Students Entering Grades K through 2

Fiction:

- *All the World* by Liz Garton Scanlon. The myriad joys of the world are reflected with warmth and affection in this look at a day in a small community near the ocean. (A 2010 Caldecott Honor Book.)
- *Benny and Penny in the Big No-No!* by Geoffrey Hayes. Siblings Benny and Penny encounter trouble when curiosity about a mysterious neighbor leads them into unexpected adventures. (The 2010 Geisel Award Book.)
- *Big Wolf and Little Wolf* by Nadine Brun-Cosme. Big Wolf lives alone until Little Wolf appears. Bit by bit, Big Wolf allows Little Wolf to join him in daily activities. Only when Little Wolf goes away does Big Wolf realize how much he cares for his new friend. (A 2010 Batchelder Honor Book.)
- *My Abuelita* by Tony Johnston. As a grandmother flows through the book pages in her robes as flamboyant as the stories she loves to tell, she inspires her grandson to want to be just like her when he grows old. (A 2010 Belpé Illustrator Honor Book.)
- *Mouse and Mole: Fine Feathered Friends* by Wong Herbert Yee. Artistic Mole and poetic Mouse join forces to hatch a clever plan for watching skittish birds and create their own book of paintings and poems celebrating their bird-watching adventures (A 2010 Geisel Honor Book.)
- *Zero is the Leaves on the Tree* by Betsy Franco. How do you define zero? This book explores the concept of zero.

Nonfiction:

- *Animal Colors: A Rainbow of Colors from Animals Around the World* by Beth Fielding. A gorgeous, in-depth look at animal colors as they occur in nature. Highly graphic and visually appealing, the book is organized first by singular colors, followed by common combinations.
- *Birds* by Kevin Henkes. A young unseen narrator explores colors, shapes, and sizes as she watches red, blue, yellow and green birds outside her window.
- *George Washington’s Teeth* by Deborah Chandra & Madeleine Comora. In a time of few, if any dentists, our first president had a problem with tooth decay!
- *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11* by Brian Floca. Forty years after the first and last humans (for now) stepped on the moon’s surface, a handsome, largely visual chronicle of that historic journey brings its majesty and mystery to young readers. (A 2010 Sibert Honor Book.)
- *My People* by Langston Hughes. Warm photographic portraits celebrating the diversity of African-American faces illustrate Langston Hughes’ 1923 classic poem. (The 2010 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Winner)
- *Wangari’s Trees of Peace: a True Story of Africa* by Jeanette Winter. This true story of Wangari Maathai, environmentalist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a shining example of how one woman's passion, vision, and determination inspired great change.
Students Entering Grades 3 through 5

**Fiction:**

- **Adventures in Cartooning** by James Sturm, Andrew Arnold and Alexis Frederick-Frost. The Magic Cartooning Elf mesmerizes readers with the story of a knight and a princess that also provides step-by-step instruction for creating cartoons.

- **Chicken Little** by Rebecca Emberly. You think you know the story of Chicken Little? Well, maybe you do, but this retelling of the story offers hip, happening illustrations that will make you see it in a whole new way.

- **Eleven Birthdays** by Wendy Mass. After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

- **How Oliver Olson Changed the World** by Claudia Mills. A third-grade science project gives Oliver the confidence to break free from his overprotective parents in this humorous, realistic school story.

- **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon** by Grace Lin. A young Chinese girl, long a believer in her father’s fantastic stories, goes on a quest to find the legendary Old Man of the Moon in the hope of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain. (A 2010 Newbery Honor Book.)

- **Friendship for Today** by Patricia C. McKissack. In 1954, when desegregation comes to Kirkland, Missouri, ten-year-old Rosemary faces many changes and challenges at school and at home as her parents separate.

**Nonfiction:**

- **2030: A Day in the Life of Tomorrow’s Kids** by Amy Zuckerman & James Daly. It’s always great fun to imagine the future. Journey along as scientists try to explain what it might actually be like.

- **An Eye for Color: The Story of Josef Albers** by Natasha Wing. In a picture book format, Wing offers simple explanations of the unusual ways that artist Josef Albers used color and shape to open the eyes of the world.

- **A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder** by Walter Wick. Discover mysterious water—snowflake, frost, vapor and more—as you’ve never seen it before!

- **Down, Down, Down: A Journey to the Bottom of the Sea** by Steve Jenkins. This irresistible underwater exploration reveals the mysteries of the sea by going deeper and deeper from top to bottom, viewing little known creatures and encountering spaces where few have ever been.

- **Never Smile at a Monkey: And 17 Other Important Things to Remember** by Steve Jenkins. Here’s the scoop on what you should not do if you come face to face with different wild animals! An exciting look at animal defense mechanism.

- **You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!** by Jonah Winter. Sandy Koufax's achievements as a great left-handed pitcher come to life in dramatic and dynamic illustrations coupled with alluring facts and figures.
Students Entering Grades 6 through 8

Fiction:

- **Anything But Typical** by Nora Raleigh Baskin. Jason is an autistic boy who is a creative-writing whiz who is most comfortable in an online writing forum where he has an online friendship with a girl. His excitement over having a real friend (and maybe even girlfriend) turns to terror when he learns that he may meet her in person.

- **Looking for Red** by Angela Johnson. Twelve-year-old Mike -- short for Michaela -- struggles to cope with the loss of her beloved older brother, Red, who disappeared four months earlier off the coast of Cape Cod.

- **Models Don’t Eat Chocolate Cookies** by Erin Dionne. Entered in the Husky Peach beauty pageant against her will, Celeste needs to find a way to lose or suffer the humiliation of winning a plus-size beauty pageant.

- **Peace, Locomotion** by Jacqueline Woodson. Lonnie and his sister can't stay with the same foster family, but he writes her letters describing his life with his new family.

- **Return to Sender** by Julia Alvarez. After his family hires migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure, eleven-year-old Tyler befriends the oldest daughter, but when he discovers they may not be in the country legally. (The 2010 Belpre Author Award Winner.)

- **The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg** by Rodman Philbrick. Homer, an admitted liar and teller of tales, must rescue his brother Harold after Uncle Squinton Leach sells him to the Union Army. (A 2010 Newbery Honor Book.)

Nonfiction:

- **Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream** by Tanya Lee Stone. In the early 1960s, the doctor in charge of testing NASA’s astronauts decided to find out if female pilots were capable of passing the grueling qualification tests required of male pilots.

- **Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal** by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Biography of former slave Bass Reeves, the first black U.S. Marshall, staunchly defended territorial law in the American West through many remarkable deeds. (The 2010 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner)


- **Diego: Bigger Than Life** by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand. A series of chronological poems delve into the life of artist Diego Rivera, enlivened by bold, bigger than life images. (A 2010 Belpre Illustrator Honor Book and Belpre Author Honor Book.)

- **The Day-Glo Brothers: the True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer’s Bright Ideas and Brand-New Colors** by Chris Barton. This glowing biography tells of two inventive brothers who worked together from a startling discovery in their basement to a lifetime creating fluorescent colors. (A 2010 Sibert Honor Book.)

- **The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P.T. Barnum** by Candace Fleming. P.T. Barnum was known around the world for his “human curiosity” exhibits, menagerie of animals, outrageous sideshows.
Students Entering Grades 9 through 12

Fiction:

- **Jumped** by Rita Williams-Garcia. The lives of Leticia, Dominique, and Trina are irrevocably intertwined through the course of one day in an urban high school after Leticia overhears Dominique's plans to beat up Trina and must decide whether or not to get involved.
- **Miracle’s Boys** by Jacqueline Woodson. Twelve-year-old Lafayette's close relationship with his older brother Charlie changes after Charlie is released from a detention home and blames Lafayette for the death of their mother.
- **Purple Heart** by Patricia McCormick. While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital from a traumatic brain injury sustained during the Iraq War, eighteen-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his ten-year-old friend, Ali.
- **The Boy Who Dared** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. In October, 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hubener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.
- **The Rock and the River** by Kekla Magoon. Set in 1968 Chicago, this powerful debut novel follows 13-year-old Sam Childs, the son of a known civil rights activist who questions the possibility of change after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- **You Don’t Even Know Me: Stories and Poems about Boys** by Sharon Flake. In 9 stories and 13 poems, a diverse group of teen African American males express their worldview.

Nonfiction:

- **At Her Majesty's Request: An African Princess in Victorian England** by Walter Dean Myers. Sarah Forbes Bonetta is a seven-year-old African (Egbado) princess saved by an English naval officer from a rival tribe's ritual sacrifice in 1850. Sarah is brought to England, where Queen Victoria puts the girl under her protection until Sarah's marriage.
- **Charles and Emma: The Darwins’ Leap of Faith** by Deborah Heiligman. This same debate that exists around Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution raged within Darwin himself, and played an important part in his marriage: his wife, Emma, was quite religious, and her faith gave Charles a lot to think about.
- **Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter** by Adeline Yen. Set in China in the 1940s, the book chronicles both the abuse Yen endures as the last child of her father's first marriage and her quiet acts of courage in the face of adversity.
- **Declare Yourself: Speak, Connect, Act, Vote: More than 50 Celebrities Tell You Why** edited by America Ferrera. 50 celebrated Americans share their compelling perspectives on voting and civic involvement in this one-of-a-kind book.
- **Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier** by Ishmael Beah. A riveting, firsthand account of Ishmael Beah, a 12-year-old child soldier, hopped up on drugs and wielding an AK-47, who gets swept up in the horrors of civil war in his African homeland.
- **The Street Art Book: 60 Artists in Their Own Words** by Ric Blackshaw. More than sixty street artists talk about their art and inspiration.
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<th>Suggested Activities for Students Entering Grades K through 2:</th>
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<td>• Make a picture book of your favorite characters.</td>
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<td>• Make a sock puppet for two of the main characters.</td>
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<td>• Make a time-line of events.</td>
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<td>• Create and write a new ending for the story.</td>
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<td>• Write a summary of the story.</td>
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<td>• Write a few pages in a diary as if you were the main character.</td>
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<td>• Write a song about the story.</td>
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<td>• Prepare a book jacket for your story.</td>
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<td>• Write a letter of appreciation to the author, asking questions and sharing thoughts.</td>
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<td>• Draw a picture of your favorite part of the book.</td>
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<th>Suggested Activities for Students Entering Grades 3 through 5:</th>
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<td>• Choose a character you’d like to have as a friend and tell why.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Make a time-line of events.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Create and write a new ending for the story.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Write a summary of the story.</td>
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<td>• Write diary entries as if you were the main character.</td>
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<td>• Write a song about the story.</td>
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<td>• Create a cartoon strip based on the main character.</td>
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<td>• Write a poem about the main character.</td>
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<td>• Write an essay telling why this would (or would not) make a good movie.</td>
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<th>Suggested Activities for Students Entering Grades 6 through 8:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Create a board game or computer game based on the characters and events in the book. Include clearly written instructions, board or computer background and playing pieces or picture of action figures.</td>
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<td>• For nonfiction, create a game designed to teach the most important information.</td>
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<td>• Choose six quotations from your book and divide a large sheet of paper into six sections and illustrate each quotation.</td>
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<td>• Draw a caricature of a character from your book.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Using words or pictures cut out of old magazines and newspapers create a collage illustrating the plot or theme of your book.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Draw a 4 (or longer) panel comic strip based on the events of your book.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Create a three-dimensional miniature scene showing the setting of your book.</td>
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Suggested Activities for Students Entering Grades 9-12:

Please note that *some high schools* throughout the District have included a summer reading requirement as part of your child’s summer assignment. If you have any questions please check with your child’s home school.

- Draw an illustrated time line showing the events of your book. Research world events that took place at the same time and put them on the other side of the time line.
- Write a song with lyrics based on the characters or events of the book.
- Choose an issue from current events and decide what the main character of your book would think about it. Write a speech on that issue from the character’s point of view.
- Write a different ending for the book.
- Choose a job that you think a character from your book would be qualified to obtain. Write a resume for the job as if you were the character.
- Write a letter to the editor of your school newspaper or local newspaper, giving your opinion about an issue raised by your book.
- Write a front-page news story about an important incident from your book. You may want to draw a “photo” to accompany your story.

**Enhance your summer reading with these fun websites:**

- **Kids Click!**
  www.kidselick.org
  specifically made for kids by librarians. It is the perfect search engine where kids can browse for all kinds of related educational resources.

- **Art Safari: An Adventure in Learning**
  http://artsafari.moma.org/
  This site encourages children to learn about art by looking for animals in works of art. Children can also create their own artwork and print it or save on the computer.

- **5 a Day—healthy eating**
  http://www.dole5aday.com/
  This site is packed with fun activities designed to motivate people to eat more fruits and vegetables and be physically active.

- **StarFall**
  http://www.starfall.com/
  Helps children read is perfect for K-2 students. It contains exciting interactive books and phonics games.

- **Tic Tac Toe Squares**
  http://www.funbrain.com/tictactoe/index.html
  Students use the traditional game of Tic Tac Toe to solve problems in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, squares, cubes, square roots, and all operations.

- **The Yuckiest Site on the Internet**
  http://yucky.kids.discovery.com
  This site lets children explore Worm World, Gross & Cool Body, Roach World, as well as games and mad science.

- **Seven Wonders of the World**
  The notion of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World can be traced back to the fifth century B.C. Six of the seven wonders no longer stand, having been destroyed by natural disaster or by humans.

**For more online learning resources visit the CMSD library website at**

https://cleveland.schoolnet.com/outreach/csd/library/
The primary goal of the Cleveland Municipal School District is to become a premier school district in the United States of America