Listed below are some well-loved books that may interest you for summer reading. These are just a sample of some of the titles and authors available, and we have tried to avoid suggesting books with which everyone is already completely familiar. There are, of course, many, many more choices at public libraries and in bookstores. Start your own list. Happy reading!

Love,

Amy & Rebecca
Some Stupendous Picture Books

Iggy Peck, Architect by Andrea Beaty
How to Make a Cherry Pie and See the U.S.A. by Marjorie Priceman
A Penguin Story by Antoinette Portis
Tadpole Rex by Kurt Cyrus
Psst! by Adam Rex
Have the animals at the zoo ever talked to you?
The Black Book of Colors by Menena Cottin
Enjoy this book with your fingers as well as your eyes.
A Visitor for Bear by Bonnie Becker
Aaaarrgghh, Spider! by Lydia Monks
Subway Sparrow by Leyla Torres
Beautiful and multi-lingual.
Wabi Sabi by Mark Reibstein
The artwork in this book is extraordinary.
Pickle-Chiffon Pie by Jolly Roger Bradfield
Listen to the Wind by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth
This book inspired the kids to contribute their pennies to “Pennies for Peace”.
Woolbur by Leslie Helakoski
Duck! Rabbit! by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
Willoughby & the Lion by Greg Foley
A wonderfully illustrated story of friendship.
Some More Amazing Picture Books: by Author
(These folks wrote tons of great books. We've only listed samples)

Gerald McDermott (*Coyote, Papagayo*)
One of the best retellers of trickster tales.

Emily Gravett (*Wolves, Monkey and Me*)

Steve Jenkins (*Down Down Down: The Journey to the Bottom of the Sea*)
Visually captivating non-fiction.

Oliver Jeffers (*Lost and Found, The Great Paper Caper*)

Julius Lester (*John Henry, Sam and the Tigers*)

Eric A. Kimmel (*The Hero Beowulf, Zigazak!*)

Yangsook Choi (*Behind the Mask, Peach Heaven*)
This Korean author is one of our favorites.

Mwenye Hadithi (*Greedy Zebra, Crafty Chameleon*)

Jon Agee (*Terrific, The Retired Kid*)

Mo Willems (*Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed, Knuffle Bunny*)
David and Elizabeth's class can't get enough of this hilarious Brooklyn author!

Jackie French (*Diary of a Wombat, Too Many Pears*)

Jan Brett (*The Umbrella, Berlioz the Bear*)

Patricia Polacco (*Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Dam Creek Dam Affair*)
Her newest title, *In Our Mothers' House*, celebrates an adoptive family with two mothers.

Roger Hargreaves (*Mr. Greedy, Little Miss Trouble*)
The Mr. Men and Little Miss books, called “The Little Library,” have been a huge hit!
Some Excellent I-Can-Read Books

*Elephant and Piggie series by Mo Willems
*Happy Honey series by Laura Godwin
*See Otto series by David Milgrim
*Read and Play: Noisy Animals and others by Jim Pipe
  This series of true beginning reader books has been a huge hit!
Super Fly Guy and others by Tedd Arnold
  These books “fly” off the shelves!
Pup and Hound series by Susan Hood
Wiggle and Waggle by Caroline Arnold
Robert the Rose Horse by Joan Heilbroner
Pip Squeak and Drip Drop by Sarah Weeks
Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa series by Erica Silverman
  A new adventure (#5) is now available!
Squirrelly Gray by James Kochalka
Amazing Gorillas!, Amazing Dolphins! and others by Sarah L. Thomson and the Wildlife Conservation Society
Rapunzel and other fairy tale readers from Picture Window Books
The Librarian from the Black Lagoon and sequels by Mike Thaler
Grapes of Math and others by Greg Tang
  Mind-stretching math riddles.
The Bookstore Ghost and others by Barbara Maitland
Commander Toad series by Jane Yolen

* indicates great books for beginning readers
Some Super I-Can-Read Challenges

Amelia Bedelia series by Peggy and Herman Parish
   Her hilarious hijinks have captivated readers this year!
Mercy Watson series by Kate DiCamillo
Don’t Go Near the Forest! and other Easy-to-Read Spooky Tales
   by Veronika Martenova Charles
Clara and the Bookwagon by Nancy S. Levinson
Hopscotch Hill School series by Valerie Tripp
Runaway Radish by Jennie Haas
   A great choice for all our horse lovers.
Shampoozel and other Seriously Silly Stories by Laurence Anholt
Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole series by Wong Herbert Yee
   Cheerful stories in the mold of Frog and Toad.
Boo’s Dinosaur by Betsy Byars
Stories of Ponies and others from Usborne Young Reading
Super Storms, Amazing Aircraft and other See More Readers
   by Seymour Simon, an excellent non-fiction writer.
Some Fantastic Shorter Chapter Books

Clementine series by Sara Pennypacker
The Jamie & Angus Stories and sequel by Anne Fine
The Twin Giants and others by Dick King-Smith
One of Amy's and Rebecca's favorite authors!
Time Warp Trio series by Jon Scieszka
Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-Up
by Melissa Thomson
Ivy and Bean series by Annie Barrows
Beast Quest series by Adam Blade
Emmaline and the Bunny by Katherine Hannigan
Uncle Pirate by Douglas Rees
Being Teddy Roosevelt by Claudia Mills
Puppy Place series by Ellen Miles
Ruby Lu, Brave and True and sequel by Lenore Look
Henrietta, There's No One Better by Martine Murray
Tales from the Odyssey series by Mary Pope Osborne
Gooney Bird Greene series by Lois Lowry
The 4th in this fantastic series is just out!
My Weird School series by Dan Gutman
Only Emma and sequels by Sally Warner
Some Wonderful Longer Chapter Books

We Can’t All Be Rattlesnakes by Patrick Jennings
Butterfingers by Juliet Trewellard
Island of the Aunts and others by Eva Ibbotson
Snake and Lizard by Joy Cowley
    Chris A. face lights up up when he talks about this book!
Frindle and others by Andrew Clements
Jenny and the Cat Club and others by Esther Averill
    Jenny and Claire’s class love these books.
The House of a Million Pets by Ann Hodgman
A Barrel of Laughs, A Vale of Tears by Jules Feiffer
Masterpiece by Elise Broach
Iron Thunder, The Fighting Ground and others by Avi
    Excellent historical fiction.
The Name of This Book Is Secret and sequel
    by Pseudonymous Bosch
The Willoughbys by Lois Lowry
    Micaela P. recommends this story for people who like
    funny things “but don’t have to laugh every second!”
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson
    by Bette Bao Lord
The Penderwicks and sequel by Jeanne Birdsall
*Love Among the Walnuts by Jean Ferris
    Michael P. chose this as his favorite book in the library!
*The Neddiad and sequel by Daniel Pinkwater
    Isaac and Oliver R. loved these wacky books.
*Samuel Blink and the Forbidden Forest by Matt Haig
*Inkheart and The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
*The Manny Files by Christian Burch
*The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School
    by Candace Fleming
Most Fabulous Chapter Book Series

All-of-a-Kind Family series by Sydney Taylor
   The 2nd graders have been devouring this wonderful New York series.

Akimbo and the Lions series by Alexander McCall Smith

The World According to Humphrey series
   by Betty Birney

Tales of Dimwood Forest series by Avi

The End of the Beginning series by Avi
   This favorite historical fiction writer is also the author of these lovely animal series.

The Sisters Grimm series by Michael Buckley
   Parker tells us that “reading only one book will leave you speechless!”

The Melendy Quartet by Elizabeth Enright

Nicholas series by Rene Goscinny

Main Street series by Ann M. Martin.

Honus & Me and other Baseball Card Adventures
   by Dan Gutman

*The Edge Chronicles by Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians series by Rick Riordan

*Fablehaven series by Brandon Mull

*Chronicles of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander
   The 3rd graders adored The Book of Three, which we read in library story.
Some Classics Not to Be Missed

Ballet Shoes and others by Noel Streatfeild
The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois
A Bear Called Paddington and sequels by Michael Bond
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle series by Betty MacDonald
Betsy-Tacy series by Maud Hart Lovelace
  This lovely series, set in early 1900s Minnesota and based on the author’s life, is one of Rebecca’s all-time favorites.
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz and sequels by L. Frank Baum
  Micaela P. and Ella N. love the whole series…
Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis
  …and Micaela recommends this series as well!
Winnie-the-Pooh series by A. A. Milne
A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Understood Betsy by Dorothy Canfield Fisher
Harriet the Spy and sequels by Louise Fitzhugh
The Phoenix and the Carpet and others by E. Nesbit
  The ultimate writer of classic fantasy.
*The Great Brain series by John D. Fitzgerald
  A smart and funny series set in 1890s Utah, about a boy who outsmarts both kids and adults.
*A Proud Taste for Scarlet and Miniver by E. L. Konigsberg
  A medieval adventure based on the life of Eleanor of Aquitaine.
*Around the World in 80 Days and others by Jules Verne
  These amazing adventures are still fresh and exciting.
*A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L’Engle
*Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
**Strong Girls, Super Reads**

*Julia Gillian series* by Alison McGhee
   Ella L. and Corinne beam at the mention of this heroine.

*Hazel Green series* by Odo Hirsch
   Isabelle B. enjoyed this series, set in Australia.

*Lucy Rose series* by Katy Kelly
   Her antics made a fan of Julia C.

*Gooney Bird Greene series* by Lois Lowry
   “She’s funny and talented, she does the wackiest stuff, and she’s smart!” raves Charlotte.

*Moxie Maxwell series* by Peggy Gifford
   Natalie really loved these books, and says “[Moxie]’s a very good character.”

*The Magic Half* by Annie Barrows

*Ottoline and the Yellow Cat* by Chris Riddell
   We can’t wait for the sequel, due out this summer.

*Roxie and the Hooligans* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
   Roxie’s experiences taming some bullies are “really funny, especially at the end,” says Micaela.

*Up and Down the Scratchy Mountains* by Laurel Snyder

*The Secret School* by Avi
   Rebecca says “14 year old Ida will do anything to finish school—even become the teacher!”

*A Crooked Kind of Perfect* by Linda Urban
   Meike encourages people who like music to read this.

*Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters* by Lesley Blume
Some Marvelous Mysteries

A to Z Mysteries and Capital Mysteries series by Ron Roy
Jack Russell, Dog Detective series by D. & S. Odgers
Encyclopedia Brown series by Donald J. Sobol
The Boxcar Children series by Gertrude Warner
Nancy Drew series by Carolyn Keene
These have been flying off the shelves this spring.
The 39 Clues series by various authors
Books #4 and 5 will be out this summer.
*Sammy Keyes series by Wendelin Van Draanen
*The Hall Family Chronicles by Jane Langton
This excellent series is by a well-known mystery writer for adults.
*The Trolley to Yesterday and others by John Bellairs
*And Then There Were None and others by Agatha Christie
There was huge demand for these classic whodunits in the 3rd grade this year!

For Lovers of the Bard

"How well he's read, to reason against reading!"
Shakespeare Can Be Fun! series by Lois Burdett
Twelfth Night and other adaptations by Bruce Coville
The Tempest retold by Ann Keay Beneduce
Beautifully illustrated by Gennady Spirin.
Shakespeare Stories I and II retold by Leon Garfield
Winter Song illustrated by Melanie Hall
A poem from Love's Labour's Lost that was much loved by Savannah, Bonnie and Avi's first graders.
True and Terrific Tomes

Actual Size by Steve Jenkins
Frogs by Nic Bishop
    Amazing photos of fabulous frogs.
Sparrows by Hans Post
Knut: How One Little Polar Bear Captivated the World
    by Juliana, Isabella, and Craig Hatkoff
We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball
    written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson
Henry's Freedom Box by Ellen Levine, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
    In fact, take a look at anything Kadir Nelson has illustrated!
Listen to the Wind (picture book) and
    Three Cups of Tea (Young Reader's Edition)
        by Greg Mortenson
Brooklyn Bridge and Ballpark by Lynn Curlee
One Million Things by DK Publishing
Dr. Frankenstein's Human Body Book by Richard Walker
Pick Me Up by David Roberts
Shh! We're Writing the Constitution! and others by Jean Fritz
The House of a Million Pets by Ann Hodgman
    This year's #1 non-fiction chapter book
*Knucklehead by Jon Scieszka
*Who Was First?, Freedom Walkers and anything else
    by Russell Freedman
Yes We Can!...Read Books about President Obama!

Books about the President and the First Lady
  Barack by Jonah Winter
  Barack Obama: United States President
    by Roberta Edwards
  Obama: A Promise of Change by David Mendell
  Michelle Obama: Meet the First Lady by David Brophy
  Thanks and Have Fun Running the Country:
    Kids’ Letters for President Obama edited by Jory John

There are even books about the search for the First Dog!
  First Dog by J. Patrick Lewis
  Which Puppy? by Kate Feiffer

Books about elections, the Presidency, and all 43 U.S. presidents
  So You Want to be President? by Judith St. George
  Grace for President by Kelly S. DiPucchio
  Kids Meet the Presidents by Paul Rodhe
  Our Country’s Presidents by Ann Bausum
    The newest edition includes Mr. Obama.
  Getting to Know the U.S. Presidents series by Mike Venezia
    We hope a volume about President Obama will come soon!
  Make Your Own President by Amy Pastan

"The Library has always been....a place where we've come to discover big ideas and profound concepts that help move the American story forward" –Barack Obama
Boy, Do They Love Wimpy Kid!
The 4th installment of Jeff Kinney’s beloved series won’t be out until October. Here are some titles to tide the kids over!

- **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and other Scary Things** by Lenore Look
- **Max Quigley, Technically Not a Bully** by James Roy
- **Ellie MacDoodle series** by Ruth McNally Barshaw
- **Dying to Meet You** and **Letters from Camp** by Kate Klise

Or Try These Great Graphic Novels!

- **Otto’s Orange Day, Stinky, and other Toon Books**
  Great for the earlier readers!
- **Little Lulu series** by John Stanley
- **Babymouse series** by Jennifer and Matthew Holm
- **Asterix the Gaul series** by Rene Goscinny
- **Bone series** by Jeff Smith
- **Graphic History** and **Graphic Biography series**
  Exciting history and biography in graphic novel format
- **Amulet: The Stonekeeper** by Kazu Kibuishi
  Maya and Corinne can’t wait for the sequel!
- **Graphic Battles of the Civil War** and **World War II**
- **Sardine in Outer Space series** by Emmanuel Guibert
  This year’s sleeper hit!
- **Abadazad series** by Mike Ploog
  Irritatingly out of print, but used copies are readily available.
And last, but not least...

**Books For More than Just Reading**

**The Secret Knowledge of Grownups: Books 1 and 2**
by David Wisniewski

**Look-Alikes** series by Joan Steiner

**Dragonology, Egyptology, Wizardology, Pirateology**

We can’t keep these gorgeous books on the shelf!

**Encyclopedia Mythologica and others** by Robert Sabuda

Exquisite pop-ups by an amazing artist.

**Treasure Hunt Mazes** and others by Roger Moreau

**Best Ever Paper Airplanes** by Norman Schmidt

**Ed Emberley’s Drawing Books**

**Ralph Masiello’s Drawing Books**

Jesse and Sarah’s class devoured these drawing books!

**Star Wars Visual Dictionaries** by David West Reynolds

**Star Wars Cookbooks I and II**

Liam H. loved making Yoda Soda!

**Guinness Book of World Records 2009**

**Robot Dreams** and **Chicken and Cat** by Sara Varon

**The Adventures of Polo** series by Regis Faller

**Wonder Bear** by Tao Nyeu

One of the most gorgeous wordless books we’ve ever seen!

**Stories to Solve** series by George Shannon

**The Jolly Postman** by Allan Ahlberg

If one cannot enjoy reading a book over and over again, there is no use in reading it at all. – Oscar Wilde