



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

### WE RECOMMEND...

#### Picture Books:

##### *Life on Mars*

**By Jon Agee, J Picture Agee, (PreS - Gr 2)**

A young astronaut is absolutely sure there is life to be found on Mars, but when he arrives, with a package of cupcakes as a gift, he sees nothing but a nearly barren planet. But as he settles in for the journey home, he cracks open his cupcakes - only to discover that someone has eaten them all! Unbeknownst to the explorer, someone has been wandering through the illustrations the whole time - getting a delicious snack along the way.

##### *Quiet!*

**By Kate Alizadeh, J Picture Alizadeh**

Ssh! Listen. What's that noise? What can we hear when we're really, really quiet? A toddler enjoys the range of sounds they hear as their busy day comes to an end, from the bustle and chat of dinner time, to the quiet hush of their father's voice at bedtime. The text and sensory clues to be found in this enchanting, inclusive picture book allow us to experience our home through its many noises.

##### *Where did they go?*

**By Emily Bornhoff, J Picture Bornhoff**

Deep in the forests that stretch to the sky, a mother and baby are hiding nearby. Are they high in the mist or somewhere down low? Where did the mountain gorillas go? In this search-and-find book, readers try to spot the animals in various environments. All the hidden animals are endangered; learn where in the world they come from and what is being done to save them.

##### *The Airport Book*

**By Lisa Brown, J Picture Brown**

Follow a family and the youngest member's favorite sock monkey through all the inner and outer workings of a modern-day airport. From checking bags and watching them disappear on the mysterious conveyer belt, to security clearance and a seemingly endless wait at the

gate, to finally being airborne. But wait! There's more! The youngest family member's sock monkey has gone missing. Follow it at the bottom of the page as it makes a journey as memorable as that of the humans above.

##### *Miss Rumphius*

**By Barbara Cooney, J Picture Cooney**

As a child, Alice Rumphius resolved that when she grew up she would go to faraway places, live by the sea in her old age, and do something to make the world more beautiful - and she does all those things, the last being the most difficult of all.

##### *Little Pig Saves the Ship*

**By David Hyde Costello, J Picture Costello**

Intrepid Little Pig is too little to go to summer camp with his older brothers and sisters. He is left behind with Grandpa and Poppy. Little Pig and Poppy make and sail a toy ship all week, but on Saturday a gusty wind takes the ship into the current, and Little Pig has to use his newfound knot-tying skills to save the day. A sweetly told intergenerational story about how even the littlest can make a big difference.

##### *Mama's Nightingale: a Story of Immigration and Separation*

**By Edwidge Danticat, J Picture Danticat**

A touching tale of parent-child separation and immigration. After Saya's mother is sent to an immigration detention center, Saya finds comfort in listening to her mother's warm greeting on their answering machine. To ease the distance between them while she's in jail, Mama begins sending Saya bedtime stories inspired by Haitian folklore on cassette tape. Moved by her mother's tales and her father's attempts to reunite their family, Saya writes a story of her own - one that just might bring her mother home for good. With stirring illustrations, this tender tale shows the human side of immigration and imprisonment - and shows how every child has the power to make a difference.



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

### ***The Rabbit Listened***

**By Cori Doerrfeld, J Picture Doerrfeld**

When something terrible happens, Taylor doesn't know where to turn. All the animals are sure they have the answer. The chicken wants to talk it out, the bear thinks Taylor should get angry, but neither is quite right. One by one, the animals try to tell Taylor how to process this loss, and one by one they fail. Then the rabbit arrives. All the rabbit does is listen, which is just what Taylor needs. Whether read in the wake of tragedy or as a primer for comforting others, this is a deeply moving and unforgettable story sure to soothe heartache of all sizes.

### ***When's My Birthday?***

**By Julie Fogliano, J Picture Fogliano**

In this enthusiastic celebration of all things BIRTHDAY, acclaimed author Julie Fogliano and award-winning illustrator Christian Robinson bring you the perfect birthday book! Join our excited narrator as she lists all the things that will make her birthday the BEST birthday.

### ***Home in the Rain***

**By Bob Graham, J Picture Graham**

Waiting out a storm by the highway inspires a name for an unborn baby sister in a tender, exquisitely observed tale from the incomparable Bob Graham.

### ***I Know Numbers!***

**By Taro Gomi, J Picture Gomi**

How do we love numbers? Let us count the ways: They're on street signs and bus stops, featured on phones, thermometers, chalkboards, and scales. They show the time and the date, and help us to measure distance, sizing, and so much more. A unique - and useful - look at a key concept we count on.

### ***Princesses Wear Pants***

**By Savannah Guthrie and Allison Oppenheim, Available at other Minuteman Library Networks**

Princess Penelope Pineapple stays busy flying planes, exercising, and gardening, always wearing pants - so when disaster strikes at the Pineapple Ball, Penny is prepared.

### ***Grumpy Goat***

**By Brett Helquist, J Picture Helquist**

Meet one Grumpy Goat. He's cranky, he's hungry, and he's never had a friend. He is making a terrible mess at Sunny Acres Farm, and the other animals just stay away. He knocks over the pigs' trough, kicks down the garden fence, and eats everything in his path. Until one special flower stops him in his tracks. And once Goat opens his eyes, his heart is soon to follow. See how stopping to smell the flowers really can change everything.

### ***I am Bat***

**By Morag Hood, J Picture Hood**

I am bat. I love cherries. They are juicy and red and delicious and... My cherries! Some of them are missing. Who took my cherries? Was it YOU? Join the grumpily adorable Bat as he searches for his missing cherries in this vibrant and hilarious picture book.

### ***Lost and Found***

**By Oliver Jeffers, J Picture Jeffers**

What is a boy to do when a lost penguin shows up at his door? Find out where it comes from, of course, and return it. But the journey to the South Pole is long and difficult; to pass the time, the boy tells the penguin stories. Finally, they arrive. Yet instead of being happy, both are sad. The boy realizes: the penguin hadn't been lost, it had merely been lonely. A poignant, funny, and story about friendship lost - and then found again.

### ***Tin***

**By Chris Judge, J Picture Judge**

Tin is looking after his little sister Nickel one afternoon when she grabs hold of a balloon and floats away! Tin and his dog Zinc set off in hot pursuit as she floats toward the big city. Can they rescue her before she drifts too far?

### ***Can I Tell you a Secret?***

**By Anna Kang, J Picture Kang**

From the author-illustrator team of *You Are (Not) Small*, winner of the 2015 Theodor Seuss Geisel Award, comes an adorable picture book featuring Monty. He's a little



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

frog with a BIG secret that he's ready to share. Monty learns how to face his fears with some help from his new friend - YOU!

### ***Open this Little Book***

**By Jesse Klausmeier, J Picture Klausmeier**

What will you find when you open this little book? A fun story? Sweet characters? Enticing pictures? Yes! But much more. Open this book and you will find...another book...and another...and another. All together a seemingly simple book about colors for the very youngest readers, and an imaginative exploration of the art of book making for more sophisticated aficionados, and a charming story of friendship and the power of books for all.

### ***Red Sky at Night***

**By Elly Mackay, J Picture Mackay**

A memorable collection of weather sayings, beautifully arranged in story form and illustrated by renowned paper artist Elly MacKay. Red sky at night, sailor's delight. And, the next morning, when the dew is on the grass, no rain will come to pass. These are the perfect conditions for a grandfather to take his grandchildren out on a fishing trip. What follows is a lovely family narrative using weather aphorisms, creating a beautiful and informational story which will appeal to children's timeless fascination with the natural world.

### ***If You Plant a Seed***

**By Kadir Nelson, J Picture Nelson**

A resonant, gently humorous story about the power of even the smallest acts and the rewards of compassion and generosity. With spare text and breathtaking oil paintings, *If You Plant a Seed* demonstrates not only the process of planting and growing for young children but also how a seed of kindness can bear sweet fruit.

### ***Are We Pears Yet?***

**By Miranda Paul, J Picture Paul**

Two seeds can't wait to be pears, but growing takes time and patience in this clever, hilarious, and informative picture book. "When will we be pears?" --"After we find

soil." "Hooray! We are going to be pears! Are we pears yet?" --"No! Just be patient and wait." Written entirely in dialogue and staged as a play, *Are We Pears Yet?* will make you look at growth cycles and fruit trees in a whole new way.

### ***A Different Pond***

**By Bao Phi, J Picture Phi (K-2)**

An unforgettable story about a simple event - a long-ago fishing trip. Graphic novelist Thi Bui and acclaimed poet Bao Phi deliver a powerful, honest glimpse into a relationship between father and son--and between cultures, old and new. As a young boy, Bao and his father awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. A successful catch meant a fed family. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam.

### ***Cow Cow***

**By Chris Raschka, J Picture Raschka**

Cow Cow has so many ideas! In fact, she has 100 of them: green is the best color ever; chewed grass tastes like a cookie...But has Cow Cow ever tasted a cookie before? Though her research may be flawed, this single cow's efforts to make silly sense of the world are both tickling and inspiring!

### ***The Word Collector***

**By Peter Reynolds, J Picture Reynolds (grades 1-3)**

Some people collect stamps. Some people collect coins. Some people collect art. And Jerome? Jerome collected words... Jerome discovers the magic of the words all around him - short and sweet words, two-syllable treats, and multi-syllable words that sound like little songs. Words that connect, transform, and empower. A celebration of finding your own words - and the impact you can have when you share them with the world.



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

### ***Everybunny Count!***

**By Ellie Sandall, J Picture Sandall**

Take your places, everyone. Ready or not, here we come! The search for fox has just begun. Everybunny count to ONE! Bunnies play hide-and-seek and count together in this bright, colorful picture book that explores the natural world and celebrates friendship and one of the most beloved early childhood games. But that's not all. There's a special surprise awaiting the bunnies when they take a peek inside fox's den!

### ***Thank you, Earth: a Love Letter to our Planet***

**By April Pulley Sayre, J Picture Sayre**

Think of everything Earth gives us. What are you most thankful for? A love letter to the Earth shares striking photographic images from around the world, that introduce such concepts as nature and science. Water, air, light. Patterns, curves, shapes, colors. Things that crawl, fly, float, run, bloom, ripen. Includes notes from the author about related activities and resources.

### ***Festival of Colors***

**By Surishtha Sehgal and Kabir Shegal, J Picture Sehgal**

Learn all about Holi, the Indian Festival of Colors, in this lush picture book from bestselling mother/son duo Surishtha Sehgal and Kabir Sehgal. Spring is here, and it's almost time for Holi, the Indian Festival of Colors. Siblings Mintoo and Chintoo are busy gathering flowers to make into colorful powders to toss during the festival. And when at last the big day comes, they gather with their friends, family, and neighbors for a vibrant celebration of fresh starts, friendship, forgiveness, and, of course, fun!

### ***Let's Sing a Lullaby with the Brave Cowboy***

**By Jan Thomas, J Picture Thomas**

This playful picture book from Jan Thomas features a courageous cowboy who croons to his cows before bed--with just a few fearful interruptions. Join the Brave Cowboy as he tries to sing his young calf pals to sleep on a dark, dark night--EEEEEEK! IS THAT A HUGE HAIRY SPIDER OVER THERE? Oh, it's just a flower? Well then, back to the lullaby. Brave Cowboy and his silly,

interrupted lullaby are sure to get everybody singing--before they head off into cozy dreamland...

### ***Accident!***

**By Andrea Tsurumi, J Picture Tsurumi**

When a clumsy armadillo named Lola knocks over a glass pitcher, she sets off a silly chain of events, encountering chaos wherever she goes. But mistakes don't have to be the end of the world!

### ***In Your Hands***

**By Carole Boston Weatherford, J Picture Weatherford**

A prayer from mother to son that he will always be in safe hands.

## **Easy Readers:**

### ***Mr. Putter and Tabby See the Stars***

**By Cynthia Rylant, J Easy Rylant**

**\*One in a series.**

When Mr. Putter cannot sleep after eating too many of Mrs. Teaberry's pineapple jelly rolls, he and Tabby take a moonlit stroll that ends with the perfect neighborly gathering.

### ***Baby Monkey, Private Eye***

**By Brian Selznick and David Serlin, J Easy Selznick, (PreS - Gr 1)**

Who is Baby Monkey? He is a baby. He is a monkey. He has a job. He is Baby Monkey, Private Eye! Lost jewels? Missing pizza? Stolen spaceship? Baby Monkey can help... if he can put on his pants! Caldecott medalist Brian Selznick and author David Serlin bring Baby Monkey's adventures to life in an exciting new format that blends elements of picture book, beginning reader, and graphic novel. ideal for sharing aloud and for emerging readers. Hooray for Baby Monkey!

### ***Wizard and Wart***

**By Janice Lee Smith, J Easy Smith**

**\*First in a series.**

Tragic magic! When a blundering Wizard and his dog, Wart, try to help a lovesick snake win over a cute rabbit, they end



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

up brewing more trouble than they ever imagined. A curse and worse! The snake loves the rabbit, but the rabbit loves a cat; what's a Wizard to do? Hocus-pocus! Only a nifty spell leaves everyone happy and in love.

### ***We Both Read: Museum Day***

**By** *Sindy McKay, J Easy We Both Read*

**\*One in a series.**

A father and daughter spend the day at the museum. Told in rhyme. Text on one page is meant to be read by a parent/adult while text on a facing page is simple enough to be read by a child just learning to read.

### ***Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole***

**By** *Wong Herbert Yee, J Easy Yee*

Mouse lives inside an oak tree, and Mole lives in a hole underneath. They are neighbors, but they are also friends. Sometimes friends make mistakes - but they always try to help each other out. That is what Mouse and Mole do.

### ***National Geographic Kids Readers: Pyramids***

**By** *Laura March, J Easy 932 Marsh*

**\*One in a series.**

Travel to ancient Egypt to learn all about its amazing pyramids in this new National Geographic Kids Reader. The Level 1 text provides accessible, yet wide-ranging, information for beginning readers about these amazing wonders of the world and their importance today.

## **Chapter Books:**

***Roscoe Riley Rules:***

### ***Never Glue Your Friends to Chairs***

**By** *Katherine Applegate, J Chapter Applegate*

**\*First in a series.**

If the kids can't sit still for the class performance, Roscoe's teacher could be in big trouble. Fortunately Roscoe has a plan to save her - a super, mega, gonzo plan! What could go wrong?

### ***The Notebook of Doom: Rise of the Balloon Goons***

**By** *Troy Cummings, J Chapter Cummings*

**\*First in a series.**

Alexander has just moved to a new town where he is about to uncover all sorts of monsters! He finds an old notebook with the word "DOOM" inscribed on the front cover. The "Notebook of Doom," which Alexander now holds, contains top secret information about monsters! In this first book, Alexander goes up against spooky balloon goons - unique and twisted arm-waving balloon men! This book is full of humour, engaging black-and-white illustrations, and of course . . . monsters!

### ***Mercy Watson to the Rescue***

**By** *Kate DiCamillo, J Chapter DiCamillo*

**\*First in a series.**

To Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mercy is not just a pig - she's a porcine wonder. And to the portly and good-natured Mercy, the Watsons are an excellent source of buttered toast, not to mention that buttery-toasty feeling she gets when she snuggles into bed with them. This is not, however, so good for the Watsons' bed. BOOM! CRACK! As the bed and its occupants slowly sink through the floor, Mercy escapes in a flash - "to alert the fire department," her owners assure themselves. But could Mercy possibly have another emergency in mind - like a sudden craving for their neighbors' sugar cookies? Welcome to the wry and endearing world of Mercy Watson - an ebullient new character for early chapter-book readers in a series that's destined to be a classic.

### ***Race the Wild: Rain Forest Relay***

**By** *Kristin Earhart, J Chapter Earhart*

**\*First in a series.**

On a once-in-a-lifetime race through the animal kingdom, it takes smarts, strength, and skill to win! When Russell entered the race, he knew it was going to be a wild ride. Especially the first race course! He'd been studying up on the Amazon's animals and culture forever. But nothing could prepare him or his teammates for what they'd find in the rain forest: raging rapids, poisonous venom, and sneaky competitors who'd



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

do anything to win. Can the red team work together to make it to the finish line in one piece?

### ***The Princess in Black***

**By Shannon and Dean Hale, J Chapter Hale**

**\*First in a series.**

Who says princesses don't wear black? When trouble raises its blue monster head, Princess Magnolia ditches her flouncy dresses and becomes the Princess in Black! From award-winning writing team of Shannon and Dean Hale and illustrator LeUyen Pham, here is the first in a humorous and action-packed chapter book series for young readers who like their princesses not only prim and perfect, but also dressed in black.

### ***Calpurnia Tate, Girl Vet: A Prickly Problem***

**By Jacqueline Kelly, J Chapter Kelly**

**\*First in a series.**

When the Tate family dog, Ajax, has a run-in with a porcupine, things get prickly--and dangerous--quickly. It'll take Callie's quick thinking and doctoring to make things right. Will Ajax learn to leave other critters alone?

## Graphic Novels:

### ***Peter & Ernesto: A Tale of Two Sloths***

**By Graham Annable, J Graphic Annable, (Gr 1-4)**

Peter and Ernesto are sloths. Peter and Ernesto are friends, but they are nothing alike. Peter loves their tree and never wants to leave, while Ernesto loves the sky and wants to see it from every place on Earth. When Ernesto leaves to have a grand adventure, Peter stays behind and frets. The two friends grow even closer in separation, as Peter the homebody expands his horizons and Ernesto the wanderer learns the value of home. With ridiculously cute art and simple, funny text, their reunion is even more adorable than you are imagining.

## Non-Fiction:

### ***Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1901***

**By Michelle Markel, J 331.89 Markel**

The true story of the young immigrant who led the largest strike of women workers in U.S. history. When Clara arrived in America, she couldn't speak English. She didn't know that young women had to go to work, that they traded an education for long hours of labor, that she was expected to grow up fast. But that didn't stop Clara. She went to night school, spent hours studying English, and helped support her family by sewing in a shirtwaist factory. Clara never quit, and she never accepted that girls should be treated poorly and paid little. Fed up with the mistreatment of her fellow laborers, Clara led the largest walkout of women workers the country had seen. From her short time in America, Clara learned that everyone deserved a fair chance. That you had to stand together and fight for what you wanted. And, most importantly, that you could do anything you put your mind to.

### ***Luna and Me: the True Story of a Girl Who Lived in a Tree to Save a Forest /***

**By Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw, J 333.75 Kostecki**

Once there was a redwood tree - one of the world's largest, tallest, and oldest trees. And once, born nearly a thousand years after the tree first took root, there was a girl named Julia, who was called Butterfly. When exploring her beloved forest, Butterfly wandered into a grove of ancient trees. One tree had broken branches and a big blue "X" on the side. It was going to be chopped down. Butterfly climbed up into the tree. A tree wouldn't be cut down if it had a person living in it. This is the story of Julia Butterfly Hill and Luna, the redwood tree she lived in for two years, never once coming down. That is, not until Luna's future was safe.

### ***Bugs from Head to Toe***

**By Stacey Roderick, J 595.7 Roderick**

Part bug book, part guessing game, *Bugs from Head to Tail* is the third book in the "Head to Tail" series. This informational picture book challenges readers to guess which creepy crawly each of the eight body parts belong to. The refrain (for example, "What bug has a head like this?") offers just the right amount of repetition for little readers and invites them to join in on the guessing fun!



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

The following spread reveals the answer and provides a short overview of the critter - including details such as its habitat, diet and common behaviors. The end matter features an additional informative spread about other bugs not covered in the book and defines the term bug (vs. insect) for young readers. It's the perfect choice for budding entomologists!

### ***The Bee Book***

**By Charlotte Milner, J 595.79 Milner**

Explore the secret world of bees: how they live, how they work, how they support each other and their hive. A wonderful introduction to the humble honeybee: nature's hardest worker, and much more than just a provider of honey! Bees are incredibly industrious, brilliant at building, super social, and - most importantly - responsible for a third of every mouthful of food you eat! Find out how bees talk to one another, what it takes to become a queen bee, what the life of a worker bee is like, and more. The contents include bee anatomy, types of bee, hives, colonies, pollination, making honey, and more. Discover just how much they matter, why they are declining, and what you can do to help!

### ***Runny Babbit: a Billy Sook***

**By Shel Silverstein, J 811.54 Silverstein**

Welcome to the world of Runny Babbit and his friends Toe Jurtle, Skertie Gunk, Rirty Dat, Hungry Hog, Snerry Jake, and many others who speak a topsy-turvy language all their own. So if you say, "Let's bead a rook That's billy as can se," You're talkin' Runny Babbit talk, Just like mim and he.

### ***Keith Haring: the Boy Who Just Kept Drawing***

**By Kay A. Haring, J Bio Haring**

This one-of-a-kind book explores the life and art of Keith Haring from his childhood through his meteoric rise to fame. It sheds light on this important artist's great humanity, his concern for children, and his disregard for the establishment art world. This is a story to inspire, and a book for Keith Haring fans of all ages to treasure.

## ***ALSC RECOMMENDS...***

*(Association for Library Services to Children)*

### ***After the Fall***

***(How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again)***

**By Dan Santat, J Picture Santat**

Humpty Dumpty conquers his fears in a most extraordinary result.

### ***The Bad Seed***

**By Jory John, J Picture John**

The story of a baaaaaad sunflower seed who decides it's time for a change.

### ***Beastly Verse***

**Various authors, Illustrated by JooHee Yoon, J 808.81  
Beastly**

Text and art are interwoven to bring to life sixteen animal-related poems in this award-winning book.

### ***Big Cat, Little Cat***

**By Elisha Cooper, J Picture Cooper**

This endearing story of the friendship between an older cat and a younger cat is a celebration of love and loss.

### ***Blue Sky, White Stars***

**By Sarvinder Naberhaus, J Picture Naberhaus**

This poetic, patriotic tribute will help readers appreciate America's splendor.

### ***The Book of Mistakes***

**By Corinna Luyken, J Picture Luyken**

Incorporating accidental splotches, spots, and unusual shapes into her art, a young artist explores the creative process.

### ***Flowers are Calling***

**By Rita Gray, Available at Other Minuteman Libraries**

Playful rhyming text alternates with factual callouts that describe flowers and the pollination process. The watercolor illustrations are gorgeous and sure to inspire young naturalists everywhere!



# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

### ***Fly Guy Presents: Castles***

**by Tedd Arnold, J Easy 728.81 Arnold**

Fly Guy and Buzz learn about what it is like to have lived in a castle in this nonfiction reader.

### ***Freedom in Congo Square***

**By Carole Boston Weatherford, J 976.3 Weatherford**

Because of the unjust system of nineteenth century Louisiana, slaves are forced to work all week long - so they look forward to Sunday, when they can gather in New Orleans' Congo Square to dance, sing, and enjoy an afternoon of freedom.

### ***Get a Hit, Mo!***

**By David A. Adler, J Easy Adler**

Mo is used to striking out, but when the bases are loaded, he may just finally hit a home run.

### ***Good Night, Planet***

**By Liniers, J Graphic Liniers**

After a busy day of play, a girl's favorite toy animal begins his day, befriendng a dog, eating a cookie, and exploring the unknown.

### ***Hank's Big Day: The Story of a Bug***

**By Evan Kuhlman, J Picture Kuhlman**

Pill bug Hank and his human pal Amelia spend a marvelous day exploring the outdoors in a sweet story of friendship and imagination.

### ***Jabari Jumps***

**By Gaia Cornwall, J Picture Cornwall**

The big moment has come for Jabari to jump off the diving board, but is he ready?

### ***Little Elliot, Big Fun***

**By Mike Curato, J Picture Curato**

A big amusement park brings more fear than fun until a mouse friend helps Little Elliot find the rides that are just right for him.

### ***Marta! Big & Small***

**By Jen Arena, J Picture Arena**

An exploring of opposites in English and Spanish with a clever nina named Marta.

### ***My Awesome Summer by P. Mantis***

**By Paul Meisel, J 595.72 Meisel**

Vibrant illustrations add whimsy to this five-month diary in the life of a praying mantis as it eats (its siblings!), hides from predators, and learns to fly.

### ***My Beautiful Birds***

**By Suzanne Del Rizzo, J Picture Del Rizzo**

Behind Sami, the Syrian skyline is full of smoke. The boy follows his family and all his neighbors in a long line, as they trudge through the sands and hills to escape the bombs that have destroyed their homes.

### ***The Night Gardener***

**By Terry Fan and Eric Fan, J Picture Fan**

William and an elderly gardener help transform their town by creating anonymous topiary artwork.

### ***Now***

**By Antoinette Portis, J Picture Portis**

Following a girl's joys and experiences shows an appreciation of life's simple moments.

### ***A Piece of Home***

**By Jeri Watts, J Picture Watts**

Moving from Korea to West Virginia is a big and scary adjustment for Hee Jun, but finding a flower in America that also grew in his grandmother's garden back in Korea makes him feel connected once again.

### ***La Princesa and the Pea***

**By Susan Middleton Elya, J Picture Elya**

In this twist on the classic fairytale, a Peruvian Prince goes to great lengths to marry the girl of his dreams.

### ***Robinson***

**By Peter Sis, J Picture Sis**

Exquisite art and a heartfelt story of adventure and friendship come together in this imaginative, magical book.





# BOOKS THAT *ROCK*

## Summer Reading Recommendations: GRADES K-2

*Most of these books are on display in the Children's Room!*

### ***Strictly No Elephants***

**By Lisa Mantchev, J Picture Mantchev**

Pets – and friends – come in all shapes and sizes.

### ***This is My Dollhouse***

**By Giselle Potter, J Picture Potter**

A little girl's homemade dollhouse inspires hours of creativity – but can it compare to her friend's store bought one?

### ***What Do You Do with a Problem?***

**By Kobi Yamada, Available at Other Minuteman Network Libraries**

A child experiences an unexpected problem, worrying and wrestling it through until he realizes it's not really a problem after all – it's an opportunity.