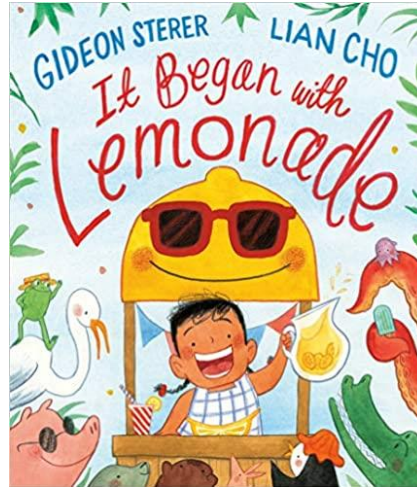


# Pennington School 2022 Summer Reading

## *Rising First Grade*



The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Program is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing independent reading skills. Pennington students are expected to participate in the program. They are also encouraged to participate in the Prince William County Public Library's Summer Reading Program for activities and incentives.

The following titles are suggested to foster your child's love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.

# Suggested Reading for Rising First Graders

Agee, Jon. ***The Wall in the Middle of the Book*** (2018)

A young knight feels secure on his side of the wall that divides his book. He soon discovers that his side is not as safe as he thought.

Annable, Graham. ***Peter & Ernesto: a Tale of Two Sloths*** (2018)

An odd couple of sloths travel the world in this epic adventure. A graphic novel, this is a good choice for young readers who have graduated from ***Elephant and Piggy*** books.

Barnett, Mac. ***Hi, Jack!*** (2019)

Jack is always up to mischief. What is he doing with the cranky old lady's lipstick? Barnett is one of Mrs. Lahann's favorite authors because he always makes her laugh out loud. Read any title in the ***Jack Book*** series.

Bell, Cece. ***Smell My Foot*** (2019)

Rule-following Chick, and absent-minded Brain, get confused and silly in this book about manners. Bell is a Virginia author.

Cornwall, Gaia. ***Jabari Jumps*** (2017)

Jabari has just passed his swim test. Can he summon the courage it will take to leap off the diving board? Jabari's story continues in ***Jabari Tries*** (2020).

Dyckman, Ame. ***Dandy*** (2019)

Sweetie loves a dandelion in her yard, but her daddy is determined to save his well-manicured lawn from the weed. This over-the-top story will have your whole family laughing.

Fenske, Jonathan. ***Hello, Crabby*** (2019)

Crabby fails to see the bright side of living at the beach. Plankton tries to cheer him up in these four silly stories. Instructions for drawing Crabby are included. Read any book in the ***Crabby*** series.

Fenske, Jonathan. ***Nothing Fits a Dinosaur*** (2021)

It's time for bed, but in this rhyming story, nothing fits a silly dinosaur.

Feuti, Norman. ***Beak & Ally Unlikely Friends*** (2021)

Ally the alligator is perfectly happy being alone until one day a noisy bird named Beak lands on her snout. Early reader graphic novel about finding friends in unexpected places.

Finison, Carrie. ***Don't Hug Doug: (he doesn't like it)*** (2021)

Doug doesn't want to be hugged, but there are other ways to show him affection. Introduces respect for boundaries and consent.

Hale, Shannon. ***Itty-Bitty Kitty-Corn*** (2021)

Kitty thinks she might be a unicorn. When she meets a real unicorn, this unlikely pair discover they have much in common. Follow with ***Pretty Perfect Kitty-Corn*** (2022).

Higgins, Ryan T. ***What About Worms?*** (2020)

Tiger is BIG. Tiger is BRAVE. And Tiger is NOT afraid of anything... except WORMS! Read any book in the ***Elephant and Piggy Love Reading*** series.

James, Simon. ***Mr. Scruff*** (2019)

Poor Mr. Scruff is alone in the rescue shelter until a young boy named Jim walks in. Even though they don't look alike, and their names don't rhyme, maybe they belong together. This is a story about friendship and finding your way home.

Jonker, Travis. ***Blue Floats Away*** (2021)

A story about the water cycle, Blue, an iceberg, encounters new and beautiful things on his journey. Explores the power of transformation and growing up.

LaRochelle, David. ***See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog*** (2020)

When the book keeps telling readers to see the cat, Max the dog tries to set the record straight. "I am not a cat. I am a dog." Winner of the 2021 Theodore Seuss Geisel Award. You'll want to read the sequel too! ***See the Dog: Three Stories About a Cat*** (2021).

Mack, Jeff. ***Mr. Monkey Bakes a Cake*** (2018)

Mr. Monkey bakes a cake and enters it into a contest. Nothing goes as planned in this very funny story. Series continues with ***Mr. Monkey Visits a School*** (2018) and ***Mr. Monkey Takes a Hike*** (2019). You'll want to read all three.

Michalak, Jamie. ***Frank and Bean*** (2019)

Frank, a hotdog, likes peace and quiet. Bean likes making loud music. Can this mismatched pair make beautiful music together?

Morris, J.E. ***Flubby is Not a Good Pet*** (2019)

Flubby is a cat who refuses to do pet tricks. When a scary situation arises, Flubby makes a good pet after all. The comic-style series continues with ***Flubby Will Not Play with That*** (2019).

Pizzoli, Greg. ***The Book Hog*** (2019)

The Book Hog loves books. When he discovers a library, he can't believe his eyes! Be sure to notice what happens to markings on book spines that go from fuzzy to actual titles as he learns to read.

Raul The Third. ***Training Day*** (2021)

This bilingual reader introduces luchador El Toro and his coach, Kooky Dooky. Raul the Third's unique visual style is as entertaining as the story. There are four books in the ***El Toro & Friends*** series.

Selznick, Brian and David Serlin. ***Baby Monkey Private Eye*** (2018)

This book is a graphic novel, picture book, and early reader rolled into a delightful 191-page adventure. Baby Monkey solves five mysteries in what is sure to be one of your favorite books of the summer.

Sterer, Gideon. ***It Began with Lemonade*** (2021)

One scorching hot summer's day at the river's edge, a young girl opens a lemonade stand. Each customer is larger, stranger, and thirstier than the last. Glorious illustrations are not to be missed.

Tabor, Corey. ***Fox at Night*** (2021)

Noises and shadows convince Fox that the night is full of monsters! Winner of the 2022 Theodor Seuss Geisel Award.

Thomas, Jan. ***My Toothbrush is Missing*** (2018)

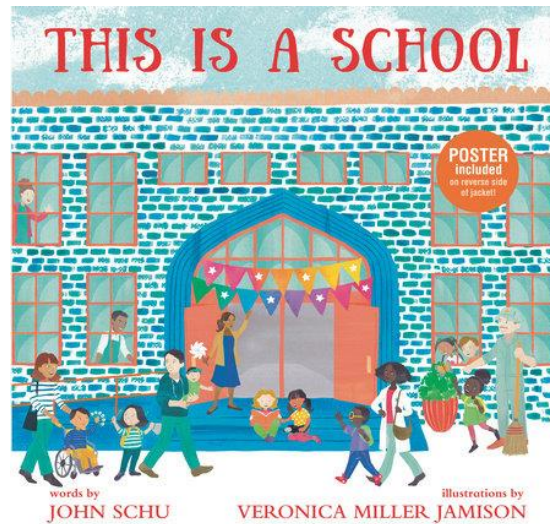
When his toothbrush goes missing, Dog's friends help him look for it. Characters cue readers with shrugs, eye rolls, and concerned looks. An unexpected punch line will have you laughing.

Willems, Mo. ***The Pigeon Has to Go to School!*** (2019)

The Pigeon must go to school, but he's scared. What if he doesn't like it? What if he learns too much? Enjoy all the books in the ***Pigeon*** series.

# Pennington School 2022 Summer Reading

## *Rising Second Grade*



The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Program is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing independent reading skills. Pennington students are expected to participate in the program. They are also encouraged to participate in the Prince William County Public Library's Summer Reading Program for activities and incentives.

The following titles are suggested to foster your child's love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.



## Suggested Reading for Rising Second Graders

Applegate, Katherine. ***Doggo and Pupper*** (2021)

Doggo's routine is shaken up when a young puppy joins the family. Sequel, *Doggo and Pupper Save the World* (2022). From the author of *The One and Only Ivan*.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. ***King & Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats*** (2017)

King is a golden retriever with a nose for solving mysteries. Kayla, his human, makes a list of facts and together they solve the case. Read any book in the *King and Kayla* series.

Cornwall, Gaia. ***Jabari Tries*** (2020)

Jabari finds that inventing a machine that can fly all the way across the yard can be super frustrating. It will take grit, patience, and maybe even help from his little sister.

Farina, Matthew. ***Lawrence in the Fall*** (2019)

In this back-to-school story, Lawrence doesn't have a collection to share at show-and-tell. He finds just what he needs when he ventures into the woods.

Faruqi, Saadia. ***Yasmin the Librarian*** (2021)

Second grader Yasmin is a creative thinker and a curious explorer, facing challenges with her head and her heart. Includes a glossary of common Pakistani words and phrases. Read any title in the *Yasmin* series.

LaRochelle, David. ***How to Apologize*** (2021)

Wouldn't the world be a better place if everyone knew how to apologize? Apologizing might be hard, but it doesn't have to be complicated. Funny examples explain exactly how (and how not) to say, "I'm sorry."

Jules, Jacqueline. ***The Beach Trip*** (2017)

The Martinez family is headed to the beach but Sophia packs so many games there's no room for her clothes. Includes a glossary of common Spanish words and phrases. Read any book in this early chapter book series, *Sofia Martinez*.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***Chicken Talk*** (2019)

Farmer Otis and his family love their chickens. The chickens often join in family activities like eating salads and read-alouds. Imagine their surprise when the children find chicken talk scratched into the dirt. "No more salads," is just the beginning of their demands.

Mann, Jennifer. ***The Camping Trip*** (2020)

Ernestine lives in the city and has never been camping before. This is a sweet story about her first experience with the great outdoors.

Manuskia, Fran. ***Pedro the Ninja*** (2018)

After watching a ninja cartoon, Pedro dreams of being a ninja himself. Will hard work and practice in karate class prepare him to be a great ninja? **the bittersweet story of two girls who will always be each other's numero uno, even though one is moving away.**

Medina, Meg. ***Evelyn Del Ray is Moving Away*** (2020)

This is a bittersweet story of two girls who will always be each other's numero uno, even though one is moving away. This tender story of friendship and change is the winner of the 2021-22 Charlotte Zolotow Award for outstanding writing in a picture book.

Miller, Sharee. ***Don't Touch my Hair!*** (2018)

Aria loves her hair but what can she do when curious hands can resist touching her curls? Entertaining story about personal space and setting boundaries.

Raul the Third. ***Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge*** (2021)

Using their new truck to carry party supplies over the bridge, Little Lobo and his dog are stuck in traffic. They decide to throw an epic party to pass the time. Text mainly in English with some Spanish. Glossary included. Read any book in the *Vamos!* series. Readers will want to spend time with the detailed illustrations.

Ruzzier, Sergio. ***The Party and Other Stories*** (2018)

Fox and Chick are an unlikely pair of friends. Fox is practical, Chick is unpredictable. Three silly stories are presented as a blend of graphic novel and early reader. Follow with ***The Quiet Boat Ride and Other Stories*** (2019).

Salyer, Hannah. ***Packs: Strength in Numbers*** (2020)

Packs is a celebration of how togetherness helps many creatures. Teamwork is universal, there is brilliance in biodiversity, and there is strength in numbers. This nonfiction book is beautifully illustrated.

Scanlon, Liz Garton and Audrey Vernick. ***Dear Substitute*** (2018)

The classroom routine is interrupted with the arrival of a substitute teacher. Miss Pelly doesn't follow the rules and one student struggles when things don't go as expected.

Schu, John. ***This is a School*** (2022)

A school isn't just a building. It's a community of people who work and learn together. There's something very familiar here. The author could be describing Pennington!

Shea, Bob. ***Who Wet My Pants?*** (2019)

When Ruben discovers his pants are wet, he blames his friends. This is a witty story of embarrassment, compassion and ultimately forgiveness. Accidents do happen and life goes on.

Smith, Brian. ***Pea, Bee, & Jay Stuck Together*** (2020)

Get ready to roll with Pea, Bee & Jay in this new graphic novel series. Stars an unlikely trio of friends; a young pea, a disguised queen bee, and a bird named Jay that hasn't yet figured out how to fly. #PBJays

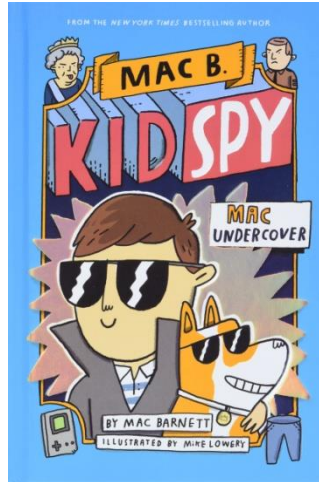
Willems, Mo. ***I Want to Sleep Under the Stars!*** (2020)

Squirrel dreams of sleeping under the night stars. Plenty of acorn-y jokes and nutty facts will have readers giggling. Enjoy all the books in the new ***Unlimited Squirrels*** series.



# Pennington School's 2022

## *Rising Third Grade Summer Reading List*



The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Program is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing independent reading skills. Pennington students are expected to participate in the program. They are also encouraged to participate in the Prince William County Public Library's Summer Reading Program for activities and incentives.

The following titles are suggested to foster your child's love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.

## Suggested Reading for Rising Third Graders

Atkinson, Cale. ***Simon and Chester: Super Detectives!*** (2021)

A ghost and a human team up to solve *The Case of the Mysterious Pug*, in this new graphic novel series. You'll be laughing out loud as the super detectives gather clues. Can a ghost wear pants?

Barnes, Derrick. ***I am Every Good Thing*** (2020)

The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. His affirming statements are an empowering celebration of Black boyhood. Winner of the 2021 NCTE Award for Outstanding Fiction.

Barnett, Mac. ***Mac Undercover*** (2018)

Mac is a kid and he's a spy for the Queen of England. Travel with Mac around the globe in search of stolen treasure. Historically inspired, this fully illustrated chapter book offers adventure, intrigue, absurdity and humor. Keep laughing all summer long when you read the ***Mac B. Kid Spy*** series.

Blakemore, Megan Frazer. ***Frankie Sparks and the Class Pet*** (2019)

Frankie uses love for science and math to help her friends solve problems, both in school and out. Read any book in the ***Frankie Sparks, Third Grade Inventor*** series.

Castillo, Lauren. ***Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us*** (2020)

When a terrible storm carries his stuffed dog away, Hedgehog bravely embarks on a quest to find her. Along the way he meets new friends, including a young girl who is new to the neighborhood.

Daciute, Evelina. ***The Fox on the Swing*** (2018)

Paul leads an ordinary life until he meets a wise and friendly fox. Unexpected details in the illustrations add dimension to the story. Originally published in Lithuania, this book is the winner of the 2019 Batchelder Award. "The outstanding writing in this book reflects a deep respect for childhood and the importance of adaptability and absurdity."

de la Pena, Matt. ***Milo Imagines the World*** (2021)

While Milo and his sister travel to a detention center to visit their incarcerated mother, he observes strangers on the metro and draws what he imagines their lives to be. In the end Milo realizes you can't really know anyone just by looking at them.

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Stella Endicott and the Anything-is-Possible Poem*** (2020)

Stella writes a beautiful poem about Mercy Watson, the pig who live next door - a poem complete with a metaphor and full of curiosity and courage. From the author of ***Flora and Ulysses***, read any book in the ***Tales from Deckawoo Drive*** series.

Dillard, J. ***J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*** (2021)

J.D.'s mom gives him his first and worst haircut which makes him the laughingstock of the third grade. Forced to take matters into his own hands, J.D. discovers he is a genius with the clippers. J.D. begins a thriving barber business from his bedroom that rivals the only other barber in town. There are three books in the ***J.D. The Kid Barber*** series.

Fleming, Candice. ***Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera*** (2020)

This nonfiction picture book explores the life cycle of the worker honeybee, including the many roles she plays in her colony. Illustrations are meticulously detailed. Winner of the 2021 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal.

Gutman, Dan. ***My Weird School*** (series)

The weirdness never stops at Ella Mentry School. This silly series features A.J., a boy who hates school and his arch enemy Andrea Young, who loves school and everything else A.J. hates. Prepare to laugh out loud. Gutman continues the fun in these series: ***My Weird School Daze***, ***My Weirder School***, ***My Weirdest School***, and ***My Weirder-est School***. You could read these all summer!

Kelly, Erin Entrada. ***Maybe Maybe Marisol Rainey*** (2021)

Introducing Marisol, an eight-year-old girl who is afraid to climb Peppina, the magnolia tree in her yard that is *the* perfect tree for climbing. This is a story of summer, friendship, and overcoming fears.

Kensky, Jessica and Patrick Downes. ***Rescue & Jessica: a Life-Changing Friendship*** (2018)

Based on true events, this story shows the major role service dogs play in the lives of people with acquired disabilities. Meet Rescue and the authors [here](#). This is a tender story of compassion and perseverance.

Lieb, Josh. ***Chapter Two is Missing!*** (2019)

This book is an active crime scene! Not only is Chapter Two missing, but some of the punctuation is topsy-turvy and the M's are hiding. An unhelpful detective and shifty janitor are not going to solve this mystery. Can you help the narrator put things in order?

Lowery, Mike. ***Bug Scout: Out in the Wild!*** (2022)

Bug Scouts make the Bug Scout pact "I promise to fly, I promise to crawl, or make a cool web, or roll into a ball. I pledge to be brave and adventurous too. And do all the thing that bugs like to do." Fans of ***Dog Man*** will enjoy this ***Graphix Chapters*** series.

Shea, Bob. ***Chez Bob*** (2021)

A lazy alligator comes up with a plan to lure his prey by opening up a birdseed restaurant on his snout. No birds are eaten in this story of entrepreneurship and community.

Sotomayor, Sonia. ***Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You*** (2019)

Twelve friends who have different abilities work together to create a community garden. Readers may see themselves in this story where the self-assured characters have diverse experiences with juvenile diabetes, dyslexia, ADHD, allergies, asthma, autism, stuttering, and more.

Stewart, Melissa. ***Summertime Sleepers: Animals that Estivate*** (2021)

Everyone knows about animals that hibernate in the winter, but few know about animals that estivate - a prolonged sleep during hot or dry periods. Twelve estivating animals and their habitats are explained through clear text and elegant watercolor illustrations.

Varon, Sara. ***New Shoes*** (2018)

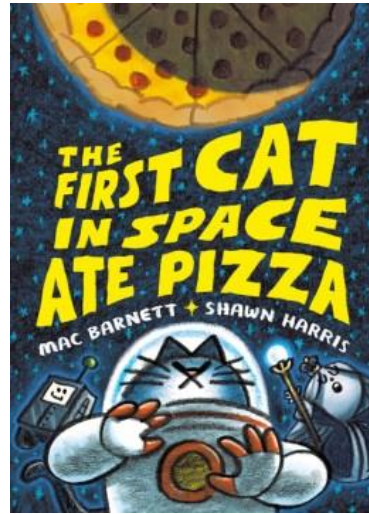
Francis, a donkey, is asked to make new shoes for his favorite calypso singer, Miss Manatee. He meets unexpected challenges as he travels outside the village. Realistic images of South American jungle animals are worked into this delightfully odd graphic novel.

Wheeler-Toppen, Jodi. ***This is a BOOK to READ with a Worm*** (2020)

This book will show you how to find a worm and how to take good care of it. You will listen to your worm, watch it poop, and build it a worm hotel. As you read and do these activities, you'll think like a scientist. Dig in!

# Pennington School's 2022

## *Rising Fourth Grade Summer Reading List*



The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Program is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing independent reading skills. Pennington students are expected to participate in the program. They are also encouraged to participate in the Prince William County Public Library's Summer Reading Program for activities and incentives.

The following titles are suggested to foster your child's love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.

## Suggested Reading for Rising Fourth Graders

Alexander, Kwame. ***The Undefeated*** (2019)

Originally performed for ESPN's Undefeated, this poem is a tribute to the grit, passion, and perseverance of great Black American artists, athletes, and activists. Back matter provides historical context and detail. Winner of the 2020 Caldecott Medal.

Barrows, Annie. ***The Best of Iggy*** (2020)

Fourth-grader, Iggy Fangi, has a knack for getting into trouble. He lives by the motto, "It seemed like a good idea at the time." Prepare to laugh out loud. Fans of Iggy will want to continue with ***Iggy is Better Than Ever*** (2020) and ***Iggy is the Hero of Everything*** (2021).

Barnett, Mac and Shawn Harris. ***The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza*** (2022)

In this sci-fi graphic novel adventure, a cat, a queen, and a robot team up to save the moon from being eaten by rats. ***Dog Man*** fans will love this new graphic novel series. Visit [The First Cat in Space](#) to subscribe to ***The First Cat*** newsletter or to view twelve ridiculous video episodes. Listen to the soundtrack wherever you stream music.

Brian, Rachel. ***Consent (For Kids!): Boundaries, Respect, and Being in Charge of You*** (2020)

This is a smart guide to consent and bodily autonomy. Preview the book in this [video](#).

Dominguez, Angela. ***Stella Diaz Dreams Big*** (2021)

Stella is as happy as a clam in fourth grade until she is overwhelmed by too many commitments. Homework, art club, swimming lessons, and her conservation club are taking all her time. Simple Spanish vocabulary is integrated within the text.

Elliott, Zetta. ***Dragons in a Bag*** (2018)

Jax travels from Brooklyn to the realm of magic with a witch responsible for protecting magical creatures. This modern urban fantasy is full of baby dragons, time travel, and adventure. Equally entertaining, you'll want to read the sequel, ***The Dragon Thief*** (2019).

Holt, Kimberly Willis. ***The Lost Boy's Gift*** (2019)

When his parent divorce, ten-year-old Daniel moves next door to Tilda Butler, a woman who can magically communicate with animals. The library in this community has a Ferris wheel! How great is that?

Hood, Susan. ***The Last Straw: Kids vs. Plastics*** (2021)

Lyrical nonfiction poems highlight the threat of plastic and young activists who are fighting to save our planet. Readers may be inspired to change the way they think about plastics.

Leonard, Jill. ***Who is Greta Thunberg?*** (2020)

Greta Thunberg is a difference maker. Find out how this young climate activist is changing our world for the better.

Lyons, Kelly Starling. ***A Girl Named Misty: The True Story of Misty Copeland*** (2018)

Misty Copeland was the first African American female Principal Dancer for the American Ballet Theatre. This biography describes defining moments that made up her childhood and adolescence.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***Wondrous Rex*** (2020)

When a writer of books posts an ad for an assistant, Rex, a Labrador retriever shows up to inspire with a bit of magic. Joyful use of words and storytelling, this is a book for aspiring authors.

Magoon, Kerkla. ***The Season of Styx Malone*** (2018)

Brothers, Caleb and Bobby Gene, are in for an exciting summer when they meet cooler-than-cool Styx Malone. What could possibly go wrong when you trade your baby sister for a bag of fireworks? Rule-breaking, nail-biting adventures, and laugh-out-loud moments make this a story you won't want to see end.

Mattick, Lindsay and Josh Greenhut. ***Winnie's Great War*** (2018)

As readers of the picture book ***Finding Winnie*** know, before she was Winnie-the-Pooh, the inspiration for the famous literary character was a cub from the forests of Canada. This chapter book imagines Winnie's real journey from the Canadian forest during WWI, across the Atlantic as the mascot for the Veterinary Corps, eventually making her way to the London Zoo.

Reynolds, Jason. ***Stunt Boy, in the Meantime*** (2021)

Portico Reeves' secret identity as Stuntboy allows him to use his superpower to keep everyone safe. When his parents start frightening, he feels the responsibility to save them. This novel is illustrated by Raul the Third.

Reynolds is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, an initiative of the Library of Congress.

Siber, Kate. ***National Parks of the U.S.A.*** (2018)

Take a coast-to-coast tour of America's most iconic and majestic national parks. The parks include Acadia, Badlands, Big Bend, Biscayne, Bryce Canyon, Channel Islands, Death Valley, Denali, Everglades, Glacier, Glacier Bay, Grand Canyon, Great Smoky Mountains, Hawaii Volcanoes, Isle Royale, Mesa Verde, Olympic, Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Virgin Islands, Yellowstone, and Yosemite. In the fall, get your free Park Pass [here](#).

Sorell, Traci. ***We Are Still Here: Native American Truths Everyone Should Know*** (2021)

Indigenous Peoples' Day projects show how Native Nations have faced challenges, fought for rights, and persevered. Includes historical and contemporary laws, policies, struggles, and victories of Native life.

Timberlake, Amy. ***Skunk and Badger*** (2020)

Everything in Badger's quiet and orderly life is turned upside down when Skunk arrives as his new roommate. Where on earth did all the chickens come from? The sequel, ***Egg Marks the Spot*** (2021) will keep readers laughing.

Wagner, Megan. ***Allergic*** (2021)

Maggie is severely allergic to anything with fur. Can she outsmart her allergies and find the perfect pet?

Watson, Renee. ***Ways to Make Sunshine*** (2020)

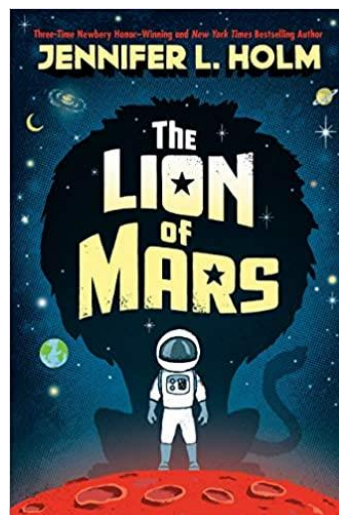
Ryan is a fourth grader facing changing circumstances in her African American family. The family relocates to a smaller home, sells their second car, and changes how they shop for groceries. Ryan rises to every occasion with spunk and humor. Fans of Ramona Quimby will enjoy this new series. ***Ways to Grow Love*** (2021) is the second title in the Ryan Hart series.

Weatherford, Carole Boston. ***Box: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom*** (2020)

Poems tell the true story of Henry Brown, an enslaved Virginia man who in 1849 escaped to freedom on the Underground Railroad. Brown risked his life in a courageous escape, shipping himself from Richmond to Philadelphia in a wooden box.



# Pennington School's 2022 *Rising Fifth Grade Summer Reading List*



The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Program is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing independent reading skills. Pennington students are expected to participate in the program. They are also encouraged to participate in the Prince William County Public Library's Summer Reading Program for activities and incentives.

The following titles are suggested to foster your child's love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.

## Suggested Reading List for Rising Fifth Graders

Baptist, Kelly J.        ***Isaiah Dunn is My Hero*** (2020)

Dealing with his mother's depression, Isaiah hustles to improve his family's precarious financial position. Life in a shelter, homelessness, and visits to the local food pantry are just some of the obstacles he faces. Community comes together to give hope in this powerful story.

Dahl, Roald.            ***The Witches: The Graphic Novel*** (2020)

Adapted and illustrated by Penelope Bagieu, this darkly funny tale is the first of Dahl's to appear in graphic format. A boy and his grandmother foil a plot by witches to rid the world of children by turning them into mice.

Dasgupta, Sayantani. ***The Serpent's Secret*** (2018)

On her twelfth birthday, Kiran is swept into another dimension full of magic, winged horses, moving maps, and demons. This original story draws from Bengali folktales. If you're a Rick Riordan fan, the ***Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond*** series is for you.

DiCamillo, Kate.        ***The Beatryce Prophecy*** (2021)

"There will one day come a girl who will unseat a king and bring about a great change."  
This gentle tale of love and determination should not be missed.

Ewings, Eve L.         ***Maya and the Robot*** (2021)

Fifth grade is off to a rough start when Maya is placed in a different class than her two best friends. In desperate need of a friend and a science project, she finds a robot named Ralph. STEM vocabulary is introduced as curious Maya researches and experiments.

Fagan, Deva.          ***Rival Magic*** (2020)

Apprentice wizards must set aside their rivalry and unite their opposing skill sets to find the lost crown of Medasia and save the sorcerer Master Betryst. This action-packed fantasy adventure is begging for a sequel.

Gapster, Eric.       ***Sort of Super*** (2022)

When his dad makes him hide his newly acquired super powers, eleven-year-old Wyatt, decides to take matters into his own hands. In this new superhero graphic novel series, Wyatt teams up with his little sister to become a crime-fighting duo.

Giles, Lamar.       ***The Last Last-Day-of- Summer*** (2019)

Meet the Legendary Alston Boys of Logan County, Virginia. In this sci- fi adventure, cousins accidentally extend the last day of summer by freezing time. Read the sequel by this Virginia author, ***The Last Chance for Logan County*** (2021).

Halls, Kelly Milner.   ***Death Eaters: Meet Nature's Scavengers*** (2019)

Introducing nature's cleanup crew, creatures who survive by eating the dead. Death and decomposition are a necessary part of the life cycle. "Sure, it's gross, but it is also amazing."

Holm, Jennifer L.     ***The Lion of Mars*** (2021)

It's the year 2019 and eleven-years-old Bell has spent his entire life on Mars. When a mysterious virus strikes all adults, Bell and the other children are the only ones that can save his family. This is a gentle story, a space adventure that will charm and entertain.

Isabella, Jude.       ***Bringing Back the Wolves: How a Predator Restored an Ecosystem*** (2020)

This book is an exploration of the transformations that have taken place in Yellowstone National Park since wolves were reintroduced to the park in 1995. Remarkable interdependencies were revealed as the ecosystem reclaimed its balance.

Lenz, Nikki.       ***Bernice Buttman, Model Citizen*** (2019)

Fifth grader Bernice is a bully who lives up to her name. When Bernice moves to Halfway, MO., she decides to become a model citizen. What could possibly go wrong? There are plenty of pranks and not so tender moments in this entertaining novel.

Lord, Cynthia.       ***Because of the Rabbit*** (2019)

On the last night of summer, Emma rescues a small domestic rabbit. The next day she starts fifth grade after years of being home schooled. Navigating public school is difficult and her friendship with a boy that loves animals too is complicated. Facts about pet rabbits divide chapters.

Park, Linda Sue. ***The One Thing You'd Save*** (2021)

The assignment, "Imagine that your home is on fire. You're allowed to save one thing." Inspired by the traditional Korean poetry form sijo, this short book can be read in one sitting and is guaranteed to spark discussion.

Philbrick, Rodman. ***Wildfire*** (2019)

Trapped by explosive flames and deadly smoke, a boy and girl struggle to survive a massive wildfire that sweeps across Maine. Winner of the 2022 William Allen Children's Book Award.

Ritter, William. ***The Changeling*** (2019)

Tinn and Cole are raised as human twins. When they turn thirteen, a mysterious message arrives, calling the brothers to be heroes and protectors of magic. In this fast-paced fantasy, the boys travel through the Wild Wood to reach the goblin horde and uncover who they truly are. There are currently three books in the ***Oddmire*** series.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. ***Mananaland*** (2020)

Eleven-year-old Max plans to spend his summer training for futbol tryouts but instead gets caught up in family secrets surrounding this mother's disappearance.

Thompson, Melissa. ***Tito the Bonecrusher*** (2019)

Fifth grader Oliver devises a madcap plan to spring his dad from a Florida correctional facility. Naturally, he enlists the help of the lucha libre wrestler turned action star, Tito the Bonecrusher for help. Each scheme is more outrageous than the last.

Wang, Jen. ***Stargazing*** (2019)

Rule-follower Christine and artistic Moon become unlikely best friends. This contemporary graphic novel won the 2020 Asian/Pacific American Children's Literature Award.

Yang, Kelly. ***Front Desk*** (2018)

Recent immigrants from China take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California. Fifth grader Mia works the front desk while her hard-working parents clean the rooms. Realistic fiction, this book speaks openly about racism, poverty, and hardship. Winner of the 2019 Asian Pacific American Award for Literature. Follow with ***Three Keys*** (2020) and ***Room to Dream*** (2021).