



**Grade 4
Summer Reading List - 2009
Landon Lower School**

Dear Fourth Graders:

Summer is a wonderful time for reading. We encourage you to read as much as possible. **WE REQUIRE EACH BOY TO READ AT LEAST 6 BOOKS FROM THIS LIST DURING THE SUMMER.**

The books in this list are divided into 8 categories: *Fiction, Biography, Folklore, History, Poetry, Science, Too Good to Miss, and "Xtra: Just for fun"*. **Only one book can be counted from the "Xtra: Just for Fun" category. Please read the remaining 5 books from 3 other categories or if you decide not to read any books from the "Just for Fun" category, then the 6 books should be from at least 3 different categories.**

List the 6 required books below and bring back this sheet on the first day of school with your parent's signature. We know most of you will read many more books. You can list additional books on the back of this page or write them on a separate sheet of paper. Bring your list on the first day of school.

HAPPY READING!

Student Name _____

	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Category</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____

Parent Signature



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FICTION

Aiken, Joan

Arabel's Raven (series)

The injured raven Arabel's father brings home can say only "Kaark" and "Nevermore" but he still manages to make changes in the family's life.

Armstrong, Jennifer

Thomas Jefferson: letters from a Philadelphia

Bookworm (Dear Mr. President series)

An educated, inquisitive young girl in Philadelphia corresponds with President Thomas Jefferson about current events

Atwater, Richard

Mr. Popper's Penguins

Mr. Popper was presented with an Antarctic penguin which he named Captain Cook. The family tried to make the new pet happy, but he grew so lonely that they got another penguin named Greta. How life changed for the Popper family!

Avi

S.O.R. Losers

The South Orange River (S.O.R.) School is big on sports and famous for not losing a game all season.

Babbitt, Natalie

Tuck Everlasting

The Tuck family discovers a spring which grants eternal life and decides to protect it for the sake of humanity.

Banks, Lynn

The Indian in the Cupboard (series)

Omri receives a mysterious cupboard, a very old key, and a three-inch high Indian for his 9th birthday.

Barber, Tiki

Kickoff

The twin brothers Tiki and Ronde are ready to leave Peewee League to play football for their junior high school team, but the competition for starting positions is tough.

Barry, Dave

Peter and the Starcatchers (series)

Peter, an orphan, sets sail from England on the ship Never Land. He befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate.

Bauer, Marion

Secret of the Painted House

When her family moves to the country, Emily is drawn to a mysterious playhouse in the woods and soon meets its sad, lonely inhabitant.

A Bear Named Trouble

This fictionalized account of a real Alaska brown bear's early life, is told from his perspective (in italics) and that of a 10-year-old boy.

Bellairs, John

The House with a Clock in its Walls

A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion that has a clock hidden in the walls which is ticking off the minutes until doomsday.

- Birdsall, Jeanne** ***Penderwicks*** (series)
This story of a chaotic summer vacation takes place at a cottage on the grounds of a posh mansion with four sisters, a new friend, his snooty mother, a raging bull, and a protective dog.
- Blume, Judy** ***Tales of Fourth Grade Nothing*** (Fudge series)
Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever increasing problem.
- Buckingham, Royce** ***Demonkeeper***
Buckingham has written an enjoyable, fast paced, action filled novel that is both scary and laugh-out-loud funny.
- Bunting, Eve** ***Train to Somewhere***
In the late 1800s, Marianne travels westward on the Orphan Train in hopes of being placed with a caring family.
Summer of Riley
Shortly after he gets the perfect dog, Riley, eleven-year-old William must fight for his dog's life.
- Byars, Betsy** ***Trouble River***
When he builds his raft, a twelve-year-old boy never dreams that it will serve as the sole means of escape for him and his grandmother.
- Catanese, P. W.** ***Thief and the Beanstalk***
Everyone knows the story of Jack and the beanstalk. Everyone also knows that Jack's little adventure made him a very rich man. But what they don't know is what happened a long time after Jack....
- Christopher, Matt** ***Soccer Hero***
Rob Lasher is just an ordinary soccer player, good at the game, but not great. Then something happens to change it all.
- Cleary, Beverly** ***Henry and Beezus*** (series)
Henry decides to sell bubble gum to all the kids at school to earn money to buy his own bicycle, he gets plenty of trouble, but very little money.
Mouse and the Motorcycle
A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.
Ribsy
Separated from his owner, Henry, in a shopping center parking lot, an ordinary city dog begins a string of bewildering adventures.
- Clements, Andrew** ***Room One***
Ted, the only sixth grader in his small Nebraska town's one-room schoolhouse, searches for clues to the disappearance of a homeless family.
Frindle
Clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.
Lunch Money
Twelve-year-old Greg, who has always been good at moneymaking projects, is surprised to find himself teaming up with his lifelong rival, Maura, to create a series of comic books to sell at school.

- Collins, Suzanne** ***Gregor the Overlander*** (series)
When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.
- Cooper, Susan** ***The Boggart*** (series)
Not only has the Volnik family inherited a castle in Scotland, but also a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.
- Corbett, Sue** ***Free Baseball***
Eleven-year-old Felix takes advantage of an opportunity to become bat boy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder.
- Coville, Bruce** ***The Monster's Ring*** (Magic Shop series)
Small for his age but artistically talented, twelve-year-old Jeremy Thatcher unknowingly buys a dragon's egg.
- Creech, Sharon** ***Love That Dog/ Hate That Cat***
A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup
With the help of her wise grandmother, 12 year old Rosie manages to work out some problems regarding her best friend, Bailey.
- Crisp, Marty** ***White Star***
Twelve-year-old Sam, a passenger on the Titanic's maiden sea voyage, volunteers to help care for the dogs in the ocean liner's kennel
- Dahl, Roald** ***Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator***
This sequel to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory continues the adventure as Charlie, Willy Wonka, and the gang are last seen flying through the sky in a giant elevator.
- DiCamillo, Kate** ***Because of Winn-Dixie***
With her newly adopted, goofy pooch at her side, Opal explores bittersweet world and learns to listen to other people's lives.
- Echemendu, Nancy** ***The Power of Un***
Gib Finney is not sure what event from the worst day in his life he should change in order to keep his sister from being hit by a truck.
- Feiffer, Jules** ***Room with a Zoo***
"I have a zoo in my room. I need it. I'm either going to be a vet when I grow up or a zookeeper." Says Julie, nine, who is obsessed with animals.
- Fitzgerald, John D** ***The Great Brain*** (series)
Tom Fitzgerald, alias "The Great Brain", is the shrewdest con artist west of the Mississippi during the early 1900s

- Fleischman, Paul** ***Bull Run***
Through the alternating viewpoints of 16 characters from various walks of life, readers gain insight into the first battle of the Civil War.
- Fleischman, Sid** ***The Whipping Boy***
A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.
- Franklin, Kristine** ***Nerd, No More***
Wiggie Carter gets himself into real trouble because he tries desperately to be a cool kid instead of a nerd.
- Funke, Cornelia** ***Dragon Rider***
Is there a land where dragons can live in peace? Three friends go on a journey into magical lands where they meet many creatures, discover many allies, and one ruthless villain.
- Gantos, Jack** ***I am not Joey Pigza*** (series)
In this latest installment by Jack Gantos, Joey Pigza's life is turned upside down when his father comes back into the picture claiming to be a changed man, with a new name-Charles Heinz.
- Gleitzman, Morris** ***Toad Rage*** (series)
Determined to understand why humans hate cane toads and to improve relations between the species, Limpy embarks on a dangerous trek from his swamp to the Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia.
- Grogan, John** ***Marley: a Dog Like No Other***
Grogan celebrates the life of his free-spirited, bad-boy Labrador retriever.
- Gutman, Dan** ***Qwerty Stevens, Back in Time*** (Edison Mystery)
Robert "Qwerty" Stevens uses the time machine he finds in his back yard to visit Thomas Edison's workshop in 1879.
Race for the sky
Johnny would rather go fishing near his home on North Carolina's Outer Banks until two "dingbatters" from Ohio arrive in 1900 and try to build a flying machine.
Satch and Me
With his ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe takes Flip with him to find out whether Satchel Paige really was the fastest pitcher ever.
- Hahn, Mary** ***Time for Andrew***
Drew is drawn eighty years into the past to trade places with his great-great-uncle who is dying of diphtheria.
- Haig, Matt** ***Samuel Blink and the Forbidden Forest***
Accompanied by his aunt's Norwegian elkhound, Ibsen, Samuel goes into a weird forest filled with strange and dangerous creatures to rescue his younger sister, Martha, who has been mute since their parents' recent death.

- Hale, Bruce** ***Hiss Me Deadly*** (Chet Gecko series)
In these wickedly funny, criminally punny mysteries from Chet Gecko's tattered casebook, the detective and his trusty mockingbird associate, Natalie Attired, keep law and order in the halls of Emerson Elementary.
- Hannigan, Katherine** ***Ida B: --and her plans to maximize fun, avoid disaster, and (possibly) save the world***
Ida B, an eccentric, homeschooled 9-year-old, seems to have an idyllic life. But then her mom becomes ill, and Ida B heads off to dreaded public school.
- Hicks, Betty** ***Busted***
Anxious to distract his "overly" strict mother, twelve-year-old Stuart and his best friend, a girl named Mack, are determined to introduce her into the world of dating and fix her up with Mack's Uncle Joe.
- Hurwitz, Johanna** ***Class Clown*** (series)
Lucas promises to behave in class even though it doesn't sound like much fun.
- Ibbotson, Eva** ***The Great Ghost Rescue***
A young boy decides to establish a sanctuary for ghosts when the homes they have haunted are replaced by highways and other modern "improvements."
- Jennings, Patrick** ***Out Standing in My Field***
Fifth-grader Ty Cutter is named after baseball great Ty Cobb, but he is the worst player on the team and his overly-competitive father is coach.
- Jones, Jennifer** ***Dear Mrs. Ryan, You're Ruining My Life***
In an effort to get his mother to stop from writing about him in her books, fifth-grader Harvey and his best friend come up with a creative idea.
- Karwoski, Gail** ***Surviving Jamestown***
Sam Collier is about to sail for the New World and will be Captain John Smith's page and apprentice for the next few years.
- Kehret, Peg** ***Trapped!***
When his owner, Alex, finds an illegal animal trap in the woods, Pete the cat faces grave danger as he tries to help his human friends find the culprit who set the trap.
- Kerr, P. B.** ***The Akhenaten Adventure*** (Children of the Lamp: series)
A string of strange things begin to happen to the twins after their wisdom teeth are extracted--they dream the same dreams, and wishes wished in their presence inexplicably come true.
- Kimmel, E. Cody** ***Balto and the Great Race***
The legendary story of the part-husky/part-wolf sled dog who braved severe blizzard conditions to take antitoxin serum to a remote Alaskan village in 1925.
- King-Smith, Dick** ***Harry's Mad***
Harry's parents and friends think he's crazy because he acts out the rich fantasies of his 10-year-old imagination.

- L'Engle, Madeline** ***Meet the Austins***
 Into the happy lives of the six Austins steps petulant and spoiled Maggy Hamilton, orphaned by the sudden death of her pilot father.
- Lin, Grace** ***Year of the Dog***
 Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.
- Year of the Rat***
 The Year of the Dog was a very lucky year: she met her best friend Melody and discovered her true talents. However, the Year of the Rat brings big changes.
- Lowry, Lois** ***Stay! Keeper's story***
 Separated early in life from his mother and siblings, Keeper, the stray dog, tells of his various adventures. .
- Willoughbys***
 Four Willoughby children set about to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.
- Macaulay, David** ***Rome Antics***
 David Macaulay's visually festive journey tracks the whimsical flight of a homing pigeon.
- MacDonald, Alan** ***Trolls go Home***
 When a family of Trolls moves into the quiet suburb of Biddlesden, it's likely that things are going to get ugly (and possibly hairy and smelly) very soon.
- MacLachlan, Patricia** ***Sarah, Plain and Tall*** (series)
 When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.
- Malone, Geoffrey** ***Elephant Ben***
 Ben and his game-ranger father are traveling on the plains of Africa in search of elephants. Not only do they find the great elephant Temba and her family, but ravenous lions and crocodiles and men illegally hunting for ivory.
- Manes, Stephen** ***Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days***
 Milo, tired of problems with his sister, parents, and classmates, finds a book in the library which promises to make him perfect in just three days.
- Mills, Claudia** ***Losers, Inc.***
 Life is unfair to Ethan Winfield and his best friend, Julius, so they form a losers' club. Then Ethan gets a crush on the new student teacher, and suddenly losing is no longer attractive.
- Morpurgo, Michael** ***Kensuke's Kingdom***
 When Michael is swept off his family's yacht, he washes up on a desert island, where he struggles to survive--until he finds he is not alone.

- Naylor, Phyllis** ***Who Won the War*** (Boys Start the War series)
The feud between the four Harfield brothers and their new neighbors, the Malloy sisters is filled with quick wits and inventiveness on both sides.
- Nimmo, Jenny** ***Charlie Bone and the Shadow*** (Children of the Red King series)
Charlie's magical ability to look at photographs and hear conversations that were taking place at the time photographs were taken helps him fight the evil Count Harken.
- Paterson, Katherine** ***Great Gilly Hopkins***
An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be friendly.
- Patterson, Nancy** ***The Winner's Walk***
Surrounded by a multitalented family, nine year old Case feels driven to succeed, but his failed attempts at various competitions discourage him until he finds a stray dog with a past.
- Paulsen, Gary** ***Lawn Boy***
Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.
- Polacco, Patricia** ***Pink and Say***
Say Curtis describes his meeting with Pinkus Aylee, a black soldier, during the Civil War, and their capture by Southern troops. Based on a true story about the author's great-great-grandfather.
- Reiche, Dietlog** ***Freddy To The Rescue***
Freddy Auratus is a most unusual golden hamster. His big secret is that he is able to read and write and that he uses the computer to communicate with his owner.
- Riordan, Rick** ***The Lightning Thief*** (Percy Jackson series)
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 - Zeus, Hades, and Poseidon.
- Robinson, Barbara** ***Best School Year Ever***
The six horrible Herdmans, cause mayhem throughout the school year.
- Rodda, Emily** ***The Forest of Silence*** (Deltora Quest series)
In order to stop the evil Shadow Lord 16-year old Lief and former palace guard Barda must find all seven stones from the magic belt of Deltora.
- Rosen, Michael** ***Ribticklers! Funny Stories***
Contains funny stories, folktales, caution tales, tall tales, and long jokes - from a rajah with big ears to an orphan with enormous feet, many hilarious characters populate these pages.
- Rowling, J. K.** ***Tales of Beedle the Bard***
Never before have these Wizarding classics been available to Muggles.

- Selfors, Suzanne** ***To Catch a Mermaid***
When twelve-year-old Boomerang Broom discovers a wish-granting baby mermaid, he takes her home and his little sister begs to keep her, with unexpected consequences.
- Smith, Robert** ***Bobby Baseball***
Bobby is passionate about baseball and convinced that he is a great player. The only problem is to get a chance to prove his skill.
- Snicket, Lemony** ***The Bad Beginning*** (Series of Unfortunate Events)
In this first book, readers are introduced to the unfortunate Baudelaire children -- when they learn they've just been orphaned by a terrible house fire.
- Sniegoski, Tom** ***Billy Hooten: Owl Boy***
A nerdy lad assumes the mantle of a vanished superhero and discovers that he really does have what it takes.
- St. John, Lauren** ***White Giraffe***
St. John's adventure-fantasy set in South Africa has all the elements—albino giraffe, dead parents, lonely girl with the gift of an ancient power over animals, aloof grandmother, suspicious game warden, cultural mystery, poachers—to make a hit.
- Taylor, Mildred** ***The Song of Trees***
During the Depression, the Logan family deeply attached to the forest on their land tries to save it from being cut down by an unscrupulous white man.
- Taylor, Theodore** ***The Cay*** (series)
A white boy, blinded by a blow on the head, and an old black man are stranded on a tiny Caribbean island. The boy acquires new kind of vision, courage, and love from his old companion.
- Vande Velde, Vivian** ***Wizard at Work***
Young wizard has an unpleasant encounter with a witch, who tells him that he won't find true happiness until he learns to be less judgmental and to see beyond the surface of things.
Smart Dog
Fifth grader Amy finds her life growing complicated when she meets and tries to hide an intelligent, talking dog.
- Wallace, Barbara** ***Peppermints in the Parlor*** (series)
Sent to San Francisco to live with her beloved aunt and uncle, newly orphaned Emily expectantly enters their once-happy mansion only to find unimaginable horrors.
- Warner, Gertrude** ***Boxcar Children*** (series)
Four orphans are determined to make it on their own, they set out to find a safe place to live. They discover an old, red boxcar that provides shelter from a storm.
- Winkler, Henry** ***Niagara Falls or Does it*** (Hank Zipzer series)
Tale of 2 tails
Enjoy the escapades of fourth-graders Hank, Ashley, and Frankie.

- Winthrop, Elizabeth** ***The Castle in the Attic*** (series)
A gift of a toy castle, complete with silver knight, introduces William to an adventure involving magic and a personal quest.
- Woodson, Jacqueline** ***Locomotion***
Lonnie Collins Motion, the Locomotion of the title, is a New York City fifth grader with a gifted teacher who assigns her class to write different forms of poetry.
- Wrede, Patricia** ***Dealing with Dragons*** (The Enchanted Forest Chronicles series)
Rather than marry a boring prince, Princess Cimerone runs away from her kingdom and becomes an assistant to the dragon Kazul.
- Yolen, Jane** ***Passager: The young Merlin Trilogy*** (series)
Abandoned in the woods of Medieval England, an eight-year-old boy begins a journey of hardship, danger, and magic that will one day make him the most famous wizard of all time.

BIOGRAPHY

- Adler, David** ***The Story of Roy Campanella***
A professional player from the age of fifteen, he later became the first African-American catcher to integrate Major League Baseball.
- Bull, Angela** ***Free at Last, the Story of Martin Luther King, Jr.***
This biography of the civil rights leader covers his childhood, leadership, powerful speeches, assassination, and greatest influences.
- Burrows, John** ***Lewis and Clark Blazing a Trail***
Read the exciting story of William Clark and Meriwether Lewis as they left Illinois in 1804 with more than forty-five other people to explore North America.
- Christopher, Matt** ***On the Bike with Lance Armstrong***
Learn about this enthusiastic cyclist whose racing career was interrupted by a battle with cancer before getting back on track with a Tour de France win. He then went on to a record seven consecutive victories.
On the Court with LeBron James
Read about the man who is touted as the best player in basketball today.
On the Field with Peyton and Eli Manning
This exciting biography gives readers the story behind this famous football family, as well as thrilling recaps of some of the most awesome games in NFL history.
- Cobb, Vickie** ***Marie Curie***
The story of the discoverer of radium, from her childhood in Warsaw, to her experiments with radioactivity in Paris, to her recognition as one of the preeminent scientists of her time.
- Cugota, Lluis** ***Albert Einstein*** (My Name Is series)
Tells the story of one of the world's greatest scientists and contains a two-page time line of his life and the world at the time.

- Delano, Mark** ***Inventing the Future: a photobiography of T. E. Edison***
A brief and handsomely designed biography illuminates the high points in the life of the brilliant inventor.
- Edwards, Roberta** ***Who Was King Tut?***
Explains the life and times of the ancient Egyptian ruler and covers the story of the tomb's discovery, myths, and so-called mummy curses.
- Harness, Cheryl** ***Remarkable Benjamin Franklin***
This colorful book provides an enticing glimpse at Franklin's philosophies and accomplishments and is an inviting introduction to the varied and unique life of this fascinating Founding Father.
- Hort, Lenny Gra** ***George Washington – DK***
DK gives readers a most information-packed and visually exciting biography of the father of our country.
- Kohl, MaryAnn** ***Discovering Great Artists***
Featuring more than 150 activities, this guide teaches the styles, works, and techniques of the great masters—Van Gogh, Michelangelo, Rembrandt, and more.
- Kramer, Sydelle** ***Who Was Daniel Boone?***
Learn about Daniel Boone, a symbol of America's pioneering spirit.
- Lasky, Kathryn** ***John Muir: America's First Environmentalist***
Lasky's picture-book sketch of the naturalist's life focuses on Muir's special love of California's snowy Sierras and Yosemite Valley and his successes in founding Yosemite National Park and the Sierra Club.
- Nivola, Claire** ***Planting the Trees of Kenya***
This picture-book biography examines the work of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize-winner Wangari Maathai, who returned from college abroad to find her country ecologically imperiled.
- Olmstead, K** ***Matthew Henson: The Quest for the North Pole ?***
Here is the story of the African-American explorer, Matthew Henson, who became the first man to reach the North Pole.
- Petry, Ann** ***Harriet Tubman***
The story of the courageous woman who guided over 300 slaves to freedom is told "with insight, style and a fine narrative skill.
- Pettenati, Jeanne** ***Galileo's Journal***
This picture book combines attractive illustrations and lively text to provide an introductory glimpse into the life of Galileo, imagining what he might have written in his journal.
- Smith, Charles** ***Twelve Rounds of Glory: The Story of Mohammad Ali***
Lyrical verse with the cadence of rap weaves and bops its way through the life of Muhammad Ali.
- Stanley, Diane** ***Bard of Avon: The Story of William Shakespeare***
A picture book with ample, engaging text, this biography expands the few documented facts on Shakespeare's life and wraps them with information from the Elizabethan Era.

Stanley, Diane

Michelangelo

Life of an artist who towered above the late Renaissance—and whose brilliance in architecture, painting, and sculpture amazes and moves us to this day.

Stanley, George

Davy Crockett; Frontier Legend

Davy Crockett was a child of the frontier, a hunter, soldier, and backwoods politician, he helped settle large swaths of the still-growing United States.

Stone, Tanya

Abraham Lincoln

Find out about Lincoln's childhood on a frontier farm, how a struggling small town lawyer became president, and why he became one of America's most revered leaders.

Tillage, Leon

Leon's Story

The son of a North Carolina sharecropper recalls the hard times faced by his family and other African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century and the changes that the civil rights movement helped bring about.

Venezia, Mike

Andy Warhol

A simple biography of a man who helped develop Pop Art and made art fun for many people.

Wilkinson, Philip

Gandhi

A shy, serious boy, Mahatma Gandhi would later lead India to Nationhood and change the course of history.

Zronik, John

Jacques Cousteau; Conserving Underwater Worlds

This handsomely illustrated biography will lure readers into the enticing world of this pioneering inventor, explorer, and advocate for the seas.

FOLKLORE AND MYTHOLOGY

Casey, Dawn

Barefoot Book of Earth Tales

In this beautiful anthology of folktales, young readers will learn about the way different cultures around the world live in harmony with the rhythms and patterns of nature.

Courlander, Harold

Cow-Tail Switch and other West African Stories

The cow tail switch is an African symbol of authority. These stories are full of laughter and food for thought.

Evans, Hestia

Mythology

Beautifully illustrated and containing a foldout map and a “Genealogical Table of the Gods, Monsters, & Heroes of Ancient Greece,” this volume offers information in an imaginative format.

Fleischman, Paul

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal

The author draws from a variety of folk traditions to put together this version of Cinderella, including elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia, Appalachia, and more.

- Gilchrist, Cherry** ***Stories from the Silk Road***
Just the title is enough to conjure up images of exotic lands and peoples of long ago. Read about this ancient trade route that stretched from China to Persia and was used from 200 B.C. to the fourteenth century.
- Hague, Michael** ***Book of Fairies***
Some fairies are more crotchety than fey, but they all come alive in these stories, songs, and poetry.
- Hamilton, Virginia** ***The People Could Fly*** (picture book)
Many of the stories in this collection were told among slaves as they dreamt of freedom or remembered their lives in Africa.
- Kimmel, Eric** ***The McElderry Book of Greek Myths***
Here are twelve of the most beloved legends of Greek mythology, from Pandora and her dreaded box to Icarus with his wings of wax, and, of course, that greedy, gold-fingered King Midas.
- Lupton, Hugh** ***The Adventures of Odysseus***
This handsome, large-size picture book retells Homer's epic of Odysseus' perilous journey home in an immediate, fast-paced narrative
- Tales of Wisdom and Wonder***
Seven stories from different cultures (Haitian, Cree, English, French, West African, Russian, and Irish) are retold in this collection by a seasoned storyteller.
- Milbourne, Anna** ***Stories from India***
Sixteen traditional Indian tales are retold that feature old stories of trickery and cunning, fable-like tales of animals, and inspiring stories of the battles and feats of different Hindu gods.
- Perkins, John** ***Perceval***
Young Perceval, awed by five knights from King Arthur's Round Table, decides that he, too, wants to become a knight.
- Philip, Neil** ***Complete Fairy Tales of Charles Perrault***
11 tales attributed to Perrault, including his dramatic "Little Red Riding Hood," without a huntsman coming to the rescue.
- San Souci, Robert** ***The Faithful Friend***
Two friends encounter love, zombies, and danger on the island of Martinique.
- Talking Eggs***
A Southern folktale in which kind Blanche, following the instructions of an old witch, gains riches, while her greedy sister makes fun of the old woman and is duly rewarded.

HISTORY & TRAVEL

- Adams, Simon** ***Castles & Forts***
An illustrated exploration of a wide array of castles and fortifications throughout the world, from Norman motes to Maori forts, including how and why they were built and their importance in history.

Allen, Thomas	<p>George Washington, Spymaster This is a riveting tale of intrigue, spies, counterspies and secret agents, a unique and entertaining account of one of the most important chapters in our nation's history.</p>
Armstrong, Jennifer	<p><i>The American Story: 100 True Tales from Am. History</i> Armstrong approaches history as a storyteller and each of these stories, of 2 to 4 pages, is a gem of clear and concise writing.</p>
Ciovacco, Justine	<p><i>State-by-State Atlas</i> This visually attractive guide to the states divides the nation into seven major regions. It creates a clear and easy way to understand American geography and culture.</p>
Fritz, Jean	<p><i>Shh! We are Writing the Constitution</i> Lively account of the birth of the Constitution during a scorching summer with all the windows shut to prevent rumors, a bombardment of bluebottle flies, and New England delegates swathed in woolen suits.</p>
Gifford, Clive	<p><i>10 Leaders Who Changed The World</i> This book presents 10 of history's preeminent leaders of the 20th century from Mohandas Gandhi to Joseph Stalin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Fidel Castro, and Nelson Mandela.</p>
Hansen, Ole	<p><i>Air Combat</i> (story of flight series) Learn about the tactics of air combat, famous flying aces, and the fighter planes that were used in World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Cold War, Vietnam, and the Gulf War.</p> <p>History News: Egyptian, Greek, Roman These books use a newspaper format to present articles about the history, politics, fashion, food, daily life, and afterlife of the ancient peoples.</p>
Jefferis, David	<p><i>Extreme Structures</i> The Dorling Kindersley Readers combine an enticing visual layout with high-interest, to introduce different structures.</p>
Maestro, Betsy	<p><i>The New Americans: Colonial Times</i> This is an excellent, evenhanded account of European immigration to North America during Colonial times.</p>
Malan, John	<p><i>Mummies</i> (see-through) Opening with a straightforward definition of a mummy and the range of mummy types around the world, the author explores an amazing amount of information.</p>
Reynolds, Jan	<p><i>Himalaya</i> Attractive, color photographs highlight this simply written photo essay about a young Sherpa girl living in the Himalayas.</p>

St. George, Judith

So, You Want to be President?

This lighthearted, often humorous roundup of anecdotes and trivia is cast as a handbook of helpful hints to aspiring presidential candidates.

Skreslet, Laurie

To the Top of Everest

Follows the author, who reached the peak of Mount Everest in 1982, as he overcame many obstacles and challenges, including hidden crevasses, blinding snowstorms, brutal altitude sickness, and deadly avalanches.

Sobel, Sylvia

Presidential Elections and other Cool Facts

This book includes chapters on the rules for electing the president, the electoral college, the presidential campaign, and the procedure and order of succession if something happens to the president.

POETRY

Cleary, Brian

Rhyme and Punishment

This imaginative collection of silly and sophisticated puns uncovers double meanings that are hiding in everyday phrases.

Dakos, Kalli

If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand

Messy desks, forgotten homework, embarrassing hiccups, favorite teachers--they're all here in these silly, sad, and funny poems.

Don't Read This Book Whatever You Do

Poems reflect life in lively classrooms and are based on the author's experiences as an elementary school teacher.

Fleischman, Paul

Joyful Noise; Poems for Two Voices

This collection of poems describes the characteristics and activities of a variety of insects.

Foster, John

My First Oxford Book of Animal Poems

The anthology covers the whole range of the animal kingdom, wild and domestic, on land and in water.

Fujikawa, Gyo

Child's Book of Poems

This charming anthology of 200 poems also contains proverbs, limericks, nursery rhymes, and folk songs.

Grandits, John

Technically, It's Not My Fault

Technical brilliance and goofy good humor provide an accessible, fun-filled collection of poems.

Harrison, Michael

Oxford Book of Story Poems

This magically enthralling collection of poems, from the traditional to the modern, is written by both British and American poets.

Hopkins, Lee B.

Opening Days

A collection of eighteen poems is about various sports including baseball, skiing, karate, and tennis.

- James, Simon** ***Days Like This***
 19 poems celebrating the joys and trials of summer days at the beach, strumming a one-string guitar in the moonlight, bouncing on a bed, and watching rain fall.
- Lewis, J. Patrick** ***The World's Greatest Poems***
 Who has kissed the most cobras? and 21 other vexing questions are the subject matter of this zany collection of verse.
- Longfellow, Henry W.** ***Midnight Ride of Paul Revere***
 Paul Revere rides again in this oversized version of Longfellow's narrative poem.
- Paschen, Elise** ***Poetry Speaks To Children with CD***
 This illustrated book/CD celebrates poetry in written and spoken form. 95 poems by Robert Frost, Nikki Giovanni, X. J. Kennedy, Janet Wong, Langston Hughes, and others cover a range of periods and forms. 52 poems are on the CD, many of them read by the poets themselves.
- Prelutsky, Jack** ***Be Glad Your Nose is on Your Face***
 Contains more than one hundred of Jack Prelutsky's most celebrated verses, along with fifteen all-new poems and is a tribute to his gifts to children's literature over the past forty years.
For Laughing Out Loud: Poems to Tickle Your Funnybone
 These nonsense verses combine the domestic and the gross, deadpan and slapstick, with a lilting rhythm and satisfying rhyme.
- Shapiro, Karen Jo** ***Because I Could Not Stop My Bike...***
 In these delightful transformations of 26 classic poems, Shapiro has taken the rhythms and meters of the originals and made them her own.
- Sidman, Joyce** ***Song of the Water Boatman & other Pond poems***
 From spring's first thaw to autumn's chill, the world of the pond is a dramatic place. Though seemingly quiet, ponds are teeming with life and full of surprises.
- Siebert, John** ***Tour America; a Journey through Poems and Art***
 From the Cape Hatteras lighthouse on the East Coast to the Golden Gate Bridge on the West Coast, these assured and thought-provoking poems celebrate some of America's scenic treasures.
- Silverstein, Shel** ***Where the Sidewalk Ends***
 This is an irreverent, hilarious and wildly popular, collection of humorous poetry illustrated by the author.
- Stevenson, Robert L.** ***A Child's Garden of Verses***
 A whole new generation of children and their parents will delight in discovering this reissue of Stevenson's poetry.

SCIENCE

Aguilar, David

11 Planets

This beautiful volume is a simple yet compelling introduction to the solar system as it is now classified.

Berger, Melvin

Animal Secrets: 101 Animal Secrets

It's definitely not a secret that kids can't get enough of animals! In 101 Animal Secrets they'll discover tons of fun and wacky facts.

Campbell, Guy

Actually, Factually

A fascinating collection of misunderstandings, mistakes and misconceptions, "Actually Factually" reveals the reality behind just a few of the myths that get mixed up with truth.

How High Can an Elephant Jump?

In this book and you'll find amazing answers to these and more questions. You'll also learn the truth about elephants' memories; the reason the sky is blue, what would happen if all the world's ice melted, and much more.

Clark, Phillip

Mysteries and Marvels of Science

This internet-linked science reference book explains many of the marvels of science.

Claybourne, Anna

Story of Inventions

This cool browsing book is filled with information on all kinds of inventions. It covers several topics in a timeline format, including air travel, food, household inventions, and medicine.

Collard, Sneed B.

One Night in the Coral Sea

Although Collard provides a basic introduction to other animals found on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, he concentrates on its variety of corals.

DK

Sharkpedia

Learn where sharks lurk, what they eat, who they hang out with, and why they do what they do. Also, hear from scientists about why some sharks attack, and hear first-hand from survivors what an attack is like.

Davies, Nicola

Extreme Animals: The Toughest Creatures on Earth

We humans are such a bunch of wimps!-we can't live without food, or water, and just a few minutes without air is enough to finish us off. Read about some of the most tenacious survivors on the planet.

Dixon, Dougal

Amazing Dinosaurs

Dougal Dixon inspires the paleontologist in all children with full-color illustrations and diagrams mixed with bite-sized pieces of information.

Farndon, John

Rocks and Minerals (DK online)

This is the ultimate photographic guide to the world of rocks and minerals, with a strong emphasis on how to build a diverse and colorful collection.

George, Jean C.

How To Talk To Your Dog/How to Talk to Your Cat

An easy-to-read, conversational, humorous, and informative guide that will help young dog/cat owners communicate with their pets.

- Gilpin, Rebecca** ***Big Book of Science Things to Make and Do***
Fifty-seven quick, fun, and inexpensive projects fill the pages of this book. These activities help the reader understand simple science concepts such as static electricity, friction, levers, and optical illusions.
- Gifford, Clive** ***Crimebusters: Learn to Be a Scientific Supersleuth***
Catching criminals today is as much about science as sleuthing.
- Green, Jen** ***Mammals*** (DK online)
DK meets Google in a comprehensive and authoritative series that's online. Each e-link tells you which keyword to key in-then Google(tm) and DK take you straight to the safe, appropriate, and accurate online information.
- Jefferis, David** ***Robot Workers***
The domestication of robots is no longer a Star Wars concept. Today, robots come in many sizes and shapes, their form dictated by the work they are designed to do.
- Kalman, Bobby** ***Forest Foot Chains***
Kalman defines food chains (a pattern of eating and being eaten) and describes several different examples that exist in temperate forests.
- Kerley, Barbara** ***Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins***
The true story of Victorian artist Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins, who built life-sized models of dinosaurs in the hope of educating the world about what these awe-inspiring ancient animals and what they were like.
- Kurlansky, Mark** ***Story of Salt***
Using salt to present a new perspective on history, the author mixes science, history, and personal anecdotes. The result is a fascinating look at this amazing substance.
- McCutcheon, Marc** ***The Kid Who Named Pluto***
A collection of profiles of children and young adults whose scientific inventions made an impact on the world, including Louis Braille who discovered a way for the blind to read and write.
- McKay, Kim** ***True Green Kids; 100 Things You Can Do To Save the Planet?***
True Green Kids is filled with fun, easy and cool ways you can become an agent of change for our world.
- Miller, Jonathan** ***Sharks*** (Internet linked)
"Usborne Discovery Internet-linked" series does an admirable job of combining a book containing facts, colorful photographs, and glossary with frequently placed boxes informing young readers precisely where to find more information on the Internet.
- Murphy, Glenn** ***Inventions*** (Insiders series)
Insiders brings inventions to life, with the most up-to-date information and state-of-the-art 3-D illustrations that practically leap off every page, stimulating minds and imaginations in a whole new way.

- Murrie, Steve** ***A Guide To The Planet*** (Planet Earth)
A large, lush hardcover edition bringing together the best of the Planet Earth series: award-winning content, groundbreaking photography, and a whole new look at the world around us.
- Parker, Steve** ***Seashore: Eyewitness Explorers***
Describes different types of coastlines and suggests ways to keep the shores clean and natural so that their wildlife can flourish.
- Romanek, Trudee** ***Switched On, Flushed Down, Tossed Out***
A curious kid investigates the "mysteries" of his house, which include plumbing, electricity, and other workings of a typical home.
- Stewart, Melissa** ***Earthquakes and Volcanoes***
Learn about what causes these natural disasters, where they happen, what was the biggest eruption, can scientists predict when they'll occur and more.
- Strauss, Rochelle** ***One Well: The Story Of Water On Earth***
"Without water, nothing can survive." The urgent conservation message is clear in this handsome, oversize picture book.
- Sullivan, George** ***Rock and Fossil Hunter (DK)***
Introduces children to rocks and fossils and helps them explore the natural world in fun and exciting ways.
- Thomson, Sarah** ***Astronauts and Other Space heroes***
This 80 page summary of the exploration of space begins with Jules Verne and ends with an interview of an aeronautical engineer.
- Ticktock Media** ***Deadly Animals***
Blending science with natural history, this exciting exploration of dangerous animals presents a thrilling topic and rates each animal according to their fierceness, hunting skills, and size.

TOO GOOD TO MISS

- Bond, Michael** ***The Paddington Books*** (series)
Adopting for their own the lost bear they find in Paddington Station, the Browns have some exciting first moments with him.
- Farley, Walter** ***Black Stallion*** (series)
Young Alec Ramsay is shipwrecked on a desert island with a horse destined to play an important part in his life.
- Henry, Marguerite** ***Misty of Chincoteague*** (& other titles)
Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.
Sea Star; Orphan of Chincoteague
Finding an orphaned colt helps Paul and Maureen deal with their loss, and they soon discover that little Sea Star needs them just as much as they need him.

- Kipling, Rudyard** ***Jungle Book*** (and others)
Introduces us to the adventures of Mowgli, who is a boy raised by wolves and other animals of the Indian jungle.
- Lawson, Robert** ***Ben and Me***
Amos, the mouse who lives in Benjamin Franklin's hat, explains how he is responsible for Benjamin Franklin's success.
- Lofting, Hugh** ***Voyages of Doctor Dolittle***
To embark on a voyage with Dr. Doolittle is to enjoy a vast world of natural history and gentle satire amid a warm, loving sea of imagination.
- Mathis, Sharon** ***Hundred Penny Box***
Michael's love for his great-great-aunt who lives with them leads him to intercede with his mother, who wants to toss out all her old things.
- Mortenson, Greg** ***Three Cups of Tea: Young Reader's Edition***
In 1993, while climbing one of the world's most difficult peaks, Mortenson became lost and ill, and eventually found aid in the tiny Pakistani village of Korphe. He vowed to repay his generous hosts by building a school.
- Norton, Mary** ***The Borrowers*** (series)
Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock.
- White, E. B.** ***Charlotte's Web***
The story of a little girl who could talk to animals, but especially the story of the pig, Wilbur, and his friendship with Charlotte, the spider, who could not only talk but write as well.
- White, E. B.** ***Stuart Little***
The adventures of the debonair mouse Stuart Little as he sets out in the world to seek out his dearest friend, a little bird that stayed for a few days in his family's garden.
- Xtra: JUST FOR FUN**
- Anderson, Jon Lee** ***Smart About Money: a Rich History***
Filled with tons of cool facts, wonderful illustrations, and photographs of coins and money from all over the world this is worth every penny!
- Bridgman, Roger** ***How Nearly Everything Was Invented***
A lighthearted look at more than 300 of the world's most important inventions, the mechanics that make them work, and the ideas and innovations that inspired them.
- Cooper, Paulette** ***277 Secrets Your Dog Wants You to Know***
This "Doggie Bag Of Unusual And Useful Information" contains many tips to help you understand and care for your canine friends.

D'Amico, Joan

The United States Cookbook: Fabulous Foods and Fascinating Facts from all 50 States (John Wiley & Sons)

Take a tasty tour across America while learning about state facts.

DK Children's Cookbook

Focusing on favorite meals and snacks to inspire young chefs who are ready to learn new skills. Loaded with accessible recipes.

DiSpezio, Michael

How Bright Is Your Brain?

This colorful and amusing book has lots of games and exercises designed to show the power of the brain.

Lewis, Barbara

Kids Guide to Service Projects

Describes a variety of opportunities for youngsters to participate in successful community service.

Mindware

More Word Winks: Over 300 Visual Verbal Puzzles

The world of puzzles is lots of fun and lots of challenge.

“Summaries for these books are taken from professional reviews from various sources.”