area bookstores.



Suburban Mosaic 2011 - 2012

Selected Readings

The theme of the 2011-2012 Suburban Mosaic is **Making a Difference**

Preschool Title

Say Hello! by *Rachel Isadora*

While Carmelita, her mother, and their dog Manny go to visit Abuela Rose, they run into friends and shopkeepers, and stop to greet them in different languages. Manny greets everyone with "woof." Textured paint and printed patterns invite readers to linger on each page. Text and illustrations provide clues for readers who may be learning these greetings for the first time.

Grades K - 4 Title

The Sandwich Swap by *Queen Rania of Jordan*

Two friends love to play, draw, and spend time together. They eat lunch together at school. One day a comment is made about their different types of sandwiches being "gross." The girls have a falling out, which leads to a food fight. After spending time with the Principal, they decide to taste each other's sandwich. The girls organize a food festival at their school to celebrate our cultures and differences.

Grades 3 - 5 Title

Extra Credit by *Andrew Clements*

To avoid repeating the sixth grade, Abby (a girl from central Illinois) takes on an ambitious extra credit project: she writes letters to a pen pal in a foreign country. Abby thinks she is writing to a 10-year-old Afghani girl named Amira, but her letters are actually being answered by Sadeed, Amira's brother. As Abby and Sadeed exchange letters, they learn that they have far more in common than either could have predicted.

Middle School Title

A Long Walk to Water by *Linda Sue Park*

It's 1985 and Salva is ready for the school day to be over. As the school day ends, however, soldiers attack his village. The civil war has come to his part of the Sudan. In the year 2008, Nya is carrying water for her family to use. She makes 2 trips a day back and forth to the pond. It takes 8 hours of her time every day, in the parched land of the Sudan. Two narratives are told in alternating chapters. How the lives of these two people eventually come together is the heart of this compelling story, written by Newbery Medal winner Linda Sue Park and based on the true life story of Salva Dut

Adult and High School Title

Girl in Translation by *Jean Kwok*

Kimberly Chang is only eleven when she and her widowed mother immigrate to Brooklyn from Hong Kong, but she soon bears responsibilities beyond her years, working alongside her mother in a sweatshop when not in school. Although Kimberly struggles to find her way in a new country and culture, she is nevertheless determined to use her "knack for school" to lift her and her mother out of poverty.

Suburban Mosaic Vision: To reach a deeper understanding of the various cultures that make up the suburbs of Cook and Lake County, Illinois, in order to reduce prejudice, racism and the systemic marginalization of populations.

For more information about this program see the Suburban Mosaic website at www.suburbanmosaicbooks.org.

Suburban Mosaic 2011 - 2012

Participating Organizations

Arlington Heights Memorial Library
Barrington Area Library
Des Plaines Public Library
ELA Area Public Library
Elk Grove Village Public Library
Evanston Public Library
Indian Trails Public Library
Mount Prospect Public Library
Palatine Public Library District
Prospect Heights Public Library
Rolling Meadows Library
Schaumburg Township District Library
Vernon Area Public Library District
School Districts 15, 23, 25, 26, 54, 57, 63, 102, 103, 211, 214, 220
District 211 & 214 Community Education
Harper College
National-Louis University, Center for Teaching through Children's Books
Daily Herald Newspaper
Wheeling Human Rights Commission
Character Counts! in the Barrington Area

Interracial

Let's build bridges here and there
Or sometimes, just a spiral stair
That we may come somewhat abreast
And sense what cannot be exprest,
And by these measures can be found
A meeting place - common ground
Nearer the reaches of the heart
Where truth revealed, stands clear, apart;
With understanding come to know
What laughing lips will never show:
How tears and torturing distress
May masquerade as happiness:
Then you will know when my heart's aching
And when yours is slowly breaking.
Commune - the altars will reveal...
We then shall be impulsed to kneel
And send a prayer upon its way
For those who wear the thorns today.
Oh, let's build bridges everywhere
And span the gulf of challenge there.

Harlem Renaissance Poet
Georgia Douglas Johnson
1886 – 1966

Reprinted from Poetry of the Negro 1746 - 1970, by Langston
Hughes and Arna Bontemps, 1970
Doubleday Publishers, Garden City, NY



BOOK YOUR SUMMER: Tips for Parents

Ideas to help make reading more motivating and memorable this summer

- **Don't leave home without it.**
Bring a book along any time your child has to wait, such as in a doctor's office.
- **Once is not enough.**
Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading builds fluency. Reinforce the vocabulary. Help your child "own" the words and use them in conversation.
- **Dig deeper into the story.** Ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Here are some ideas:
 - Summarize the book using the 5W's: Who, What, Where, When, and Why?
 - Can you describe a picture you could draw for an action in the story?
 - After reading this book, did it remind you of someone or something you've experienced?
 - What do you think will happen in the next chapter?
 - What clues in the paragraph helped you understand what ____ meant?
 - What do you know from the (sentence, paragraph, story) that the author didn't tell you directly?
 - Who is the most important character? Why?
 - What questions would you ask in an interview with the author?
- **Be patient with your reader.**
When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Gently correct your young reader by pointing out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Keep the reading going by offering the word easily when a child is frustrated.
- **Pick books that are at the right level.**
Help your child pick books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful enjoyable reading experiences.
- **I read to you, you read to me.**
Children of all ages love to be read to. Take turns reading aloud at bedtime.
- **Crack open the dictionary.**
Let your child see you use a dictionary. Say, "Hmm, I'm not sure what that word means... I think I'll look it up."
- **Get them to read another one.**
Find ways to encourage your child to pick up another book. Introduce him or her to a series or to a second book by a favorite author.
- **Take control of the television.**
Reading should not compete with TV or video games. Encourage reading as a free-time activity. Let your kids see you read as something you make time to do every day.

Internet Resources for Reading Activities:

www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources

Nonprofit website maintained by the International Reading Association with the National Council of Teachers of English. Excellent source for booklists, reading logs, book review podcasts, and home activities to reinforce reading.

<http://www.mmpl.org/kids>

Mount Prospect Public Library maintains an excellent site for referencing children's books, activities, and programs available at the library. It also provides links to many other reference websites.

www.rcyrba.org

Descriptions and resources for the books nominated for the Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book award.



MAKING THE MOST OF SUMMER READING: **A Parent's Guide to helping your child GROW THEIR COMPREHENSION SKILLS**

Ideas to Get Started (Before Reading Strategies)

Organize

- Gather what you need to read and respond (writing or art materials).
- Make a goal for the length of time the student will be reading.
- Set aside enough time to complete the reading.

Tune In To The Task

- Think about what you already know about the subject, or story.
- Think about any special events that have happened and sparked your curiosity.
- Think about what you may need to remember (main idea, summary, characters).
- Check to see how the author has organized his/her writing. Look for chapters, headings, dialogue, numbered steps, texts, drawings, and pictures.
- Think about what you expect to find out by reading and why.

Set Up For Success

- Make a list of questions for yourself that you think you may find the answers to.
- Read to see if there are any questions that you may have to answer.
- Create a word web about the chapter, noting new words and meanings.

Ideas to Keep You Going (During Reading Strategies)

Find and Mark

- Use a Post-it to mark the paragraphs that you are interested in looking at again.
- Add important words to your word web.
- Write down page numbers where you found important information.
- Highlight an answer or important information when you see it.
- Underline new key words.

Keep Track of Progress

- Talk to the author. Imagine saying, "I got this part."
- When you notice that you're telling the author that it doesn't make sense, go back and reread it.

Ideas to Reflect and Learn (After Reading Strategies)

- Check back on all marked sections.
- Add to your word web.
- Retell a short version of the story or text in your own words.
- Reread any parts that you marked because they were difficult.
- Think about your feelings for the story or text. (Was it interesting? Did you like it? Was it easy to follow?)
- Write your reaction to the story/text.
- Create an outline or notes from the important information and key words.
- Make a vocabulary list of the new words that you have read.
- Think about how this material is like what you have read before.
- Teach or share part of the book or text with a classmate or a relative or friend.

Rate Your Reading

- Rate the reading material as just right, too easy, or too hard.
- Rate the reading material's interest; very interesting, OK, not very interesting.
- Rate what you have learned: learned a lot, learned some, and learned very little.