

St. Peter's School

Summer Reading List

for students

Entering Grade Three

This list contains a wide variety of stories on different reading levels. While you are free to read other books that you discover at your library or bookstore, you must read at least **six books from the list**. Our expectation is that you will read many more. They will fill your summer days with pleasurable journeys into other worlds.

On the last page of this packet, please write down any books not on the list that you think should be added. It would help if you wrote a few lines describing the story.

Revised May 2012

St. Peter's School
Summer Reading List
Entering Grade 3

ATWATER, RICHARD *Mr. Popper's Penguins*

Mr. Popper turns over his house to Captain Cook, a penguin presented by an Antarctic explorer. Before long, twelve penguins are ruling the Popper household.

BARRETT, MARVI *Meet Thomas Jefferson*

This is an easy-to-read biography of the remarkable man who became our country's third president. See other titles in this series.

BAUR, MARION DANE *The Blue Ghost*

Mystery and time travel converge in this story of a girl witnessing an apparition that leads her to save some sick pioneer children that happen to be her relatives.

BELLAIRS, JOHN *The Ghost in the Mirror*

Mrs. Zimmerman takes Rose Rita on a special trip – back in time! See other titles by the same author.

BISHOP, NIC *Butterflies and Moths*

Stunning photographs and clear informative text explains the similarities and differences between butterflies and moths. See Also, *Spiders*.

BLUME, JUDY *Soupy Saturdays with the Pain and the Great One*

Sibling rivalry between the Great One, 3rd grader, Abigail and The Pain, her 1st grade brother, is handled warmly in short, funny chapters.

BOSCH, PSEUDONYMOUS *The Name of This Book is Secret*

Two children find a missing magician's notebook & start to investigate the fire that burned down his house. The fun begins on the first page of this book that says, "Warning: Do Not Read Beyond This Page!" See other titles in this series.

BRIDGES, SHIRIN YIN *Ruby's Wish*

In 19th century China, young girls are supposed to get married, but Ruby wants to attend a university.

BRUCHAC, JOSEPH *Squanto's Journey*

Told from Squanto's point of view, this historically accurate and detailed story brings to life one of the most important moments in America's past.

BRUEL, NICK *Bad Kitty Gets a Bath*

A very funny, much loved graphic novel, Bad Kitty is always up to no good & when it's bath time...Lookout! See other titles in this series.

CAMERON, ANN *The Stories Julian Tells*

Mischievous, imaginative and sensitive, Julian and his stories about himself and his family are sure to enchant and delight. See also other titles in this series and *Gloria's Way* by the same author.

CANNON, JANELL *Stellaluna*

Stellaluna, Mother Bat's beautiful silvery baby, tumbles into a birds' nest one night and is raised as a bird. The struggles to conform are comical for baby birds and bat alike.

CHRISTOPHER, MATT *The Spy on Third Base*

T. V. Adams, third baseman for the Mudders, has an uncanny ability to predict where batters will hit. See how TV's "powers" complicate his life in this fast paced sports story. See other titles by this author.

CHRISTOPHER, MATT *Hot Shot*

Competition erupts between the star center of the basketball team and his rival, the coach's son. See other titles by this author.

CLEARY, BEVERLY *Ramona the Pest*

The kindergarten misadventures of a spunky little girl make a very appealing story. A good read aloud chapter book. See also *Henry Huggins* and *Henry and the Paper Route* as well as other titles in the Ramona series.

CLEMENTS, ANDREW *Jake Drake Know It All*

As he makes his way through school, Jake must deal with the subtleties of friendship and social skills. He gets into some humorous situations.

COBB, VICKI *Your Body Battles a Skinned Knee*

This book describes how the body protects itself against infection.

COLEMAN, EVELYN *White Socks Only*

Subtle and stirring, this tale-within-a-tale begins with an affectionate exchange between an African American girl and her grandmother, and then telescopes to encompass an electrifying moment fraught with personal and political significance. The book works as an effective portrayal of a child's innocence and her awakening to racism.

CURTIS, CHRISTOPHER PAUL *Mr. Chickee's Funny Money*

The Newberry Award winning author writes a mystery story about friends who are members of the Flint Future Detective Club. In this case, they investigate a quadrillion-dollar bill given them by the mysterious Mr. Chickee. See also *Mr. Chickee's Messy Mission*.

DAHL, ROALD *The Enormous Crocodile*

The enormous crocodile has his heart set on eating some juicy little children for lunch. His beastly behavior is not condoned by the other animals, which foil his many attempts. See also *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *Matilda* and other titles by this author.

DANZIGER, PAULA *I, Amber Brown*

Third grader Amber decides to get her ears pierced. Her mom says no, but her dad doesn't know that. After all, something should belong to just Amber....why not her ears? See other titles in this series including *Amber Brown is not a Crayon*, *Amber Brown See Red*, and *You Can't Eat Your Chicken Pox Amber Brown*.

DEEDY, CARMEN AGRA *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale*

Martina is looking for a loving husband but only the advice of her Abuela helps her find one.

DICAMILLO, KATE *Louise: The Adventures of a Chicken*

Unsatisfied with her cozy coop, Louise, the chicken, sets off in search of adventure. A picture book with chapters tells her adventure.

EAGER, EDWARD *Half Magic*

Four children find a magic coin which grants half of every wish. See also *Magic by the Lake*, *Magic or Not? Seven Day Magic*, *Knight's Castle* and other titles by this author.

FLOURNOY, VALERIE *The Patchwork Quilt*

Tanya loves to spend time with the grandmother as she cuts quilting squares and shares family stories. When Grandma becomes ill, Tanya enlists her family's help to complete Grandma's masterpiece of love.

FRITZ, JEAN *What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?*

This look at one of our country's most extraordinary forefathers is full of fascinating detail. See also *George Washington's Breakfast* and others in this series.

GRAHAME, KENNETH *The Reluctant Dragon*

This is a story of a gentle dragon, the fierce dragon slayer, St. George, and a little boy, who works behind the scenes to make this a story with a happy ending.

GRIFALCONI, ANN *The Village of Round and Square Houses*

A grandmother tells the story of why men live in square houses and women in round ones in the village of Tos.

GUTMAN, DAN *The Homework Machine*

Four kids invent a machine to do their homework that causes unexpected results. See other titles by this author.

HARNESS, CHERYL *Three Young Pilgrims*

When Bartholomew, Remember, and Mary Allerton and their parents first step down from the *Mayflower* after sixty days at sea, they never dream that life in the New World will be so hard. Many in their Plymouth colony won't make it through the winter, and the colony's first harvest is possible only with the help of two friends, Samoset and Squanto.

HESSE, KAREN *Come On, Rain!*

Much more than a simple tale of weather, *Come On, Rain!* also portrays the tenderness of mother-daughter relations, the rhythms of urban society, and the power of nature to transform and reinvigorate all forms of life.

HOWE, DEBORAH *Bunnacula: A Rabbit Tale of Mystery*

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.

JENKINS, EMILY *Toys Go Out*

The ridiculous and touching adventures of three toys that are friends are told in six linked stories.

KEENE, CAROLYN *Nancy Drew Mysteries*

The classic mysteries for girls still have appeal. This was a childhood favorite of several female Supreme Court Justices.

KLISE, KATE *Dying to Meet You: 43 Old Cemetery Road Book 1*

I. B. Grumpy has writers block. He rents an old Victorian mansion to help him concentrate but the house is already occupied by an 11 year old boy, his cat, and a ghost. This story is uniquely told through correspondence by letter. See also *Letters From Camp*.

KRULIK, KATIE *Katie Kazoo Switcheroo- Anyone But Me*

This is a series of forty books, in which Katie turns into a different person or animal & gets to see the world from a different point of view. See other titles in this series.

LA FEVERS, R. L. *Nathaniel Fludd Beastologist*

A chapter book about ten year old Nate, who is sent to live with his cousin, the world's last beastologist, when his parents are lost at sea. Humor & mystery follow him on an expedition to protect a newly hatched phoenix egg. See other titles in this series.

LAMARCHE, JIM *The Raft*

Nick is an urban boy left by his dad for the summer at his artist grandmother's house in the woods. He is bored until he discovers a raft decorated with drawings of animals. This is an interesting summer read.

LE GUIN, URSULA *Catwings*

A highly acclaimed novel about four winged tabby cats that leave the grimy city in search of a safe place to live. See also *Catwings Return* and *Wonderful Alexander and the Catwings* in this series

LEVINE, GAIL CARSON *Ella Enchanted*

This richly entertaining story tells of Ella of Frell, who at birth was given the gift of obedience by a fairy. Ella soon realizes that this gift is little better than a curse, for how can she truly be herself if at anytime anyone can order her to hop on one foot, or cut off her hand, or betray her kingdom and she'll have to obey? Against a bold tapestry of princes, ogres, giants, wicked stepsisters, and fairy godmothers, Ella's quest is to break the curse once and for all and discover who she really is.

LOWRY, LOIS *See You Around, Sam*

Sam Krupnik decides to run away to Alaska when his mother won't let him wear his new plastic fangs in the house. Sam stops at neighbors' houses to say goodbye and is given so much gear and information, he wonders if he's made the right choice.

MARSHALL, JAMES *George and Martha: The Complete Stories of Two Best Friends*

Like all best friends, George and Martha do everything together--go to the movies, play at the beach, and just hang around not doing much of anything. No matter that they happen to be gigantic hippopotami, they learn the same lessons humans do about the ups and downs of true friendship. See other titles by this author also.

MARTIN, ANN M. *The Doll People*

Annabelle Doll is part of a family of dolls that has been locked up in an antique doll house for a hundred years. It has been a very boring life until..... See also *The Meanest Doll in the World*.

MCCULLY, EMILY *Mirette on the High Wire*

In a story set against the backdrop of nineteenth-century Paris, Mirette, a young girl living in the Widow Gateau's boarding house, becomes the pupil of a former tightrope walker and, in exchange, gives her teacher a valuable lesson about faith and courage.

MCELLIGOTT, MATTHEW *Bean Thirteen*

Two bug friends are picking beans for dinner. They pick 13. They are afraid this last bean will be unlucky but they pick it anyway. They divide the pile in half and one bean is leftover...now what to do with it?

MCGRAW, LAURIE *Polar The Titanic Bear*

A story of a boy, his teddy bear, and their escape from the *Titanic's* sinking,

MILNE, A. A. *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh*

Pooh's status as a "Bear of Very Little Brain" belies his profoundly eternal wisdom in the ways of the world.

MEDEARIS, ANGELA SHELF *What Did I Do To Deserve A Sister Like You?*

It's bad enough having a perfect sister around the house but now Sharie has to compete against her in a piano recital!

MORA, PAT *Tomás and the Library Lady*

The true story of Tomás Rivera and the kind librarian who helped him learn to love books. Tomás started his life as a migrant worker and, when he died, was a university chancellor. (The UC Riverside library now bears his name.)

MOWAT, FARLEY *Owls in the Family*

A couple of owls adopted by a Saskatoon family manage to make life a bit more interesting. This wonderful animal story is based on the author's personal experience.

MOSS, MARISSA *Amelia's Are-We-There-Yet, Longest Ever Car Trip*

This third volume of Amelia's handwritten notebooks chronicles her summer road trip to the Grand Canyon and Yosemite and to visit her best friend, Nadia. See other titles in this series.

MYERS, CHRISTOPHER *Wings*

The people in the neighborhood point at an unusual boy with wings, kids laugh at him and the teachers call him a distraction but a shy little girl identifies with him.

PARK, LINDA SUE *Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo Poems*

This is a delightful book of modern poems that follow the rules of a traditional form of Korean poetry. The poems are each playful, sophisticated & thought provoking.

PENNYPACKER, SARA *Clementine*

An ingenious third grader has a good heart and a talent for trouble. See other titles in this series.

PILKEY, DAV *The Adventures of Captain Underpants*

The story is a superhero spoof: two misbehaving fourth-grade boys, Harold and George, hypnotize their school principal and turn him into their comic book creation, Captain Underpants.

POLACCO, PATRICIA *Thank You Mr. Falker*

Tricia, who has a yearning to learn to read because of her family's love of learning, discovers that letters in books seem to be all wiggling shapes. As she progresses through school, her classmates scorn her as dumb. She believes them . . . until Fifth Grade when she is blessed with a wonderful teacher, Mr. Falker. See other titles by this author.

ROCKWELL, THOMAS *How to Eat Fried Worms*

Could you eat 15 worms if you knew you would win some money for doing it? How would you like them prepared?

SCIESZKA, JON *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*

The entire book, with its unconventional page arrangement and eclectic, frenetic mix of text and pictures, is a spoof on the art of book design and the art of the fairy tale. The individual tales, such as *The Really Ugly Duckling* and *Little Red Running Shorts*, can be extracted for telling aloud, with great success. See also *Math Curse* by the same author.

SCIESZKA, JON *The Time Warp Trio – Knights of the Kitchen Table*

Joe's uncle gives him a book for his birthday. The next thing he knows, he and his two friends are sucked back in time, fighting off the Black Knight in Camelot. This is a series that mixes facts, adventure, comedy, and hocus-pocus.

SEEGER, PETE *Abiyoyo*

The South African folktale of how a boy and his father use their unusual talents to vanquish a terrible giant from the town that banished them

SEIDLER, TOR *Mean Margaret*

A fastidious woodchuck discovers parenthood to be worse than his wildest imaginings.

SOBOL, DONALD *Encyclopedia Brown*

Idaville's ten-year-old detective helps to crack this town's toughest cases. Each chapter has a new case to solve, and the reader is invited to match wits with the hero. Solutions to the cases appear at the end of the book. See other in this series.

STEIG, WILLIAM *Doctor DeSoto*

Doctor DeSoto, a dentist who happens to be a mouse, overrides his policy of refusing treatment to dangerous animals when he pities a suffering fox. Aware that the fox's base instincts are at work, DeSoto devises a clever scheme to protect himself and his wife. See others titles by this author.

STEPTOE, JOHN *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters*

Mufaro had two beautiful daughters, but only one will be worthy of being a queen.

STERN, A. J. *Frankly Frannie*

Frannie Miller can't wait to grow up, get a job & have her very own assistant but when she tries to help out on a school field trip to a local radio station, she causes complete havoc. See other titles in this series.

STEWART, SARAH *The Gardener*

This is a Depression-era story of young Lydia Grace Finch, whose family's financial woes are the reason for Lydia's extended stay in the city with dour Uncle Jim. Lydia's letters to her parents and Grandma, her beloved gardening partner, tell of her adjustment to the city, her work in her uncle's bakery, and of her determination to make her uncle smile.

STOLZ, MARY *A Ballad of the Civil War*

This is a dramatic story about the twin sons of a plantation owner who share everything except their views about slavery. See also *Go Fish* by the same author.

THOMSON, MELISSA *Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-Up*

Written in journal form, it describes the ups and downs of Keena's year as a second grader.

TAYLOR, SYDNEY *All-Of-A-Kind-Family*

Taylor's autobiographical series of books about a Jewish family on the Lower East Side of New York at the turn of the twentieth century is a classic.

THOMPSON, KAY *Eloise*

Eloise is a little girl who lives at The Plaza Hotel in New York. She is not yet pretty but she is already a Person. Henry James would want to study her. Queen Victoria would recognize her as an Equal. The New York Jets would want to have her on their side. Lewis Carroll would love her (once he got over the initial shock). She knows everything about The Plaza. She is interested in people when they are not boring. She has Inner Resources

TIME FOR KIDS BIOGRAPHIES

Published by Time Magazine, these beginning biographies have simple text with color & black & white photographs. Subjects include Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, John F. Kennedy, Abigail Adams & Clara Barton.

TURNER, ANN *Nettie's Trip South*

Based on the diary of the author's great-grandmother, this is a poignant and compelling look at slavery through the eyes of a young girl. Once read, it is not soon forgotten.

VAN ALLSBURG, CHRIS *The Garden of Abdul Gasazi*

A little boy desperately pursues a dog that he is pet-sitting when his charge wanders into a garden of a powerful magician.

VAN ALLSBURG, CHRIS *Queen of the Falls*

The true story of Annie Edson Taylor who took the plunge over Niagara Falls in a barrel she designed.

WARNER, GERTRUDE *The Boxcar Children*

Faced with the prospect of being sent to live with their grandfather, whom they believe is an evil man, the orphaned Alden children make an old boxcar their home. See other titles in this series.

WHITE, E. B. *Charlotte's Web*

Wilbur the pig's life is twice spared when a little girl and an extraordinary spider intercede on his behalf. See also *Stuart Little* and *The Trumpet of the Swan* by this author.

WILDER, LAURA INGALLS *Little House in the Big Woods*

Wolves, panthers & bears roamed the deep woods in the 1870's. In those same woods, Laura Ingalls lived with her Pa & Ma & her sisters, Mary & Baby Carrie, in a snug little house built of logs. See other titles in this series.

WINTER, JONAH *You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!*

This biography of Sandy Koufax is told from the point of view of an old time baseball fan. It describes the kind of discrimination that he faced as one of the only Jews in the game. Sidebars on each page are filled with statistics.

WOODRUFF, ELVIRA *George Washington's Socks*

While enjoying a innocent lakeside camp out, five modern-day children are transported back in time to the days of George Washington and other American Revolutionary figures.

YEP, LAWRENCE *The Dragon Princess: A Chinese Beauty & the Beast Tale*

A poor farmer's daughter agrees to marry a fierce dragon to save her father's life.

Suggested Additions

Title:_____

Author:_____

Title:_____

Author:_____

Title:_____

Author:_____

Name:_____

Grade:_____