

# K-2 Grade Summer Recommended Reading



We always suggest looking at this list and finding books yourself that you might enjoy, not only for the fun of it, but to establish or reinforce a culture of books in the home. Few things, over the long term, prepare students for their own reading than knowing that their parents enjoy it and seek it out themselves. Here are some suggestions to get you started, suited to a variety of levels:

- *Mother Goose's Nursery Rhymes*, by Robert Frederick Publishers
- *The Random House of Mother Goose*, by Arnold Lobel
- *The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables*, by Don Daily
- *The Kingdom of Wrenly* books by Jordan Quinn
- Science books by Diana Hutts Aston
- Science books by Gail Gibbons
- *The Cat in the Hat*, by Dr. Seuss. Other rhyming books are great, since rhymes help students hear, see, understand, and remember the building blocks of words.
- Aesop's Fables: *The Tortoise and the Hare*, *The Lion and the Mouse*, *The Ant and the Grasshopper*, etc. (By all means, keep reading fables if your child likes them; doing so will not spoil those read in the next grade.)
- *Curious George* books, by H.A. Rey
- Books by Beatrix Potter, including *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny*, *The Tale of Tom Kitten*, and *The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck*.
- Fairy tales, including *The Three Little Pigs*, *Goldilocks*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *The Ugly Duckling*, etc. - Aesop's Fables: *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, *The Dog in the Manger*, *The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing*, *The Maid and the Milk Pail*, *The Fox and the Grapes*
- Stories by Hans Christian Andersen (Parents should read these ahead of time to make a good selection, since there are some more adult themes. Likewise, parents should read any Grimm's fairy tales in advance, as the moral lessons are sometimes peculiar, and difficult to explain to a young child).
- *Just So Stories*, by Rudyard Kipling
- *The Biggest Bear*, by Lynd Kendall Ward
- *Magic Tree House* books about history and science, by Mary Pope Osborne
- *The Magic School Bus* books about weather, magnets, tools, the body,

insects, animals, and plants.

- *The Boxcar Children* books by Gertrude Chandler Warner

Here are a few specific suggestions for parents looking for further guidance on helping students at home:

The most important thing you can do to help incoming students is to read to and with them. Devote some time every day to reading aloud with your child, and help your child think about the book by asking thoughtful questions as you go. For instance, why do you think a character does what she does? What do you think they are thinking about when they do something interesting or notable? If your child is especially interested in a particular character or passage, ask him or her to repeat part of the story to the rest of your family. Visit the library and explore new subjects.