



The Keystone State Literacy Association has proclaimed April as

Families and Reading Month



"Children develop a love of stories and poems when they read or are read to on a regular basis. These experiences enrich and expand their world and encourage imagination."

Debbie Urso
Keystone State Literacy Association
Families and Reading Chair

A special message to our families



March 2021

Dear Families,

Let's read!

Children develop a love of stories and poems when they read or are read to on a regular basis. These experiences enrich and expand their world and encourage imagination. At the same time, you will be building family memories to last a lifetime.

With this in mind, the Keystone State Literacy Association (KSLA) – which is committed to developing a love of reading in all children across Pennsylvania, – is proclaiming the month of April as Families and Reading Month. Throughout the month, families all across the state will be sharing the joys of reading at home. We hope you will join in the fun by reading with your child each day in April.

Throughout Families and Reading Month, we encourage families to engage in reading or reading activities for 15 minutes each day during the month of April. Attached you will find a calendar of ideas and activities to promote reading. The activities are suggestions that can also be incorporated into a reading schedule throughout the year.

As a thank-you for your support and encouragement, we ask, at the end of April, that you sign the attached calendar and return it to your child's teacher. In return, you and your child will receive a Certificate of Achievement.

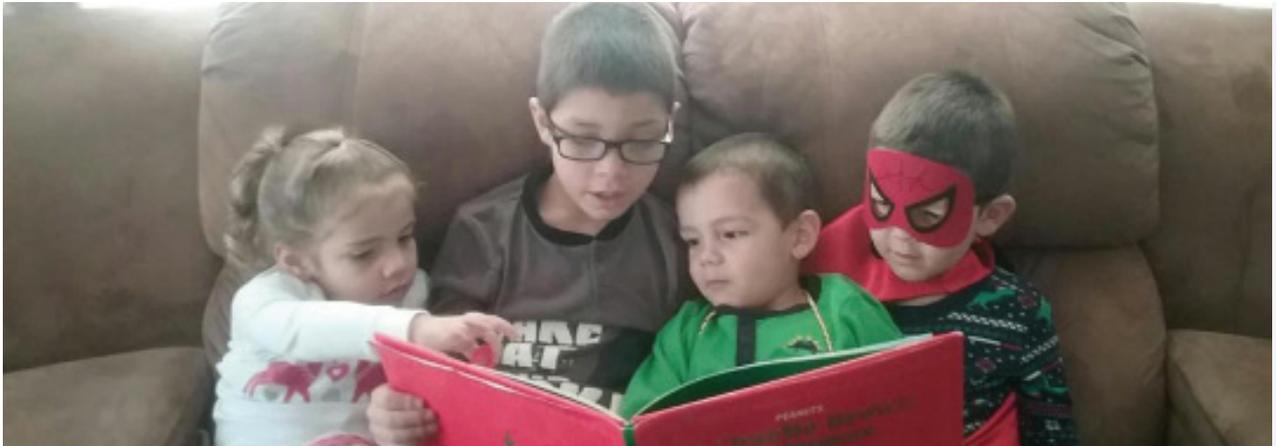
We hope you will take time to create some special memories during April. Now, *let's read!*
Sincerely,

Debbie Urso

Debbie Urso
KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair



A special message to our families



Marzo 2021

Queridas Familias,

¡Vamos a leer!

Los niños desarrollan un amor a los cuentos y poemas cuando leen o les leen regularmente. Estas experiencias enriquecen y amplía su mundo y fomentan la imaginación. Al mismo tiempo, se le construyen recuerdos familiares que durarán toda la vida.

Con esto en mente, La Asociación Estatal de Lectura Keystone de Pensilvania (KSLA)- que se compromete a desarrollar un amor por la lectura en los niños a través de Pensilvania - proclama el mes de abril como el Mes de las Familias y la Lectura. Durante todo el mes, las familias en todo el estado va a compartir las alegrías de la lectura en casa. Esperamos que se unan a la diversión de la lectura con su hijo(a) todos los días en abril.

Por medio de las familias y Mes de Lectura, animamos a las familias a participar en la lectura o las actividades de lectura por 15 minutos cada día durante el mes de abril. Adjunto encontrará un calendario de ideas y actividades para promover la lectura. Las actividades son sugerencias de que también se pueden incorporarse en un horario de lectura durante todo el año.

Como agradecimiento por su apoyo y ánimo, nos le pedimos que a finales de abril firme el calendario adjunto y devolverlo al profesor(a) de su hijo(a). A cambio, usted y su hijo(a) recibirán un Certificado de Aprovechamiento.

Nosotros esperamos que usted crea memorias especiales durante el mes de abril. *¡Ahora vamos a leer!*

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Debbie Urso".

Debbie Urso
KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair



Reading Aloud to your Children

Reading aloud is a gift you can give to your children from the day they are born until the time they leave the nest. Children's reading experts agree that reading aloud offers the easiest and most effective way to help children become lifelong readers. It will be as much fun for you as it is for your children.

A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them. To spark this desire in your children, you may want to try some of these suggestions offered by Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a national nonprofit organization that inspires youngsters to read.

- Set aside a special time each day to read aloud to your children. Fifteen minutes a day is an ideal time.
- Vary your selections. For very young children, look for picture books with illustrations or photographs and print that is simple and clear. Once your child enters elementary school, consider picture books, magazines, and even chapter books.
- Read slowly and with expression. The more you ham it up, the more your children will love it. Try substituting your child's name for a character in the story.
- Have your children sit where they can see the book clearly, especially if it is a picture book or magazine.
- Allow time for your children to settle into the story, as well as time afterwards to talk about it.
- As you read aloud, encourage your children to get in on the act. Invite them to describe pictures, read bits of text, or predict what will happen next. It is even fun to dramatize the roles in the story or read lines of dialogue.
- Children like a sense of completion, so finish what you begin. If the book is too lengthy to finish in one sitting find an appropriate stopping point, such as the end of a chapter, and visit it later in the day or the next day.
- Continue to read aloud to your children even after they begin school and are independent readers. There is no age limit to reading to your children.
- Older children may enjoy reading aloud to a younger sibling. They often like to revisit some of their old favorites.



Fun Fact: A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them.

Leyendo en Voz Alta a sus Niños

Leer en voz alta es un regalo que le puede dar a sus hijos desde el día que nacen hasta que dejan el nido. Los expertos en la lectura de los niños están de acuerdo que leer en voz alta ofrece la manera más fácil y efectiva de ayudar a los niños a convertirse en lectores de por vida. Será tan divertido para usted, así como para sus niños.

Un niño cuyo día incluye escuchar historias animadas es más probable que crezca amando los libros y queriendo leerlos. Para despertar este deseo en sus hijos, es posible que desee probar algunas de estas sugerencias que ofrece Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) (Leer Es Fundamental), una organización sin fines de lucro que inspira a los jóvenes a leer.

- Reserve un tiempo especial cada día para leer en voz alta a sus hijos. Quince minutos al día es un tiempo ideal.
- Varíe sus selecciones. Para los niños muy pequeños, busque libros con ilustraciones o fotografías, y que la letra sea simple y clara. Una vez que su niño ingrese a la escuela elemental, considere libros con dibujos, revistas, y hasta libros de capítulos.
- Lea lentamente y con expresión. Mientras más lo exagere, más les gustará a sus niños. Trate de sustituir el nombre de su hijo por el de un personaje de la historia.
- Haga que sus niños se sienten en un lugar donde puedan ver el libro claramente, especialmente si es un libro con dibujos o revistas.
- Dele tiempo a sus niños para que se adapten a la historia, así como tiempo después de la historia para hablar de ella.
- Mientras lee en voz alta, anime a sus niños a participar. Invítelos a describir las imágenes, leer fragmentos del texto, o predecir lo que pasará después. Es hasta divertido dramatizar los roles en la historia o leer líneas del diálogo.
- A los niños les gusta un sentido de finalización, entonces termine lo que empezó. Si el libro es demasiado largo para terminarlo en una sola vez, busque un punto apropiado para parar, así como el final de un capítulo, y visítelo más tarde en el día, o al día siguiente.
- Continúe leyendo en voz alta a sus niños incluso hasta después de empezar la escuela y sean lectores independientes. No hay límite de edad para leer a sus niños.
- Los niños mayores pueden disfrutar de leer en voz alta a su hermano menor. A menudo les gusta revisar sus libros viejos favoritos.



Dato curioso: es más probable que un niño cuyo día incluya escuchar historias animadas crezca amando los libros y queriendo leerlos.

Tips for Selecting & Using Literature With Children



With so many books to choose from, how do you select the right ones for your child? How do you know if your child is enjoying or understanding what you're reading together? May you find these suggestions useful as you discover the wonderful world of books with your family!

- Select books that appeal to your child's interest.
- Take your child to the local public library. If he/she doesn't already have a library card, get him/her one. Browse the bookshelves and borrow some new titles that you can read together.
- Talk to your child about what you are reading together.
 - Ask questions about what is happening and why.
 - Encourage him to ask questions to clarify what is happening or wonder about something that isn't clear.
 - Ask questions that begin with why or how to promote deep thinking.
- Use the Internet to research answers to unanswered questions or to extend learning about a certain topic from a book.
- Help your child summarize a story using these questions:
 - Who or what is the story about?
 - When or where does the story take place?
 - What happens first?
 - What happens next?
 - How does the story end?
 - What lesson did the character learn?
- Read books aloud to your child on a regular basis. No matter your child's age, reading aloud to him/her is a great bonding experience.
- Use the five-finger rule to help your child select books appropriate for his/her independent reading level. Encourage your child to choose a book that looks interesting, open it to any page, and read. Each time your child comes to an unknown word, a finger is raised. Five unknown words on a page indicate that the book is too difficult for independent reading. Save the book for him/her to read at a later time or read it to your child.
- Provide opportunities for shared reading. In a shared reading, you take turns reading aloud with your child. This could be taking turns reading a page or a paragraph.
- Invite your child to read a favorite book to a younger sibling, friend, or even a family pet.
- Record your child reading a favorite book or part of a book. Email the video to a relative or friend.
- Invite your child to draw a picture illustrating a favorite scene or character from a book. Encourage your child to write a descriptive paragraph about the scene or character. Ask your child to read it to you.
- Encourage your child to create an advertisement for a favorite book or create a skit about it.
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Consejos para Seleccionar y Usar Literatura con Niños



Con tantos libros que se puede elegir, ¿cómo seleccionas los adecuados para tu niño? ¿Cómo sabes si tu niño está disfrutando o entendiendo lo que están leyendo juntos? ¡Ojalá encuentre útiles estas sugerencias a medida que descubre el maravilloso mundo de los libros con su familia!

- Seleccione libros que atraigan el interés de su niño.
- Lleve a su niño a la biblioteca pública local. Si él o ella no tiene todavía una tarjeta de la biblioteca, consíganle una. Busque en las estanterías y pida prestados algunos títulos nuevos que puedan leer juntos.
- Hable con su niño acerca de lo que están leyendo juntos.
- Haga preguntas acerca de lo que está pasando y por qué.
- MotíVELO a que haga preguntas para clarificar lo que está pasando o cuestione algo que no está claro.
- Haga preguntas que empiecen con por qué o cómo para promover el pensamiento profundo.
- Utilice el internet para buscar respuestas a preguntas sin respuesta o para ampliar el aprendizaje acerca de un tema determinado de un libro.
- Ayude a su niño a resumir la historia utilizando las siguientes preguntas:
 - ¿De quién o de qué se trata la historia?
 - ¿Cuándo o dónde se desarrolla la historia ?
 - ¿Qué pasa primero?
 - ¿Qué pasa después?
 - ¿Cómo termina la historia?
 - ¿Qué lección aprendió el personaje?
- Lea libros en voz alta regularmente. No importa la edad de su niño, leer libros en voz alta es una gran experiencia de unión.
- Utilice la regla de los cinco-dedos para ayudar a su niño a seleccionar libros para su nivel de lectura independiente. Motive a su niño a elegir un libro que se vea interesante, ábralo en cualquier página y léalo. Cada vez que su niño se encuentre con una palabra desconocida, se levanta un dedo. Cinco palabras desconocidas en una página indica que el libro es muy difícil para la lectura independiente. Guarde el libro para que él o ella lo lea después, o para que usted se lo lea.
- Brinde oportunidades para la lectura compartida. En la lectura compartida, se turnan con su niño para leer en voz alta. Esto podría ser turnarse leyendo una página o un párrafo.
- Invite a su niño a leer su libro favorito a un hermano menor, amigo, o incluso a la mascota de la familia.
- Grave a su niño leyendo su libro favorito o parte de un libro. Mande por correo el video a un familiar o amigo.
- Invite a su niño a dibujar ilustrando su escena o personaje favorito de un libro.
- Anime a su niño a escribir un párrafo describiendo la escena o personaje. Pídale a su niño que se lo lea a usted.
- Anime a su niño a crear un anuncio o una parodia de su libro favorito.

Families and Reading Month

Primary Grades

April 2021



**Ensure your child completes the suggested activity or reads for 15 minutes each day. Initial the box for that day. If you skip a day, read for 30 minutes the following day and initial 2 days. At the end of the month, sign this calendar and return it to your child's teacher. Activities listed are not required for the Certificate of Achievement.*



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
Child's Name & Grade		Family Member Signature		Visit a library. Get a card for your child. Check out some books.	Watch a nature program on TV. Talk about what you see.	Go outside and write words with your child using sidewalk chalk on the blacktop or a stick in the mud.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cut a comic strip apart. Have your child put it together in the right order.	Page through a family photo album and talk about the memories the photos have captured.	Cut words out of the newspaper. Glue them on paper to make a new sentence.	Have your child practice his address and important phone numbers.	Read a new book or an old favorite to your child.	Start reading a story and stop before the end. Ask your child to predict the ending.	Have a treasure hunt. Leave picture or word clues to follow to reach the treasure.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Help your child create a map of your home.	Have your child describe a family member or friend. Guess who it is.	Take a walk. Close your eyes and listen for the sounds of spring. Make a list of the sounds.	Help your child plant flower or vegetable seeds. Make a graph to chart their growth.	Have your child write a note or an email to a friend or relative.	Start telling a familiar story. Have your child write a new ending.	Sing favorite songs or compose a new one together.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Help your child write and illustrate a story about a favorite animal.	Have your child plan a fun family activity.	Have fun reading and writing with your child.	Read a story. Make puppets out of small paper bags or socks and act out the story.	Read a poem. Let your child guess what the next rhyming word will be.	Go on a letter, number, or color hunt with your child.	Go on a walk with your child and play Follow the Leader.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Say a word to your child and ask him for a word that rhymes or create tongue twisters together.	Choose a new recipe. Read it together and have fun making it.	Play a board game after reading the directions together.	Find a cozy place to read a favorite story. Have your child retell the story.	When driving with your child, turn off the music and talk about the day's events.	Read directions for a project. Work together to create the project.	

Prepared by the Families and Reading Committee of the Keystone State Literacy Association

MES DE FAMILIAS Y LECTURA

Grados Primarios

Abril 2021



* Asegúrese de que su hijo termine la actividad sugerida o lee durante 15 minutos cada día. Inicial de la caja para ese día. Si se olvida de un día, leer durante 30 minutos al día siguiente y sus iniciales en ambos cuadros. Al final del mes, el calendario firma y regresar a la maestra de su hijo. Actividades enumeradas no son necesarios para el Certificado de Logro.



domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sabado
				1	2	3
Nombre del Estudiante & Grado		Nombre del Padre		Visitar una biblioteca. Obtener una tarjeta para su hijo. Echale un vistazo a unos libros.	Ver un programa de la naturaleza en la televisión. Hablar de lo que ves.	Salga afuera a escribir palabras con su hijo o hija usando tiza sobre el asfalto o con un palo en el barro.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cortan una tira cómica. Haga que su hijo o hija lo coloquen en el orden correcto.	Página a través de un álbum de fotos familiar y hablar de los recuerdos las fotos han capturado.	Corte palabras del periódico. Pegarlos en papel para hacer una nueva frase.	Haga que su hijo practique su dirección y números de teléfono importantes.	Leer un nuevo libro o un favorito a su hijo o hija.	Empezar a leer un cuento y pare antes del final. Pídale a su hijo o hija para predecir el final.	Tengan una caza de tesoro. Dejar imagen o palabra pistas a seguir para alcanzar el tesoro.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Ayude a su hijo a crear un mapa de su casa.	Pida a su hijo o hija que describa a un familiar o amigo. Adivina quién es.	Dar un paseo. Cierra los ojos y escuche los sonidos de la primavera. Haga una lista de los sonidos.	Ayude a su hijo o hija a plantar una flor o semillas de hortalizas. Hacer una gráfica para trazar su crecimiento.	Pregunte a su hijo o hija de escribir una nota o correo electrónico a un amigo o pariente.	Empezar a contar una historia familiar. Haga que su hijo escriba un nuevo final.	Cantar canciones favoritas o componer juntos una nueva.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Ayude a su hijo escribir e ilustrar una historia sobre un animal favorito.	Haga que su hijo o hija plane una actividad divertida para la familia.	Trate de diviértirse leyendo y escribiendo con su hijo o hija.	Leer un cuento. Hacer títeres de bolsas de papel pequeñas o medias y actuar fuera de la historia.	Leya un poema. Deje que su hijo o hija adivine cuál será la próxima palabra rima.	Ir en una caza de letras números o colores con su hijo o hija.	Vay a un paseo con su hijo o hija y juegen de seguir al líder.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Decirle a su hijo o hija de pedir una palabra que rima o crea trabalenguas juntos.	Elija una nueva receta. Léanlo juntos y divertirse haciéndolo.	Jugar un juego de mesa después de leer las indicaciones juntos.	Encontrar un lugar acogedor para leer un cuento favorito. Haga que su niño contar la historia.	Cuando esten manejando un carro y su hijo o hija este con usted, apagar la música y hablar de los acontecimientos del día.	Lea las instrucciones para un proyecto. Trabajar juntos para crear el proyecto.	

Preparado por las Familias y el Comité de Lectura de la Asociación de Keystone State Literacy

Families and Reading Month

Intermediate Grades

April 2021



**Ensure your child completes the suggested activity or reads for 20 minutes each day. Initial the box for that day. If you skip a day, read for 40 minutes the next day and initial both boxes. At the end of the month, sign the calendar and return it to your child's teacher. Activities listed are not required for the Certificate of Achievement.*



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
Child's Name & Grade		Parent's Name		Visit the library. Explore a new topic to learn about and read together.	Play a word game such as Scrabble, Password, or Boggle with your child.	Have your child write a letter or email to a friend or relative. Be sure to mail it!
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Visit a historical landmark in your area. Write about the experience.	Read several books by the same author. Discuss similarities and differences.	Explore a new magazine with your child.	Give your child written directions to find a hidden object.	Ask your child to list things that a person can do now that couldn't be done 100 years ago.	Look at an atlas together to find all the places your family has visited.	Write a message to your child. Encourage your child to write back.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Have a scavenger hunt.	Create a poster or poem about spring with your child.	Have your child make a list of ways to save electricity in the home.	Complete a crossword puzzle or Sudoku with your child.	Cut off the last frame of a cartoon strip. Ask your child what will happen next.	Have your child use a map to plan an imaginary trip. Find the shortest route.	Help your child create a collage that represents what he/she likes to do.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Help your child start a collection of something natural like leaves or flowers. Find a book about them.	Help your child write captions for family photos.	Write tongue twisters together.	Have fun reading and writing with your child.	Play 20 questions with your child. Pick an object and see if he can guess your object asking only yes or no questions.	Watch a science program together on TV. Discuss what was learned and interesting.	Begin to keep a journal. Encourage your child to write in it everyday.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Let your child plan a meal. Look for sales and coupons and go grocery shopping together.	Have your child tell how two holidays are alike and different.	Find a cozy place to read a book together. Have your child retell a chapter or two.	Look at the weather map. Compare your weather with other regions.	Ask your child to notice ten details about his/her route to school.	Read directions for a project with your child. Create the project together.	

Prepared by the Families and Reading Committee of the Keystone State Literacy Association

MES DE FAMILIAS Y LECTURA

Grados Intermedios

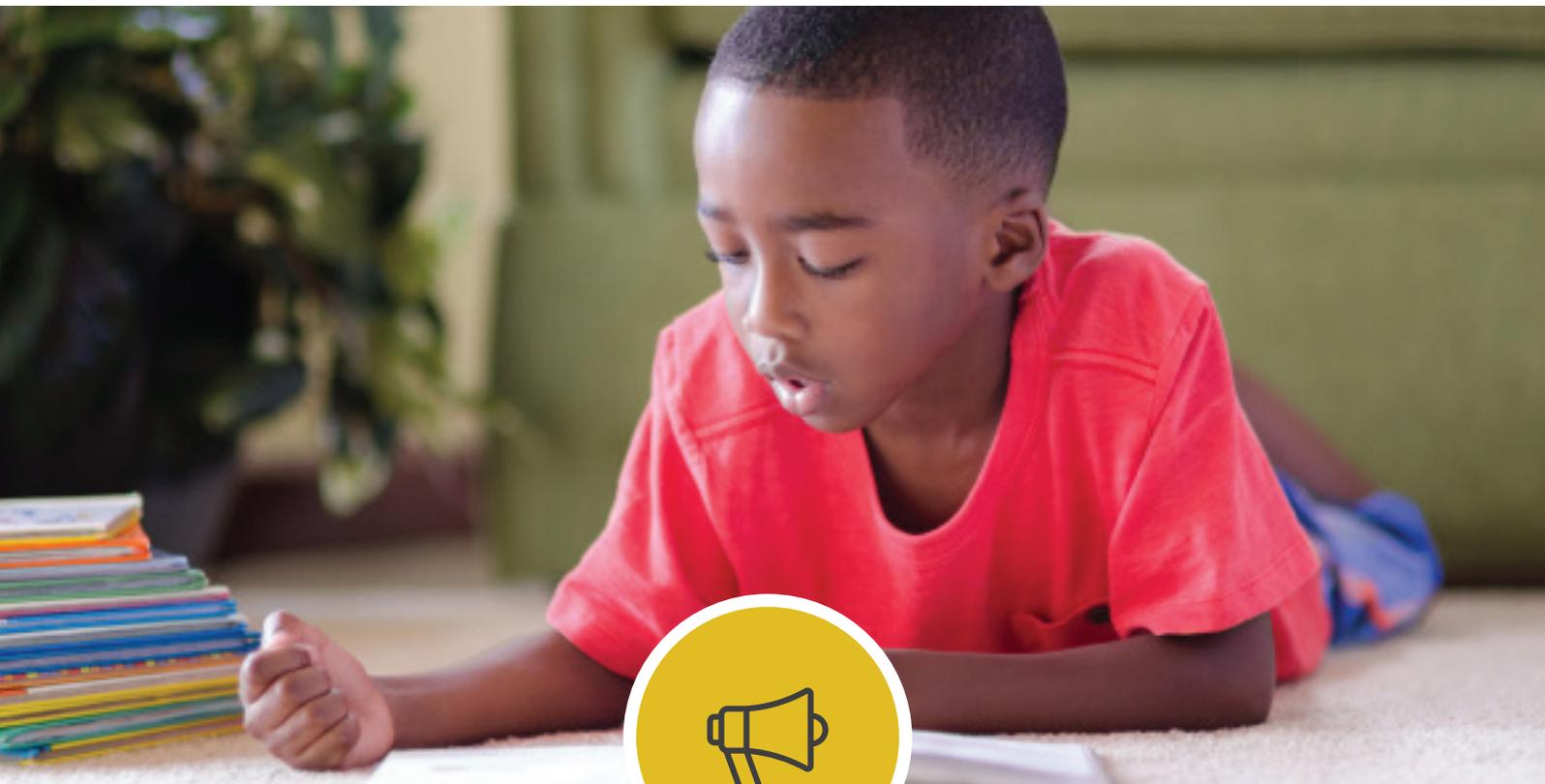
Abril 2021

* Asegúrese de que su hijo termine la actividad sugerida o lee durante 20 minutos cada día. Inicial de la caja para ese día. Si se olvida de un día, leer durante 40 minutos al día siguiente y sus iniciales en ambos cuadros. Al final del mes, el calendario firma y regresar a la maestra de su hijo. Actividades enumeradas no son necesarios para el Certificado de Logro.



domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sabado
				1	2	3
Nombre del Estudiante & Grado		Nombre del Padre		Visite la biblioteca. Explora un nuevo tema para conocer y leer juntos.	Juegue un juego de palabras como Scrabble, Password, o Boggle con su niño.	Haga que su niño(a) escriba una nota a un amigo o miembro de la familia. ¡Esté seguro de enviarlo!
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Visite un lugar histórico en su área. Escribe acerca de la experiencia.	Lean varios libros por el mismo autor. Hablen de las similares y las diferencias.	Explora una nueva revista con su hijo.	Déle a su niño(a) direcciones escritas donde encontrar un objeto escondido.	Pida que su niño(a) liste las cosas que una persona puede hacer ahora que no se podría hacer hace 100 años.	Mire un atlas para encontrar juntos todos los lugares que su familia ha visitado.	Escribir un mensaje a su hijo. Anime a su hijo a escribir de nuevo.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Tener una búsqueda del tesoro.	Crear un cartel o un poema sobre la primavera con su hijo.	Haga que a su niño(a) liste maneras de economizar electricidad en el hogar.	Completar un crucigrama o Sudoku con su hijo.	Corte el último marco de un dibujo cómico. Pídale a su niño(a) que le diga lo que va pasar.	Deje que a su niño(a) utilice un mapa para planear un viaje imaginario. Busquen la ruta más corta.	Ayude a su niño(a) crea un dibujo que representa lo que a él/ella le gusta hacer.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Ayúdele a su niño(a) empezar una colección de algo natural como hojas o flores. Busquen un libro acerca de ellos.	Ayude a su niño(a) escribir títulos para fotos de la familia.	Escribe trabalenguas juntos.	Diviértete lectura y la escritura con su hijo .	Juega 20 preguntas con su hijo. Elige un objeto y ver si puede adivinar el objeto que pide sólo preguntas "sí o no."	Ver un programa de ciencia en televisión juntos. Discuta lo aprendido e interesante.	Comience a mantener un diario. Motive a su niño(a) a escribir en el diario.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Deje que su niño planee una comida. Busque las ofertas y cupones e ir de compras juntos.	Pídale a su niño(a) que le diga cómo dos días festivos son iguales y diferentes.	Encuentren un lugar cómodo y lean unos libros juntos. Deje que a su niño(a) le cuente de nuevo un capítulo o dos.	Miren el mapa de clima en el periódico. Compare su clima con otras regiones.	Pídale a su hijo a notar diez detalles de su / su camino a la escuela.	Lea las direcciones para un proyecto con su niño(a). Crean los proyectos juntos.	

Special **thanks**



Many people have contributed to the Families & Reading resources. Their book recommendations and suggestions for improvement of the materials were invaluable.

- Susan Berrier, Chambersburg Area School District
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- Terri Vetock, Shippensburg Area School District
- Linda Werley, Chambersburg Area School District

Also, thank you to all of the families who submitted photographs of themselves reading together. The response was overwhelming! It makes my heart smile to see so many adults inspiring life-long readers.

Happy reading!

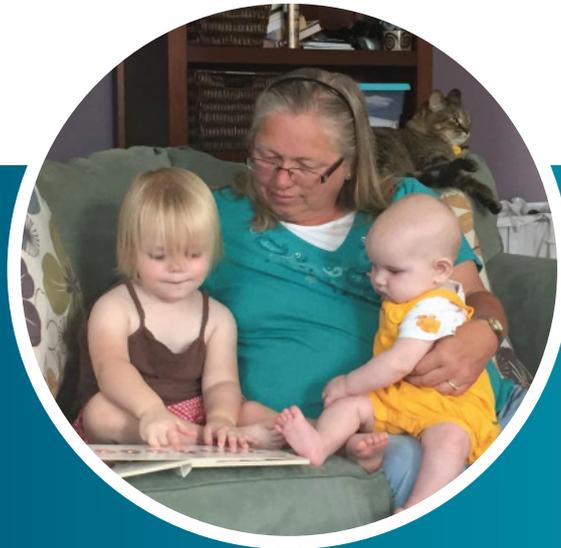
Debbie Urso, KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair

Preschool reading list

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions of new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Unite for Literacy (<http://www.uniteforliteracy.com>) Access a free digital library.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Classics:

- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *Corduroy* by Don Freeman
- *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin
- *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney
- *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey
- *The Lion and the Mouse* by Jerry Pinkney
- *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
- *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood

Newer Concept and Informational Books:

- *A Number Slumber* by Suzanne Bloom - Countdown to bedtime as each group of animals prepares for bed.
- *Let's Go ABC! Things That Go, from A to Z* by Rhonda Gowler Greene - Zoom through the alphabet with different vehicles.
- *Who Am I? An Animal Guessing Game* by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page - Use clues to guess which animal will be revealed on the next page.
- *Whose Footprint Is That?* by Darrin Lunde - In this book, seven pairs of animal tracks are paired with information about the animals' locomotion, asking kids to guess which animal left which tracks behind.
- *Trains Run!* by George Ella Lyon and Benn Lyon - This rhyming story explores many aspects of trains including how they are powered, the sounds they make, and the people who ride and work on them.
- *One Dark Bird* by Liz Garton Scanlon - One dark bird is perched up high with a view of the town. Count along as she's joined by two, then three, then four.
- *Fantastic Flowers* by Susan Stockdale - Stop and smell the roses with rhythm and rhyme while learning about different types of flowers and what they resemble.
- *Feathers and Hair: What Animals Wear* by Jennifer Ward - This book is a delightful

exploration of animal outerwear. It also includes supplemental information about each of the animals.

- *Who Eats Orange?* by Dianne White - An exploration of colors and animals' favorite foods. It includes familiar, as well as exotic animals from around the world, with lots of additional information.
- *Thank You, Bees* by Toni Yuly - Nature's gifts are celebrated in this simply stated book.

Newer Picture Books:

- *Rumble Grumble...Hush* by Kate Banks - This rhyming book follows a child through the sounds of his day.
- *Just Because* by Mac Barnett - It's time for bed, but this little one is full of questions.
- *The Big Umbrella* by Amy and Juniper Bates - A simple book with a powerful message – there is room for everyone in our world.
- *Hedgehog Needs a Hug* by Jen Betton - Hedgehog needs a hug to make him feel better, but none of his animal friends are eager to wrap their arms around his prickles.
- *I Just Like You* by Suzanne Bloom - A sweet group of young animals shows readers that even though others might look, talk, or walk differently, we can like each other just as we are.
- *The Little Guys* by Vera Brosgol - Even though they are small, the Little Guys work together to accomplish their goals.
- *Camp Tiger* by Susan Choi - Every year, a boy and his family go camping. Usually, they see things like an eagle, a salamander, and chipmunks but this year, there's a tiger.
- *Love* by Matt de la Peña - Celebrate love from a newborn's eyes all the way through childhood and beyond.
- *Pippa & Percival, Pancake & Poppy: Four Peppy Puppies* by Deborah Diesen - Four puppies meet and have a great time together until they get frightened and race back to their homes.
- *Good Dog* by Cori Doerrfeld - Puppy lands himself into all sorts of trouble. He gets lost. He's nearly run over. He gets chased out of a bakery for being a "bad dog." How can he redeem himself?

Preschool Reading List

- *Bulldozer Helps Out* by Candace Fleming - Bulldozer wants to help at the construction site but the other trucks think he is too small. Finally, he gets the chance to prove how rough and tough he is.
- *If I Was the Sunshine* by Julie Fogliano - Snuggle up to enjoy a poetic book about the nature of relationships, love, and connection.
- *How Do You Dance?* by Thyra Heder - Jiggle, wiggle, stomp, and laugh your way through reading this book.
- *Hello, Door* by Alastair Heim - A thieving fox makes his way through an empty house, greeting the goodies he snatches along the way. Then he comes face-to-face with the homeowners.
- *Puddle* by Richard Jackson - A puddle sits despairingly as she is trampled on by humans and animals alike until something miraculous happens that makes her feel worthwhile.
- *Can I Keep It?* by Lisa Jobe - A young boy is searching for the perfect pet. When he asks to keep them, his mom says no. The boy starts to wonder if there is an animal that is right for him.
- *The Good Egg* by Jory John - The Good Egg is very good, but sometimes it's hard to be good when everyone around you is rotten.
- *I Say Ooh, You Say Aah* by John Kane - Listen carefully, pay attention, and follow the directions.
- *A Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin - Little Star loves the delicious mooncake that she bakes with her mama, and she learns about phases of the moon, too.
- *The Little Red Fort* by Brenda Maier - One day, Ruby decides to build a fort. She invites her brothers to help, but they just laugh and tell her she doesn't know how to build. Ruby builds her fort, but will she allow her brothers to play in it?
- *Saturday* by Oge Mora - A little girl and her mom look forward to spending Saturday together, but everything is going wrong. Is the day completely ruined?
- *Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o - Sulwe just wants to look like everyone else until she discovers to love the skin she's in.
- *Puppy Truck* by Brian Pinkney - Carter wants a puppy, but he gets a truck instead. So he pets it, puts a leash around it, and takes it to the park just like he would if it were a real puppy.
- *Truman* by Jean Reidy - Truman the turtle loves spending his days with Sarah. Then one day Sarah puts on her backpack and leaves. Truman waits and waits, wondering if Sarah will return.
- *Mighty, Mighty Construction Site* by Sherri Duskey Rinker - The construction vehicles team up for their biggest job yet.
- *Stretchy McHandsome* by Judy Schachner - As Stretchy prowls the neighborhood, he discovers a young girl who convinces him that he's missing something--a loving person's lap.
- *Good Night, Little Blue Truck* by Alice Schertle - A storm is brewing and Little Blue Truck and his friends need to get home to bed.
- *Hibernate with Me* by Benjamin Scheuer - Big Bear and Small Bear share a story of love and caring through the seasons. Based on a song, the book offers a gentle reminder that when feeling sad or scared there is always love.
- *A Perfect Day* by Lane Smith - It is a perfect day for the animals in Bert's backyard until Bear steps in. Then, it becomes his perfect day.
- *Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug* by Jonathan Stutzman - Tiny T. Rex's friend Pointy needs a hug, but with his short stature and teeny T. Rex arms, Tiny has to work hard to find a way to help.
- *The Neighbors* by Einat Tsarfati - As a young girl climbs the steps to her seventh floor apartment, she imagines what her neighbors and their apartments are like. Her imagination runs wild.
- *Dreaming of You* by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater - Have you ever imagined what animals dream?
- *The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!* by Mo Willems - Pigeon already knows everything, so why must he go to school?

Magazines:

- Big Backyard
- Chickadee
- CLICK
- Highlights for Children
- Humpty Dumpty
- Ladybug: The Magazine for Young Children
- National Geographic Little Kids

Preschool Reading List

- Sesame Street Magazine
- Thomas & Friends
- Turtle Magazine for Preschool Kids
- Zootles

Educational Apps:

- ABC Mouse - leveled learning of letters, numbers, colors, songs, and stories
- ABC Ninja - slash through given letters
- Curious World (iOS) - features games, books, and videos for reading, math, and science
- Duck Duck Moose Reading (iOS)- teaches letters, sounds, and words
- Endless Alphabet - teaches letters, letter sounds, and vocabulary
- Endless Reader - teaches sight words (like a sequel to Endless Alphabet)
- iStoryTime (iOS) - narrated children's storybooks
- LumiKids Park by Lumocity - cognitive games
- Phonics Island (iOS) - levels of letter and phonics games
- Read Me Stories - introduces a new book everyday
- Reading Raven HD (iOS) - teaches letters and sounds
- Sky Fish Phonics - teaches letter/sound correspondence, blending sounds, and phoneme substitution
- Starfall - teaches sounds, letters, words, and sentences with interactive games
- Teach Your Monster to Read - match letters to sounds, blend, segment, and read

Grades K-1 reading list

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions of new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) - A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Unite for Literacy (<http://www.uniteforliteracy.com>) - Access a free digital library.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Grades K-I Reading List

Classics:

- *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
- *Are You My Mother?* by Phillip D. Eastman
- *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey
- *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A. A. Milne
- *Love You Forever* by Robert Munsch
- *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper
- *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter
- *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
- *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss
- *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
- *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg

Newer Informational Books:

- *Birds of Every Color* by Sneed B. Collard III - For birds, colors serve important purposes. They send messages, attract mates, answer questions, and much more.
- *The Curious Guide to Things that Aren't* by John and James Fixx - Read and solve riddles--one for each letter of the alphabet.
- *Terrific Tongues!* by Maria Gianferrari - Some animals use their tongues in unusual ways to find food, eat, and clean themselves.
- *The One and Only Wolfgang: From Pet Rescue to One Big Happy Family* by Steve Greig and Mary Rand Hess - A real-life family of dogs, chickens, rabbits, and a pig share favorite foods, cuddles, and love for each other no matter what.
- *The Wonders of Nature* by Ben Hoare - Discover the wonders of planet Earth and learn about some of the most amazing animals, plants, rocks, minerals, and microscopic life that live here.
- *Who Am I? An Animal Guessing Game* by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page - Use clues to guess which animal will be revealed on the next page. More facts are shared about each of the animals, as well.
- *This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from around the World* by Matt Lamothe - Follow one day in the real lives of seven kids from around the world—Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda, and Russia.
- *Inky's Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart*

Octopus Found His Way Home by Sy Montgomery - Inky achieved worldwide fame after escaping from New Zealand's National Aquarium via a floor drain.

- *If You Were the Moon* by Laura Purdie Salas - Learn about all the things the moon does through lyrical text with lots of explanatory information provided.
- *Kitten Lady's Big Book of Little Kittens* by Hannah Shaw - Learn how the Kitten Lady from Youtube and Instagram helps orphan kittens grow up, get adopted, and become healthy, happy cats.
- *Pipsqueaks, Slowpokes, and Stinkers: Celebrating Animal Underdogs* by Melissa Stewart - Some animal characteristics might seem like weaknesses, but they are critical for finding food and staying safe in an eat-or-be-eaten world.
- *Skulls!* by Blair Thornburgh - This story dispels any fears kids might have about their skeletons, flipping our view of skulls from a spooky symbol to a fascinating and crucial part of our bodies.

Newer Fiction Books:

- *Sofia Valdez, Future Prez* by Andrea Beaty - Sofia's abuelo gets hurt at the local landfill, and Sofia wants to transform the dangerous landfill into a park. She's told she's too young, but she is determined to make a difference.
- *Lion and Mouse* by Jairo Buitrago - In this updated fable, the mouse marches into the lion's den without an invitation. Before the lion can eat him for breakfast, the mouse begs for mercy.
- *Camp Tiger* by Susan Choi - Every year, a boy and his family go camping. Usually, they see things like an eagle, a salamander, and chipmunks but this year, there's a tiger.
- *The Hippo at the End of the Hall* by Helen Cooper - When Ben receives a mysterious invitation to an odd museum, he's swept into a peculiar world of forgotten secrets and wild magic.
- *Can I Be Your Dog?* by Troy Cummings - Arfy, a homeless dog, writes letters to members of his community, hoping to be adopted.
- *Badger's Perfect Garden* by Marsha Diane

Grades K-I Reading List

- Arnold Badger and his friends plant rows of perfect flowers and vegetables, but then a rainstorm comes and washes away the beautiful seeds, and Badger thinks his perfect garden is ruined. But is it?
- *Dandy* by Ame Dyckman - When Daddy spots a weed in his lawn, he's appalled. However, his daughter Sweetie has fallen in love with the beautiful flower, even going so far as to name it. What will happen to the beloved weed?
- *The Scarecrow* by Beth Ferry - Everyone knows not to mess with Scarecrow, but when a small crow falls from midair, Scarecrow does the strangest thing. He saves the tiny baby crow, and soon a bond grows between them.
- *Field Trip to the Moon* by John Hare - During the field trip, one student takes a break and falls asleep. When he wakes up, he discovers that the rest of the class and the spaceship are gone!
- *Nobody Hugs a Cactus* by Carter Goodrich - Hank is a cactus who is prickly inside and out. But when he starts feeling lonely and decides a hug might be good, no one wants to give him one. No one, that is, until Rosie tumbles by.
- *Rumple Buttercup: A Story of Bananas, Belonging, and Being Yourself* by Matthew Gray Grubler - Rumple has crooked teeth, straggly hair, green skin, and his left foot is slightly bigger than his right. He is unusual, but he understands the importance of being unique and loving yourself.
- *Friends Stick Together* by Hannah Harrison - Rupert and Levi are unlikely friends, tolerating each other's unique qualities.
- *How Do You Dance?* by Thyra Heder - Jiggle, wiggle, stomp, and laugh your way through reading this book.
- *Hello, Door* by Alastair Heim - A thieving fox makes his way through an empty house, greeting the goodies he snatches along the way. Then he comes face-to-face with the homeowners.
- *We Don't Eat Our Classmates!* by Ryan Higgins - It's the first day of school for Penelope Rex, and she can't wait to meet her classmates. They're just so delicious!
- *Elmore* by Hollie Hobby - Elmore is a porcupine desperate to make friends, but it is hard to seek closeness with others when you're covered with spikes that shoot off your back.
- *Be a Maker* by Katey Howes - Celebrate creativity through beautiful rhyming verse about the many things we can make, including making a difference in the world.
- *The Good Egg* by Jory John - The Good Egg is very good, but sometimes it's hard to be good when everyone around you is rotten.
- *The Thing About Bees: A Love Letter* by Shabazz Larkin - Written as a love poem to his two sons, a father shares the important facts about bees and their importance as pollinators.
- *See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog* by Davis LaRochelle - Max is not a cat. Max is a dog. But much to Max's dismay, the book keeps instructing readers to "see the cat." How can Max get through to the book that he is a DOG?
- *Chapter Two is Missing* by Josh Lieb - A hopelessly lost narrator, an unqualified detective, and a very sneaky janitor are all surprised to discover that the second chapter of the very book of which they are a part is--gasp--missing!
- *A Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin - Little Star loves the delicious mooncake that she bakes with her mama, and she learns about phases of the moon, too.
- *The Little Red Fort* by Brenda Maier - One day, Ruby decides to build a fort. She invites her brothers to help, but they just laugh and tell her she doesn't know how to build. Ruby builds her fort, but will she allow her brothers to play in it?
- *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard - Told in verse, learn what fry bread means to modern Native American families.
- *Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal - Alma has six names and her dad explains the story behind each of her namesakes.
- *Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away* by Meg Medina - Evelyn and Daniela are more than neighbors. They are best friends. But now, Evelyn is moving away. As moving day looms nearer, the girls make a plan to keep in touch because friends are special.
- *Saturday* by Oge Mora - A little girl and her mother look forward to spending Saturday together, but everything is going wrong. Is the day completely ruined?

Grades K-I Reading List

- *A Boy Like You* by Frank Murphy - There's more to being a boy than sports, feats of daring, and keeping a stiff upper lip. Be unique and celebrate all the wonderful ways to be a boy.
- *Tallulah the Tooth Fairy CEO* by Tamara Pizzoli - Tallulah knows practically everything about being a tooth fairy. She knows how to collect teeth, dispense money, and even train other fairies.
- *My Papi Has a Motorcycle* by Isabel Quintero - When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with Papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known, like her dad's love.
- *¡Vamos! Let's Go to the Market* by Raúl the Third - Little Lobo and his dog Bernabe deliver supplies to a variety of vendors, selling everything from sweets to sombreros, portraits to piñatas, and carved masks to comic books.
- *Truman* by Jean Reidy - Truman the turtle loves spending his days with Sarah. Then, one day Sarah puts on her backpack and leaves. Truman waits and waits, wondering if Sarah will return.
- *Nerdy Birdy Tweets* by Aaron Reynolds - Nerdy Birdy joins Tweetster to make new friends, but how will his best friend Vulture feel about this?
- *The Quiet Boat Ride and Other Stories* by Sergio Ruzzier - Fox and Chick are off on new adventures involving a boat ride, a mysterious box, and an early morning trip to see the sunrise. This contradictory duo always manages to have fun together.
- *Kate, Who Tamed the Wind* by Liz Garton Scanlon - A wild wind blows on the top of a steep hill, turning everything upside down for the man who lives there. Luckily, Kate comes up with a plan.
- *Mommy's Khimar* by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow - A young girl plays dress up with her mother's headscarves, feeling her mother's love with every one she tries on.
- *The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!* by Mo Willems - Pigeon already knows everything, so why must he go to school?
- *Who Is the Mystery Reader?* by Mo Willems - Zoom Squirrel tries out a new superpower with help from a mysterious mystery reader, but even the squirrels have no idea who the mystery reader is.
- *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson - A heartwarming book about finding the courage to connect, even when you feel scared and alone.
- *A Kite for Moon* by Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple - A little boy flying his kite notices a sad moon. He sends up kites to her, writing notes promising he will come see her someday. Will he keep his promise?
- *The Boring Book* by Shisuke Yoshitake - "I'm bored!" Every child says it and so does this book's main character. He soon realizes that boredom is a portal into exciting experiences.

Series Books:

- *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell
- *Arthur* by Marc Brown
- *Narwhal and Jelly* by Ben Clanton
- *Pete the Cat* by James Dean
- *Pinkalicious* by Victoria Kann
- *I Wonder* series of nonfiction books by DK Publishing
- *Jada Jones* by Kelly Starling Lyons
- *What If You Had* by Sandra Markle
- *Ordinary People Change the World* by Brad Meltzer
- *The Adventures of Otto* by David Milgrim
- *Fancy Nancy* by Jane O'Connor
- *Who Would Win?* by Jerry Pallotta
- *Dog Man* by Dav Pilkey
- *Elephant & Piggie* by Mo Willems

Poetry Books:

- *How to Read a Book* by Kwame Alexander - Experience the joy of reading through a poem all about it.
- *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming: And Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups* by Chris Harris - Pour over the text and illustrations as you read these laugh-out-loud poems for the young and old.
- *Boom! Bellow! Bleat! Animal Poems for Two or More Voices* by Georgia Heard - A collection of poems based on research about animal sounds.
- *Cricket in the Thicket* by Carol Murray - Playful poems about the world of insects. Facts about each insect appear on the pages along with additional information in the back matter.

Magazines:

- Big Backyard
- Kids Discover
- National Geographic Little Kids
- Nickelodeon
- Zoobooks

Educational Apps:

- ABC Mouse - leveled learning of letters, words, and stories
- Curious World (iOS) - features games, books, and videos for reading, math, and science
- Endless Alphabet - teaches letters, letter sounds, and vocabulary
- Endless Reader - teaches sight words (like a sequel to Endless Alphabet)
- Epic - build an unlimited library of children's books
- iStoryTime - narrated children's storybooks
- Little Bird Tales (iOS) - take photos and record audio and use them to create a story
- My Story (iOS) - create a book with visuals and text
- ABC Phonics Make a Word - increase phonics skills by building short vowel words
- Reading Raven HD (iOS) - teaches letters and sounds
- Sight Words: Kids Learn - different interactive activities to learn sight words
- Sight Word Ninja - slash through given sight words
- Sushi Scramble - make words from the given letter tiles
- Teach Your Monster to Read - match letters to sounds, blend, segment, and read
- The Word Monsters: Learn to Read - phonics-based books with activities based on the books
- Word Wizard - phonics and word building

Grades 2-3 reading list

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions of new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) - A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Classic Books:

- *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
- *The BFG* by Roald Dahl
- *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox
- *Bunnicula* by James Howe
- *Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco
- *Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith
- *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams

Newer Informational Books:

- *She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History* by Chelsea Clinton - Celebrate women in history who have spoken out for what's right, even when they have to fight to be heard.
- *Birds of Every Color* by Sneed B. Collard III - For birds, colors serve important purposes. They send messages, attract mates, answer questions, and much more.
- *Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln* by Margarita Engle - After moving from Venezuela to America, Teresa practiced and continued to play the piano until she became famous. She became so famous that President Lincoln invited her to play at the White House.
- *Bat Count: A Citizen Science Story* by Anna Forrester - A young girl and her family count the bats that appear in their yard. They send the numbers to scientists who study bats and look for ways to help the bat population.
- *The Boy Who Grew a Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng* by Sophia Gholz - Jadav was distressed by the destruction of deforestation on his island home, so he began planting trees. What began as a small thicket of bamboo turned into much more.
- *Terrific Tongues!* by Maria Gianferrari - Some animals use their tongues in unusual ways to find food, eat, and clean themselves.
- *Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History* by Vashti Harrison - The legends in this book span centuries and continents, but what they have in common is that each one has blazed a trail for generations to come.
- *The Wonders of Nature* by Ben Hoare - Discover the wonders of planet Earth and

learn about some of the most amazing animals, plants, rocks, minerals, and microscopic life that live here.

- *United Tastes of America: An Atlas of Food Facts and Recipes from Every State* by Gabrielle Langholtz - A full-spread introduction to each state features background about its culinary culture with illustrated food facts, maps, and an easy-to-follow recipe with a photograph of the finished dish.
- *Inky's Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart Octopus Found His Way Home* by Sy Montgomery - Inky achieved worldwide fame after escaping from New Zealand's National Aquarium via a floor drain.
- *Little Libraries, Big Heroes* by Miranda Paul - Thanks to Todd Bol and thousands of volunteers, many of whom are kids, millions of books in Little Free Libraries have been enjoyed around the world.
- *Seashells: More Than a Home* by Melissa Stewart - Learn about characteristics specific to each shell and how seashells provide more than a protective home.
- *Skulls!* by Blair Thornburgh - This story dispels any fears kids might have about their skeletons, flipping our view of skulls from a spooky symbol to a fascinating and crucial part of our bodies.
- *You Are Home: An Ode to the National Parks* by Evan Turk - The beauty and importance of the National Parks is showcased in this book that takes readers on an amazing tour across the United States.
- *Full Moon Lore* by Ellen Wahi - This book takes us through the calendar as we learn about the name of each month's moon and the reason for that name.

Newer Fiction Books:

- *Badger's Perfect Garden* by Marsha Diane Arnold - Badger and his friends plant rows of perfect flowers and vegetables, but then a rainstorm comes and washes away the beautiful seeds. Badger thinks his perfect garden is ruined. But is it?
- *Lion and Mouse* by Jairo Buitrago - In this updated fable, the mouse marches into the lion's den without an invitation. Before the lion can eat him for breakfast, the mouse begs for mercy.
- *Crown: Ode to the Fresh Cut* by Derrick

Grades 2-3 Reading List

- Barnes - Celebrate the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of the barber shop with newly-cut hair.
- *SumoKitty* by David Biedrzycki - A stray kitty gets a job in a sumo stable, chasing mice in exchange for food. But when eating like a sumo wrestler slows the feline hero down, he realizes he must train like a wrestler, too.
 - *The Ring Bearer* by Floyd Cooper - Jackson is to be the ring bearer in his mama's wedding, but he's worried that something may go wrong. When he helps his new stepsister avoid a fall, Jackson becomes a hero.
 - *Saving Winslow* by Sharon Creech - Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures, but when his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him.
 - *Can I Be Your Dog?* by Troy Cummings - Arfy, a homeless dog, writes letters to members of his community to become adopted.
 - *All the Way to Havana* by Margarita Engle - A boy and his family drive to Havana, Cuba in their old family car. They experience many things along the way, making the book a celebration of the Cuban people and their innovative spirit.
 - *Common Threads: Adam's Day at the Market* by Huda Essa - When Adam gets separated from his Mom and Dad at the Eastern Market, he mistakes a friendly, diverse cast of characters in their traditional Muslim clothing for his parents. The story shows that we all have more in common than you might think.
 - *Nobody Hugs a Cactus* by Carter Goodrich - Hank is a cactus who is prickly inside and out. When he starts feeling lonely, he decides a hug might be good, but no one wants to give him one. No one, that is, until Rosie tumbles by.
 - *Be a Maker* by Katey Howes - Celebrate creativity through beautiful rhyming verse about the many things we can make, including making a difference in the world.
 - *Puma Dreams* by Tony Johnston - A girl visiting her grandmother longs for a glimpse of the rarely seen puma. Finally, she sees the animal and knows it is everyone's responsibility to protect these increasingly threatened animals.
 - *Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship* by Jessica Krensky - Jessica needs Rescue by her side to help her accomplish everyday tasks. Rescue can help Jessica find a way forward, one step at a time.
 - *The King of Bees* by Lester Laminack - Henry can't wait until he can have a bee suit of his own so he can help his Aunt Lilla with the sister bees. Then, he finds himself alone when the bees are ready to swarm.
 - *The Rough Patch* by Brian Lies - Evan and his dog do everything together, including caring for their garden. When Evan's dog dies, Evan destroys the garden and everything in it. But beauty grows in the darkest of places.
 - *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom - When a metaphorical black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource.
 - *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard - Told in verse, learn what fry bread means to modern Native American families.
 - *Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away* by Meg Medina - Evelyn and Daniela are more than neighbors. They are best friends. But now, Evelyn is moving away. As moving day looms nearer, the girls make a plan to keep in touch because friends are special.
 - *Rolling Thunder* by Kate Messner - Told in rhyme, this story honors the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom where more than a million veterans and supporters gather in Washington, DC each Memorial Day to pay tribute to fallen heroes.
 - *Chippy Chipmunk Feels Empathy* by Kathy Miller - When Chippy Chipmunk meets a unique chipmunk, he learns to feel empathy and show kindness. His friends help him understand that there is diversity in every species.
 - *The Proudest Blue: The Story of Hijab and Family* by Ibtihaj Muhammad with S.K. Ali - Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's the start of a brand new year and, best of all, it's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab.
 - *Blue Sky White Stars* by Sarvinder Naberhaus - Wonderfully simple verses pair with rich paintings to celebrate the iconic imagery of our nation, beginning with the

Grades 2-3 Reading List

- American flag.
- *A Fist for Joe Louis and Me* by Trinka Hakes Noble - Gordy's father teaches him how to box, and Gordy becomes friends with a boy who shares a love of boxing. During the 1938 Fight of the Century, Gordy learns what it means to make a stand for a friend.
- *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold - Follow a group of children through a day in their school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms. A school where kids in patkas, hijabs, and yarmulkes play side-by-side with friends in baseball caps.
- *Cat Kid Comic Club* by Dav Pilkey - With lots of persistence, the Cat Kid Comic Club creates a comic book.
- *Truman* by Jean Reidy - After his best friend Sarah leaves for her first day of school, a tortoise named Truman goes on an adventure across the living room and learns to be brave.
- *Nerdy Birdy Tweets* by Aaron Reynolds - Nerdy Birdy joins Tweetster to make new friends, but how will his best friend Vulture feel about this?
- *The Turtle Ship* by Helena Ku Rhee - The king announced a contest to design a new battleship to defend Korea. Determined to win, young Sun-sin attempts to build an indestructible battleship inspired by his pet turtle.
- *Dear Girl*, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal - This letter is written for the special girl in your life; a gentle reminder that she's powerful and strong, and she holds a valuable place in the world.
- *Tricky* by Kari Rust - The Duke and his dog, Tricky, spend their days making trouble, but one day, somebody new comes to town and gives Tricky a treat that melts his mischievous heart.
- *Snowman - Cold = Puddle: Spring Equations* by Laura Purdie Salas - Each clever equation is a tiny poem that prompts readers to look at the ordinary and see the miraculous. Information in the sidebars reveals the science behind the signs of spring.
- *Kate, Who Tamed the Wind* by Liz Garton Scanlon - A wild wind blows on the top of a steep hill, turning everything upside down for the man who lives there. Luckily, Kate comes up with a plan.
- *AstroNuts Mission One: The Plant*
- *Planets* by Jon Scieszka - AstroWolf and LaserShark are some of the animals that have been hybridized to find other planets for humans to live on once we've ruined Earth.
- *The Real McCoys: Wonder Undercover* by Matthew Swanson - Moxie, fourth grade detective, goes undercover in the Wonder Scouts to see who is sabotaging the badge competition.
- *Blacksmith's Song* by Elizabeth Van Steenwyk - The son of an enslaved blacksmith learns that his father is using the rhythm of his hammering to communicate with travelers on the Underground Railroad. When Pa falls ill, who will help them?
- *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson - A heartwarming book about finding the courage to connect, even when you feel scared and alone.
- *A Kite for Moon* by Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple - A little boy flying his kite notices a sad moon. He sends up kites to her, writing notes promising he will come see her someday. Will he keep his promise?
- *The Boring Book* by Shisuke Yoshitake - "I'm bored!" Every child says it, and so does this book's main character. He soon realizes that boredom is a portal into exciting experiences.

Series books:

- *The Bailey School Kids* by Debbie Dadey
- *Owl Diaries* by Rebecca Elliott
- *The Treehouse Books* by Andy Griffiths
- *Extreme Animals* by Steve Jenkins
- *Ballpark Mysteries* by David Kelly
- *I Wonder series of nonfiction books* by DK Publishing
- *Amulet* by Kazu Kibuishi
- *The Zack and Zoe Mysteries* by Mike Lupica
- *Jada Jones* by Kelly Starling Lyons
- *What If You Had* by Sandra Markle
- *The Baby-Sitters Club Graphic Novels* by Ann Martin
- *Ordinary People Change the World* by Brad Meltzer
- *The Magic Tree House* by Mary Pope Osborne
- *The Magic Tree House Fact Tracker* by Mary Pope Osborne
- *Weird But True* by National Geographic

Grades 2-3 Reading List

Kids

- *Junie B. Jones* by Barbara Park
- *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker
- *Who Would Win?* by Jerry Pallotta
- *Dog Man* by Dav Pilkey
- *HiLo* by Judd Winick

Poetry Books:

- *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming: And Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups* by Chris Harris - Pour over the text and illustrations as you read these laugh-out-loud poems for the young and old.
- *Boom! Bellow! Bleat! Animal Poems for Two or More Voices* by Georgia Heard - A collection of poems based on research about animal sounds. Includes additional nonfiction information in the back matter.
- *Keep a Pocket in Your Poem: Classic Poems and Playful Parodies* by J. Patrick Lewis - J. Patrick Lewis honors thirteen classic poems by a variety of poets by writing a parody of his own.
- *Earth Verse: Haiku from the Ground Up* by Sally Walker - A combination of haiku and art encourages readers to think about the processes of our planet.

Magazines:

- Highlights for Children
- Kids Discover
- National Geographic for Kids
- Nickelodeon
- Ranger Rick
- Sports Illustrated for Kids
- Stone Soup: The Magazine by Young Writers and Artists
- Zoobooks

Educational Apps:

- Adobe Spark - create graphics, web pages, and video stories
- Adventure Academy - learning games and books for reading, math, and science
- Chicktionary - create as many possible words from seven letters
- Curious World (iOS) - features games, books, and videos for reading, math, and science
- Epic – build an unlimited library of children's books
- Jumblin 2 – word games
- Kodable (iOS) - a fuzzy character follows sequenced directions that you write to complete mazes
- Little Bird Tales (iOS) - take photos and record audio and use them to create a story
- Mad Libs - like the paper-pencil version, create stories using various parts of speech
- My Story (iOS) - create a book with visuals and text
- Novel Effect - bring your stories to life with music, sound effects, and character voices
- Sushi Scramble - make words from the given letter tiles
- That's Baloney - quiz-like game for all content areas
- Word Wizard - phonics and word building
- ZooBurst (iOS) - create 3D pop-up books

Grades 4-5 **reading list**

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions of new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) - A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Grades 4-5 Reading List

Classic Books:

- *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl
- *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman
- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin
- *Holes* by Louis Sachar

Newer Informational Books:

- *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander - This poetic book highlights contributions made by some of the world's greatest Black American heroes throughout history to more recent events.
- *Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams* by Lesa Cline-Ransome - Venus and Serena Williams beat the odds to play in a white-dominated sport, but they did not let challenges stop them.
- *She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History* by Chelsea Clinton - Celebrate women in history who have spoken out for what's right, even when they have to fight to be heard.
- *Baking Class: 50 Fun Recipes Kids Will Love to Bake* by Deanna Cook - Enjoy 50 easy-to-follow recipes with photos every step of the way.
- *The Boy Who Grew a Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng* by Sophia M. Gholz - Jadav was distressed by the destruction that deforestation was causing on his island home, so he began planting trees. It began as a small thicket of bamboo, but it turned into much more.
- *Overview, Young Explorer's Edition: A New Way of Seeing Earth* by Benjamin Grant and Sandra Markle - Discover Earth as you've never seen it before, in this stunning and unique collection of satellite images that offer an unexpected look at our planet.
- *Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History* by Vashti Harrison - The legends in this book span centuries and continents, but what they have in common is that each

one has blazed a trail for generations to come.

- *Torpedoed: The True Story of World War II Sinking of the "Children's Ship"* by Deborah Heiligman - Amid the constant rain of German bombs and the escalating violence of World War II, British parents by the thousands chose to send their children out of the country through a government relocation program.
- *Leading the Way: Women in Power* by Janet and Theresa Howell - This collection of biographies highlights the actions, struggles, and accomplishments of more than fifty of the most influential leaders in American political history.
- *United Tastes of America: An Atlas of Food Facts and Recipes from Every State* by Gabrielle Langholtz - A full-spread introduction to each state features background about its culinary culture with illustrated food facts, maps, and an easy-to-follow recipe with a photograph of the finished dish.
- *Hidden Wonders: A Guide to the Planet's Wildest, Weirdest Places* by Lonely Planet Kids - Take a journey into the unknown and discover the planet's wildest and most wonderful sights that you never knew existed.
- *Lost in Outer Space: The Incredible Journey of Apollo 13* by Tod Olson - From "Houston, we've had a problem" to the final tense moments at Mission Control, go on the unbelievable journey of Apollo 13 and inside the minds of its famous and heroic astronauts.
- *Little Libraries, Big Heroes* by Miranda Paul - Thanks to Todd Bol and thousands of volunteers, many of whom are kids, millions of books in Little Free Libraries have been enjoyed around the world.
- *Americans* by Douglas Wood - Americans are different from one another in many ways. Despite these differences, Americans share certain ways of doing and being that hold us all together.

Newer Fiction Books:

- *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate - We first met Bob the dog in *The One and Only Ivan*. This is Bob's story. Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in

Grades 4-5 Reading List

- search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan and Ruby.
- *Goodbye, Mr. Spalding* by Jennifer Robin Barr - Set in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, a twelve-year-old boy and his best friend attempt to stop a wall from being built at Shibe Park that would block the view of the baseball field from their rooftops.
 - *New Kid* by Jerry Craft - Jordan loves drawing cartoons. Instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enrolled him in a private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color.
 - *Saving Winslow* by Sharon Creech - Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures, but when his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him.
 - *Louisiana's Way Home* by Kate DiCamillo - When Louisiana's granny wakes her up in the middle of the night to tell her that they have to leave home immediately, Louisiana isn't overly worried. After all, Granny has many crazy ideas.
 - *Zap!* by Martha Freeman - Luis and Maura try to discover why their city has no power. They discover that there's more to the story and there's someone out there who wants to keep their city in the dark.
 - *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise* by Dan Gemeinhart - For five years, Coyote and her dad have lived on the road in an old school bus, criss-crossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters in a car crash.
 - *Lion Down* by Stuart Gibbs - For once, operations at the enormous zoo/theme park appear to be running smoothly, but then a local lion is accused of killing a famous dog. Teddy finds his detective skills wrapped up in the middle of his most bizarre, hilarious, and dangerous case yet.
 - *Best Friends* by Shannon Hale - Sixth grade is supposed to be perfect. Shannon's got a sure spot in the in-crowd, and her best friend is their leader and the most popular girl in school. The rules to be cool are always changing though.
 - *Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship* by Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes - Rescue gets the news that he's better suited to being a service dog than a Seeing Eye dog. Then, he meets Jessica, a girl whose life is turning out differently than the way she'd imagined it, too.
 - *Puma Dreams* by Tony Johnston - A girl visiting her grandmother longs for a glimpse of the rarely seen puma. Finally, she sees the beautiful animal and knows it's everyone's responsibility to protect these animals.
 - *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller - Would you make a deal with a magical tiger? This uplifting story brings Korean folklore to life as a girl goes on a quest to unlock the power of stories and save her grandmother.
 - *Restart* by Gordon Korman - Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof. He doesn't remember hitting his head. He doesn't, in fact, remember anything. He wakes up and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again.
 - *The King of Bees* by Lester Laminack - Henry can't wait until he can have a bee suit of his own so he can help his Aunt Lilla with the sister bees. Then, he finds himself alone when the bees are ready to swarm.
 - *A Handful of Stars* by Cynthia Lord - When Lily's blind dog, Lucky, slips his collar and runs away, it's Salma who manages to catch him. Together the girls tackle the themes of prejudice and friendship, loss and love.
 - *Batting Order* by Mike Lupica - Matt and Ben couldn't be more different on and off the ballfield, but now they need to work together to help their team.
 - *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwama Mbalia - Trisitan is visited by a strange creature. An adventure ensues but it turns into a battle. Can Tristan save himself and the world with the help of some famous folk heroes and gods?
 - *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty - Lucy's life was changed forever when she was struck by lightning. The zap gave her genius-level math skills, and she's technically ready for college. She just has to pass one more test - middle school!

Grades 4-5 Reading List

- *Straw into Gold: Fairytales Re-spun* by Hilary McKay - Revisit a collection of fairy tales respun with modern twists.
 - *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* by Meg Medina - Sixth-grader Merci Suarez navigates difficult changes with friends, family, and everyone in between.
 - *Wish* by Barbara O'Connor - Charlie has been making the same secret wish every day since fourth grade. After many heart aches, Charlie is discovering that what she thought she wanted may not be what she needs at all.
 - *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds - Told in a short story format, readers learn what happens after the dismissal bell rings. Then the stories are woven together into one funny look at the detours we face on the walk home and in life.
 - *The Oddmire, Book 1: Changeling* by William Ritter - To renew the fading magic, goblins must perform a rare, ancient ritual involving one of their young, but something goes wrong. Now their young goblin looks like a human and is being raised by them.
 - *Birdie* by Eileen Spinelli - Twelve-year-old Birdie is still grieving for her father, a firefighter killed in the line of duty, as she struggles to adjust to many changes in her life.
 - *Roll with It* by Jamie Sumner - Ellie isn't just the new kid at school. She's the new kid in the wheelchair who lives in the trailer park on the wrong side of town. As an aspiring baker, Ellie cooks up a plan to make her life better.
 - *The Real McCoys: Wonder Undercover* by Matthew Swanson - Moxie, fourth grade detective, goes undercover in the Wonder Scouts to see who is sabotaging the badge competition.
 - *Guts* by Raina Telgemeier - Raina wakes up one morning with a stomach ache. She thinks it's just a bug, but maybe it has to do with what she is worrying about at school.
 - *Blacksmith's Song* by Elizabeth Van Steenwyk - The son of an enslaved blacksmith learns that his father is using the rhythm of his hammering to communicate with travelers on the Underground Railroad. When Pa falls ill, who will help them?
 - *Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson - ZJ understands that his dad's head injuries, sustained during his football career, have caused ZJ's dad to become forgetful, but forgetting his own son's name really hurts.
- Series Books:**
- *According to Humphrey* by Betty Birney
 - *The Last Kids on Earth* by Max Brallier
 - *A Dog's Purpose* by W. Bruce Cameron
 - *The Land of Stories* by Chris Colfer
 - *Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
 - *The Treehouse Books* by Andy Griffiths
 - *Horse Diaries* by Catherine Hapka and Ruth Sanderson
 - *Goddess Girls* by Joan Hulab and Suzanne Williams
 - *Amulet* by Kazu Kibuishi
 - *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
 - *Swindle* by Gordon Korman
 - *The Baby-Sitters Club Graphic Novels* by Ann Martin
 - *Lunar Chronicle* by Marissa Meyer
 - *Next Time You See...* nonfiction series by Emily Morgan
 - *39 Clues* by Rick Riordan
 - *The (Fairly) True Tales* by Liesl Shurtliff
 - *Bone Collection* by Jeff Smith
 - *The Wings of Fire* by Tui Sutherland
 - *I Survived...* by Lauren Tarshis
 - *Predator Vs. Prey* by various authors
 - *Who Was...?* by various authors
 - *HiLo* by Judd Winick
 - *Ten True Tales* by Allan Zullo
- Poetry:**
- *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming: And Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups* by Chris Harris - Pour over the text and illustrations as you read these laugh-out-loud poems for the young and old.
 - *Keep a Pocket in Your Poem: Classic Poems and Playful Parodies* by J. Patrick Lewis - Lewis honors thirteen classic poems by a variety of poets by writing a parody of his own.
 - *Earth Verse: Haiku from the Ground Up* by Sally M. Walker - A combination of haiku and art encourages readers to think about the processes of our planet.

Magazines:

- Highlights for Children
- Kids, Codes, and Computer Science
- Kids Discover
- National Geographic Kids
- Owl Kids
- Ranger Rick
- Sports Illustrated for Kids
- Zoobooks

Educational Apps:

- Adobe Spark - create graphics, web pages, and video stories
- Adventure Academy - learning games and books for reading, math, and science
- Bloxels - build, play, and share your own video games
- Chicktionary - create as many possible words from seven letters
- Duolingo (iOS) - learn another language
- Epic - build an unlimited library of children's books
- Four Letters - given four letters, build the word
- GoodReader (iOS) - can open content from many sources and allows students to annotate the text
- Google Arts and Culture: People, places, and events that shaped our world (also a website)
- Jumpline 2 - word games
- Little Bird Tales (iOS) - take photos and record audio and use them to create a story
- Mad Libs - like the paper-pencil version, create stories using various parts of speech
- My Story (iOS) - create a book with visuals and text
- News-O-Matic - interactive, subscription based newspaper app
- Novel Effect - bring your stories to life with music, sound effects, and character voices
- OverDrive or Libby by OverDrive - borrow eBooks from your local library
- Sushi Scramble - make words from the given letter tiles
- That's Baloney - quiz-like game for all content areas

Grades 6-8 **reading list**

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- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) - A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Classics:

- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster
- *The View from Saturday* by E. L. Konigsburg
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert O'Brien
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
- *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling
- *The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth Speare

Newer Informational Books:

- *Overview, Young Explorer's Edition: A New Way of Seeing Earth* by Benjamin Grant and Sandra Markle - Discover Earth as you've never seen it before in this stunning and unique collection of satellite images that offer an unexpected look at our planet.
- *Torpedoed: The True Story of World War II Sinking of the "Children's Ship"* by Deborah Heiligman - Amid the constant rain of German bombs and the escalating violence of World War II, British parents by the thousands chose to send their children out of the country through a government relocation program.
- *Leading the Way: Women in Power* by Janet and Theresa Howell - This collection of biographies highlights the actions, struggles, and accomplishments of more than fifty of the most influential leaders in American political history.
- *Women in Sports: 50 Fearless Athletes Who Played to Win* by Rachel Ignatofsky - Learn about the achievements and stories of fifty notable women athletes from the 1800s to today, including trailblazers, Olympians, and record-breakers in more than forty sports.
- *Mythologica: An Encyclopedia of Gods, Monsters, and Mortals from Ancient Greece* by Stephen Kershaw - Uncover the colorful lives of fifty powerful gods and goddesses, earth-dwelling mortals, and terrifying monsters from Greece.
- *Hidden Wonders: A Guide to the Planet's Wildest, Weirdest Places* by Lonely Planet

Kids - Take a journey into the unknown and discover the planet's wildest and most wonderful sights that you never knew existed.

- *Locked in Ice: Nansen's Daring Quest for the North Pole* by Peter Lourie - Fridtjof Nansen contributed tremendous amounts of new information to our knowledge about the Polar Arctic. At a time when the North Pole was still undiscovered territory, he attempted the journey in a way that most experts thought was crazy.
- *Chasing King's Killer: The Hunt for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Assassin* by James L. Swanson - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a mass movement for Civil Rights. As violent threats cast a dark shadow over Dr. King's life, Swanson hones in on James Earl Ray who ends King's life.

Newer Fiction Books:

- *The Line Tender* by Kate Allen - To survive the grief of losing her mom, Lucy must grab the line that connects her depressed father, a stubborn fisherman, and a curious old widower, to her mother's unfinished research on the Great White shark.
- *This Was Our Pact* by Ryan Andrews - At the town festival, Ben and his classmates are determined to find out where those paper lanterns really go. They've made a pact with two simple rules: No one turns for home. No one looks back.
- *Count Me In* by Varsha Bajaj - Karina could have never imagined becoming friends with the boy next door, but one afternoon something unimaginable happens.
- *The War I Finally Won* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley - Ada finally had surgery to fix her club foot. Now she and her brother need to move into another family's home with their guardian. Ada is at war within herself as World War II rages on around her.
- *The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle* by Leslie Connor - Mason's learning disabilities make him the target of bullies. If that's not bad enough, his best friend is found dead on his family's property and Mason is the prime suspect in the investigation.
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft - Jordan loves drawing cartoons. Instead of sending him

Grades 6-8 Reading List

- to the art school of his dreams, his parents enrolled him in a private school known for its academics and where Jordan is one of the few kids of color.
- *Saving Winslow* by Sharon Creech - Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures, but when his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him.
 - *Maybe He Just Likes You* by Barbara Dee - For seventh-grader Mila, it starts with some boys giving her an unwanted hug on the school blacktop. Mila begins to find solace in a new place: karate class.
 - *Beverly, Right Here* by Kate DiCamillo - Beverly has run away from home plenty of times, but that was when she was just a kid. At this point in her life, it's not running away. It's leaving. She's leaving behind her dog, best friend, and mother.
 - *The Ambrose Deception* by Emily Ecton - Melissa is a nobody. Wilf is a slacker. Bondi is a show-off. At least that's what their middle school teachers think.
 - *Zap!* by Martha Freeman - Luis and Maura try to discover why their city has no power. They discover there's more to the story and there's someone out there who wants to keep their city in the dark.
 - *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise* by Dan Gemeinhart - After the death of her two sisters and mother, Coyote and her dad leave home to embark on a road trip. When Coyote discovers that her childhood park is going to be torn up, she decides it's time to go home.
 - *Lion Down* by Stuart Gibbs - For once, operations at the enormous zoo/theme park appear to be running smoothly. Teddy is finally able to give detective work a rest, but then a local lion is accused of killing a famous dog.
 - *Allies* by Alan Gratz - Three young adults from different countries perform dangerous top-secret missions as the Allied nations come together to storm German-occupied France on D-Day.
 - *Children of Jubilee* by Margaret Peterson Haddix - Since the Enforcers raided Refuge City, Rosi, Edwy, and the others are captured and forced to work as slave labor on an alien planet. None of them are certain they will make it out of this alive.
 - *Best Friends* by Shannon Hale - Sixth grade is supposed to be perfect. Shannon's got a sure spot in the in-crowd, and her best friend is their leader and the most popular girl in school. The rules to be cool are always changing though.
 - *The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani - Nisha doesn't know where she belongs when India and Pakistan become two countries. *Nisha* searches for home, for her own identity, and for a hopeful future.
 - *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood - Nazis are bombing London, so Ken must escape. He is lucky enough to get placed on a ship headed to safety in Canada, but it's not that safe when it is torpedoed in the middle of the night.
 - *Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt - Delsie loves tracking the weather--lately, though, it seems the squalls are in her own life. She's always lived with her kindhearted Grammy, but now she's looking at their life with new eyes and wishing she could have a "regular family."
 - *Song for a Whale* by Lynee Kelly - Iris is the only deaf person in her school. When she learns about Blue 55, a real whale who is unable to speak to other whales, Iris comes up with a plan to communicate with him.
 - *Deep Water* by Watt Key - After her father falls ill, twelve-year-old Julie must take over and lead two of his more reckless clients on a dive miles off the coast of Alabama, while her father stays behind in the boat.
 - *A World Below* by Wesley King - Mr. Baker's eighth grade class thinks they are in for a normal field trip to Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. But when an earthquake hits, their field trip takes a terrifying turn.
 - *Restart* by Gordon Korman - Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof. He doesn't remember hitting his head. He doesn't, in fact, remember anything. He wakes up and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again.
 - *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody* by Matthew Landis - When the last assignment of seventh-grade history

Grades 6-8 Reading List

is a project on the Civil War, Oliver is over the moon until he's partnered with Ella Berry and they're assigned some no-name soldier.

- *Code Word Courage* by Kirby Larson - Billie has so many questions about missing her father and losing her best friend, then she also finds herself caring for an injured, stray dog.
- *Five Feet Apart* by Racheal Lippincott - Stella's been in the hospital most of her life, and Will is ready to forego hospital visits so he can see the world. As children with CF, they need to stay away from one another, but is five feet apart really that dangerous?
- *Batting Order* by Mike Lupica - Matt and Ben couldn't be more different on and off the ballfield, but now they need to work together for the sake of their baseball team.
- *The Season of Styx Malone* by Kekla Magoon - Brothers Caleb and Bobby meet their new neighbor Styx. He promises the brothers that together, the three of them can achieve their wildest dreams, but there are secrets that could ruin everything.
- *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwama Mbalia - Trisitan is visited by a strange creature and an adventure ensues. It quickly turns into a battle. Can Tristan save himself and the world with the help of some famous folk heroes and gods?
- *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty - Lucy's life was changed forever when she was struck by lightning. The zap gave her genius-level math skills, and she's technically ready for college. She just has to pass one more test - middle school!
- *Straw into Gold: Fairytales Re-spun* by Hilary McKay - Revisit a collection of fairy tales respun with modern twists.
- *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* by Meg Medina - Sixth-grader Merci Suarez navigates difficult changes with friends, family, and everyone in between.
- *The Seventh Wish* by Kate Messner - Charlie feels like she's always coming in last and unable to get her family's attention. She comes across a big surprise when a fish offers to grant her a wish in exchange for its freedom.
- *The Book of Boy* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock - A young outcast is swept up into a thrilling and perilous medieval treasure hunt.
- *Dear Sweet Pea* by Julie Murphy - Patricia wasn't sure what to expect when her parents divorced. She never imagined splitting her time between two houses and splitting up with her best friend at the same time.
- *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle - Rex often went hungry, wore secondhand clothes, and was short of school supplies. If that's not enough, Rex has to announce his poverty everyday when he receives his free lunch at school.
- *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds - Told in a short story format, readers learn what happens after the dismissal bell rings. Then the stories are woven together into one wickedly funny look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.
- *Ghost Boys* by Jewel Parker Rhodes - Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation in his family and community in the wake of his death.
- *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed - Amal is forced into indentured servitude and puts her dreams of being a teacher on hold as she works to bring the message of hope and positive change that can come from struggle.
- *Just Like Jackie* by Lindsey Stoddard - For as long as Robbie can remember, it's just been her and Grandpa. But Grandpa's memory has been fading and Robbie is fading from it.
- *Roll with It* by Jamie Sumner - Ellie isn't just the new kid at school. She's the new kid in the wheelchair who lives in the trailer park on the wrong side of town. An aspiring baker, Ellie cooks up a plan to make her life better.
- *Guts* by Raina Telgemeier - Raina wakes up one morning with a stomach ache. She thinks it's just a bug, but maybe it has to do with what she is worrying about at school.
- *The Bridge Home* by Padma Venkatraman - Life is harsh in Chennai's streets for runaway sisters Viji and Rukku. Very quickly, eleven-year-old Viji discovers

Grades 6-8 Reading List

how vulnerable they are in this uncaring, dangerous world.

- *Some Places More Than Others* by Renée Watson - All Amara wants for her birthday is to visit her father's family in New York City--Harlem, to be exact. Maybe this will help her understand her family--and herself--in new way.
- *Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson - ZJ understands that his dad's head injuries, sustained during his football career, have caused ZJ's dad to become forgetful, but forgetting his own son's name really hurts.

Series:

- *The Last Kids on Earth* by Max Brallier
- *A Dog's Purpose* by W. Bruce Cameron
- *Skeleton Creek* by Patrick Carman
- *The Land of Stories* by Chris Colfer
- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner
- *Guinness World Record* books by Guinness World Records
- *The Shadow Children* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *The Warriors* by Erin Hunter
- *Amulet* by Kazu Kibuishi
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
- *Masterminds* by Gordon Korman
- *Vietnam* by Chris Lynch
- *Lost* by Tod Olson
- *Middle School* by James Patterson
- *Among the Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *Magnus Chase* by Rick Riordan
- *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* by Rick Riordan
- *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling
- *Bone Collection* by Jeff Smith
- *I Survived* by Lauren Tarshis

Magazines:

- Calliope
- Cobblestone: The History Magazine for Young People
- Kids, Codes, and Computer Science
- Kids Discover
- National Geographic Kids
- Owl Kids
- Ranger Rick
- Sports Illustrated for Kids

Educational Apps:

- Adobe Spark - create graphics, web pages, and video stories
- Bloxels - build, play, and share your own video games
- Book Creator - create, publish, and share books that you make
- Comic Life 3 (iOS) - create comic books
- Duolingo (iOS) - learn another language
- Four Letters - given four letters, build the word
- GoodReader (iOS) - can open content from many sources and allows readers to annotate the text
- Google Arts and Culture: People, places, and events that shaped our world (also a website)
- Jumblin 2 – word games
- OverDrive or Libby by OverDrive - borrow eBooks from your local library
- Show Me - create voice over whiteboard tutorials and share them online
- Sparkle Fish - (iOS) audio story completion game similar to Mad Libs
- Study Stack - find or create flash cards for any subject
- Swift Playground - learn coding



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