

Guilford Public Schools
Suggestions for Summer Reading
Entering Grade 4

Students are encouraged to read a variety of mysteries, poetry, historical fiction (particularly of American history before 1750), factual science books and especially myths, biographies, autobiographies, journals and memoirs.

Fourth Grade is the first year students are able to participate in the Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award. Ten new titles are nominated each year and children vote for their favorite after reading the books. The nominees for the 2009 Nutmeg Book Award are:

Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park
Attack of the Turtle by Drew Carlson
A Dog's Life by Ann M. Martin
Double Identity by Margaret P. Haddix
Drita, My Homegirl by Jenny Lombard

The Ghost's Grave by Peg Kehret
Paint the Wind by Pam Munoz Ryan
Rules by Cynthia Lord
The Stumptown Kid by Carol Gorman
And Ron Findley
The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin

Other suggested authors:

Arnold, Caroline - Detailed information and photographs about animals and birds.

Bailey, Linda - Follow the adventures of Stephanie, a.k.a. "Steve Diamond, Detective."

Bulla, Clyde - Many historical fiction titles from a variety of time periods.

Cleary, Beverly - Follow the comic adventures of Ramona, Henry and the Mouse on the Motorcycle.

Clements, Andrew author of more than fifty books for children, including the popular FRINDLE.

Collins, Suzanne – author of the Underland Chronicles

Conford, Ellen - Readers will enjoy the humor in the Jenny Archer series.

Coville, Bruce – great monster and scary stories.

Danziger, Paula - Common and uncommon problems of the everyday life of Amber Brown.

Dear America Journal Series - Experience through diaries the daily life of American children from different times in our history.

DiCamillo, Kate – Award winning author who creates unforgettable characters.

Dixon, Franklyn - The Hardy Boy mysteries

Fisher, Leonard Everett - Writes about historical subjects.

Fritz, Jean - Historical biographies of figures in American History.

Evans, Douglas – Elevator Family series

Gantos, Jack – Joey Pigza series

Greenwald, Sheila - Follow the ups and downs of Rosy Cole's life in NY City.

Gutman, Dan - Sports stories for the sports fan.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson - Among the Hidden series

Hahn, Mary Downing - Chapter books with a twist.

Henry, Marguerite - Horses and their owners in different times and places come to life.

Hess, Karen -

Hurwitz, Johanna - Several family series with boys and girls from 6 to 10 years old.

Jacques, Brian - The Redwall series brings a world of fantasy. (over)

Keene, Carolyn - Nancy Drew series

Kehret, Peg - Stories about ordinary kids who find themselves in extraordinary situations.

King-Smith, Dick - Fantasy and realistic animal fiction.

Kinney, Jeff – Diary of a Wimpy Kid series

Kline, Suzy - Herbie Jones, Orp, and Mary Maroney series tell of the home and school lives of ordinary children.

Lasky, Kathryn – the Guardians of Ga’Hoole series.

Lauber, Patricia - Life and physical science titles.

L'Engle, Madeline - titles of fantasy.

Levy, Elizabeth - A variety of humorous series, including the Something Queer mysteries.

Patent, Dorothy - Many natural science books.

Paulsen, Gary - Books about survival with experiences from the author’s life.

Peet, Bill - Humorous, rhyming fiction.

Prelutsky, Jack - Humorous poetry selections.

Riordan, Rick – Fast paced stories of mythology and adventure

Rowling, J.K. – Harry Potter series

Sachar, Louis - Adventures of Marvin Redpost and the amazing Wayside School.

Scieszka, Jon - Zany Time Warp Trio series that follows a trio of boys who travel through time.

Silverstein, Shel - Funny, zany poetry.

Snicket, Lemmon - Chronicle of the unfortunate events of the Baudelaire children.

Sobol, Donald – Encyclopedia Brown series

Van Allsburg, Chris – beautifully illustrated adventures to fantastical places.

Wiesner, David – award winning author/illustrator of out-of-this-world stories.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls - Follow the westward expansion of America with the movements of the Wilder family.

Tip: How will parents know if the book their child selects is "just right" for independent reading? Listen to your child read a page or two of the book. As a rule of thumb, if your child can read 95% of the words with ease, it is a "just right" book.