



Summer Reading Suggestions for New Fourth Grade Students at Mendham Township Elementary School for 2007

Take off with a great story this summer!

There are lots of exciting books out there! Here are just a few for you!

Avi / Poppy. A courageous mouse embarks on a journey to save her family and defeat the tyrannical horned Owl who rules the forest. None of the little forest creatures dare to cross the path of this mean old owl, until the terrible night when two little mice go dancing in the moonlight. A warm story of courage and friendship unfolds.

Babbitt, Natalie / The Search for Delicious. Because of a disagreement in the castle over the definition of the word, “delicious”, Gaylan is sent to ask the people of the realm what they think it means. He consults with dwarfs, woodland creatures and one mysterious mermaid. In his travels, he uncovers a plot by the queen’s brother to take over the kingdom.

Banks, Lynne Reid / The Indian In the Cupboard. Two very unlikely birthday presents lead to adventure when one of them is locked and the other comes alive!

Barry, Dave / Peter and the Starcatchers. Orphan Peter and his mates are dispatched to an island ruled by evil King Zarboff. They set sail aboard a ship carrying a mysterious trunk in its hold. The trip proves exciting and dangerous.

Christopher, Matt / Red Hot High Tops. A pair of red sneakers appear out of nowhere and seem to have a magical effect on Kelly’s ability to play basketball.

Cleary, Beverly / Ralph S. Mouse. If you enjoyed “The Mouse and the Motorcycle”, you’ll love Ralph

Cleary, Beverly / Ramona’s World. Ramona Quimby expects the fourth grade to be the best year yet, but life presents challenges. Through lots of friends and adventures, Ramona discovers that being a little less than absolutely perfect can be perfectly fine.

Cushman, Karen / Rodzina. This historical fiction tells of the adventures and trials of a determined young girl on a westward bound orphan train.

Cushman, Karen / The Ballad of Lucy Whipple. Moving from Massachusetts to gold rush mining camp in the California Sierras was an adventure and also a challenge in many ways.

Dahl, Roald / Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. This is the fantastic rags to riches experience of Charlie Bucket, as he learns the secrets of Mr. Wonka’s fabulous chocolate factory.

DeAngeli, Marguerite / Door in the Wall. Robin, the disabled son of a 14th century English lord, saves the castle.

Fleischman, Sid / The Whipping Boy. A bratty prince trades places with a commoner boy when they are involved with dangerous outlaws.

Gutman, Dan / Qwerty Stevens: Stuck In Time With Benjamin Franklin. Travel back in time! After accidentally sucking Benjamin Franklin into twenty-first-century New Jersey with his “Anytime Anywhere Machine”, thirteen-year-old Qwerty Stevens and his best friend almost wind up stuck in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776, when they try to send him back.

Heymsfeld, Carla / Cracking Ms. Parker. Mike and his friends try to help their 4th grade teacher learn to play baseball before the annual teacher-student game.

Hiaasen, Carl / Hoot. Roy unhappily moves from Montana to Florida. He becomes involved in another boy’s attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. Life is looking up!

Jester, Norton / Phantom Tollbooth. When Milo drives through a tollbooth that mysteriously appears in his room, life becomes exciting beyond his wildest dreams.

Kerley, Barbara / The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins. The true story of an artist who created life size models, hoping to educate the world about the ancient reptiles.

Konigsburg, E. L./ From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E Frankweiler. You’ll enjoy this Newberry winner about two kids from Connecticut who run away to New York City, and help to unravel a mystery at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

L’Engle, Madeleine / A Wrinkle In Time. Meg Murry and her friends become involved with three good witches who help search for Meg’s scientist father who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Lenski, Lois / Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison. Based on the true account of a twelve year old Pennsylvania girl captured, in 1758, by the Senecas and raised as one of their own. This historical fiction gives us a true picture of Indian life from the inside.

Lewis, C. S./ The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Four children go through a wardrobe door to Narnia, where Aslan, the noble lion, fights the spell of the White Witch. Set in England during World War II, this is the first in the Chronicles of Narnia series.

Martin, Ann M. / Stage Fright. Shy Sara panics when her fourth grade teacher announces that her class is to perform a play before the entire school. She eventually learns that stage fright can sometimes be healthy.

Paulsen, Gary / Mr. Tucket. The year is 1848. Francis Tucket is traveling west with his family on the Oregon Trail when he is captured by Pawnee Indians and meets a one armed trapper who helps him to survive.

Speare, Elisabeth George / The Witch of Blackbird Pond. In colonial times, an orphaned girl from Barbados seeks a welcoming home with her only living relatives, whom she has never met. Her experience in a Puritan colony in 1687 Connecticut is one of challenge, courage and understanding.

White, Elwyn Brooks / Trumpet of the Swan. Louis, a voiceless trumpeter swan, finds himself far from his wilderness home when he determines to communicate by learning to play a stolen trumpet. This is a great story about family, overcoming life’s obstacles and achieving goals.

Winkler, Henry / Niagara Falls or Does It? This is a funny story about three fourth graders who are excitedly preparing for a magic show at the Rock n’ Bowl when disaster strikes!

For more book adventures, log onto:
www.mvls.info/kids/reading.html

www.ala.org/parentspage
<http://kids.nypl.org/>

Have a great summer and keep reading! Mrs. Helen Machleder Grade 4 6/21/07