

## 2010 SUMMER READING LIST

### Non-fiction

*Anne Frank: Her Life in Words and Pictures* from the archives of The Anne Frank House. A wonderful companion to the many books about Ann Frank, this one is filled with family photos. It's a treasure.

*The Children's Baking Book* by Denise Smart. Easy-to-follow recipes with great photography to let you know just how these delicious baked goods should turn out. Yum!

*Fun with Nature* by Mel Boring. This "take-along guide" provides detailed descriptions and illustrations of more than 150 different animals and plants. Perfect for your summer adventures!

*I Can Get Wet* by Vicki Cobb. The book is a series of questions that lead to investigations of the properties of water. Spend the summer enjoying this slowly and fully with your child.

*Nasreen's Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan* by Jeanette Winter. The power of an education in a country where women are forbidden entrance to school is simply and beautifully told in this story about Afghanistan.

*Peaceful Heroes* by Jonah Winter. This is my favorite book for the summer. Starting with Jesus Christ, the author moves the reader through many well-known (Gandhi, MLK, Clara Barton) and unknown heroes (Oscar Romero, Meena Keshwar Kamal, Marla Ruzicka) who have stood up for their beliefs. It's inspiring and beautifully presented. A real keeper!

*Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum* by Meghan McCarthy. Gum had been around for centuries. But what if gum chewers could blow bubbles while chewing? In the late 1920's a factory in Philadelphia experimented with different ingredients and formulas and finally discovered the perfect one. This is full of fun facts about gum. If you're a chewer, you'll love this book.

*Roots, Shoots, Buckets, & Boots* by Sharon Lovejoy. Activities to do in the garden. These are 12 themed gardens that are simple and fun to grow. It presents a new way to think about growing things. Read soon and plant fast!

*Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee* by Marissa Moss. Maggie Gee dreamed of flying and became one of two female Chinese-American pilots in World War II.

*Truce* by Jim Murphy. This is the true story of Christmas, 1941 when the troops openly defied their commanders and spontaneously celebrated the holiday with their “enemies.” Illustrated with archival photographs.

### **Picture Books**

*Cezanne and the Apple Boy* by Laurence Anholt. A fictionalized story about the artist Paul Cezanne whose son Paul visits him for the summer and discovers the talent his father possesses. Part of a series of stories about famous artists.

*Forever Friends* by Carin Berger. With exquisite art that uses all kinds of paper (even catalogs!) this simple story tells of the friendship between a bunny and a bird. You find yourself lingering over every page to identify the origins of the paper.

*Henry and the Crazy Chicken Pirates* by Carolyn Crimi (Second in the series-*Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies* is first). Henry refuses to relax on the island with the rest of the Buccaneer Bunnies because he finds a threatening message in a bottle. Instead he writes a book of strategies for handling pirates. Will he save the bunnies when their enemies arrive?

*Feeding Sheep* by Leda Schubert. A fun story that takes the reader all the way from feeding the sheep to making the sweater.

*Hip & Hop, Don't Stop!* by Jef Czekaj. This book is “rap meets the tortoise and the hare.” Don't miss the fun.

*The Quiet Book* by Deborah Underwood. Quietly funny, this book describes all the kinds of quiet you can imagine. Can you come up with more?

*Slow Down for Manatees* by Jim Arnosky. This is a fictional story based on a real event. An injured manatee is rescued from a Florida canal and recovers in a local aquarium.

*What if?* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. Described as “spare and deceptively simple,” this book shows fun with a beach ball from three points of view: a boy, 2 seals, and a third newcomer.

### **Early Reader Series**

*Funny Lunch* by David Catrow. The second book in the Max Spaniel series. This time Max is a pizza chef. Also try the first book, *Dinosaur Hunt*.

*Houndsley and Catina* by James Howe. Houndsley and Catina are friends. They are different from each other but in all of their adventures they learn to enjoy their differences. Read the series...

...*Plink and Plunk*

...*and the Quiet Time*

...and the Birthday Surprise

*Pigs Make Me Sneeze!* by Mo Willems. Another fun and funny Elephant and Piggie story. Enjoy all of the books in the series.

### **Shorter Middle Grade**

*Benjamin Pratt & the Keepers of the School* by Andrew Clements. A new series called *We the Children* by favorite author of *Frindle*. This one is another winner! Ben's life is full of unpleasant changes like his parents' separation and the plan to demolish his seaside school to build an amusement park, but when the school janitor gives him a tarnished coin and then dies, Ben is drawn into an effort to keep the school from being destroyed.

*Big Nate in a Class by Himself* by Lincoln Pierce. In the younger graphic novel format (Toon), Nate is pushing the "Wimpy Kid" aside. He is always in trouble but he keeps his cool, no matter what.

*The Birthday Ball* by Lois Lowry. Bored Princess Patricia Priscilla exchanges roles with her chambermaid, visits the local school, and decides to celebrate her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in a new way. Funny and fun!

*Daisy Dawson is on her Way!* AND *Daisy Dawson and the Secret Pond* AND *Daisy Dawson and the Big Freeze*. All by Steve Voake. Daisy is a girl who can talk with animals after a surprise encounter with a butterfly. Using her newfound skills, she helps a dog at the pound and tries to take pictures at the pond. In the third book Daisy uses her skills to find a lost baby lamb.

*The Night Fairy* by Laura Amy Schlitz. When Flory the night fairy's wings are broken, she must venture out in the world on foot. She will have to be fierce and brave to survive now. This book has the feeling of a classic fairy tale with gorgeous art.

*Roberto and Me* by Dan Gutman. The latest in the *Baseball Card Adventure* series. This time Stosh travels back in time with his baseball card of Roberto Clemente. He is determined to stop Roberto from getting on the doomed plane and prevent the crash.

*The Squirrel's Birthday and Other Parties* by Toon Tellegen. This is a whimsical book of short stories about animal friends like the squirrel, the ant and the elephant. Delicate watercolor art compliments the stories.

### **Longer Middle Grade**

*Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Liam is a kid stuck in an adult body. Sometimes this can be fun but more often it is a pain-- until he manages to con his way onto a spaceship as the chaperone for a group of kids. When you are 239,000 miles from home, anything can happen.

*The Dreamer* by Pam Muñoz Ryan and Peter Sís. This book is a fictionalized biography of Pablo Neruda who grew up as a painfully shy child, ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely read poets in the world. This book reads like a poem and is illustrated magically.

*How I Nicky Flynn Finally get a Life (and a Dog)* by Art Corriveau. Moving to inner-city Boston after his parents' divorce, eleven-year-old Nicky struggles to cope with the changes in his life, including acquiring a former guide dog that leads to a mystery for Nicky to solve.

*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia. It's the tumultuous summer of 1968 and eleven-year-old Delphine and her 2 sisters must travel from Brooklyn to the mother they hardly know in Oakland, CA. Their mother is resentful and sends them to a camp run by the Black Panthers who give the girls a radical new education. This is a funny and heartbreaking tale.

*Palace Beautiful* by Sarah DeFord Williams. After moving with her family to a new house in Salt Lake City in 1985, thirteen-year-old Sadie finds a journal hidden in the attic, and with her sister and new friend, they read about the influenza epidemic of 1918. Written by a local author.

*Red Pyramid* by Rick Riordan. This is the new series with as much adrenaline in it as any reader needs. This time Riordan is introducing us to Egyptian mythology, as Sadie and Carter Kane navigate around the world, avoiding death and destruction at every turn.

*The Popularity Papers: Research for the Social Improvement and General Betterment of Lydia Goldblatt & Julie Graham-Chang* by Amy Ignatow. Lydia and Julie have a year before they enter junior high so they decide to observe popular girls and learn the tricks hoping that they will have all the information they need once the time comes. Written like a journal, it's fun and very funny.

*The Summer Before: The Baby-sitters' Club* by Ann M. Martin. This book is the prequel to Ann Martin's famous series, *The Baby-sitters' Club*. It is the summer before seventh grade and the four friends are ready for all kinds of adventures.

### **Young Adult**

*After Ever After* by Jordan Sonnenblick. Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by their new friend Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome the aftereffects of cancer treatments in preparation for 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Steven who is studying drums in Africa. Such a funny story!

*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne. Guaranteed to spark discussion and debate—this is a tale of two young boys experiencing the Holocaust from different perspectives and getting caught up in terrible events entirely beyond their control. It was also made into a movie.

*Case of the Missing Marquess (An Enola Holmes mystery)* by Nancy Springer. Enola is the much younger sister of Sherlock, the famous detective in Victorian era London. When Enola discovers her mother has disappeared (on her birthday, no less!), she must travel to London in disguise where she will deal with a spoiled Marquess, murderous villains, and her brilliant older brother. Mystery at its best!

*Case of the Cryptic Crinoline (An Enola Holmes mystery)* by Nancy Springer. Fourteen-year-old Enola turns to Florence Nightingale for help when her investigation into the disappearance of a Crimean War widow grows cold.

*Crunch* by Leslie Conner. Fourteen-year-old Dewey Marruss juggles the management of the family's bike shop business while sharing the household and farm duties with his siblings when a sudden gas crisis leaves his parents stranded far away and everyone in town wants a bike RIGHT NOW.

*Dork Diaries: Tales from a Not-So-Fabulous Life* by Rachel Renee Russell. If you have ever been left out of a clique, not invited to the party of the season, or wondered where to sit in the school cafeteria, you will understand how Nikki Maxwell feels when she starts classes at a new school. Read this account of the middle school years and laugh. Coming this June: *Dork Diaries: Tales from a Not-So-Popular Party Girl*.

## Poetry

*Fancy Nancy: Poet Extraordinaire!* by Jane O'Connor and Robin Preiss Glasser. Fancy Nancy's name rhymes, so she is "naturally poetic," and in this introduction to poetry, she shows her fans how they can write and appreciate poetry as well.

*So Many Days* by Alison McGhee. Life is full of surprises, big and small, both along the roads we take and where these winding paths eventually lead us. *So Many Days* will remind you to notice all the joy and love along the way, because it's all there, helping to bring out the strongest, wildest, bravest YOU.

*Red Sings from Treetops, a Year in Colors* by Joyce Sidman. This book was the winner of the 2010 Caldecott Honor! With original and spot-on perceptions, Joyce Sidman brings the colors of the seasons to life in a fresh light, combining the senses of sight, sound, smell and taste.

*The Tree that Time Built: A Celebration of Nature, Science, and Imagination*, poems selected by Mary Ann Hoberman and Linda Winston. This moving anthology has more than 100 poems celebrating the wonders of the natural world and encouraging environmental awareness. It contains a CD of the poets reading their work.

*Ubiquitous, Celebrating Nature's Survivors* by Joyce Sidman. **Ubiquitous** (yoo-bik-wi-tuhs): something that is (or seems to be) everywhere at the same time. How did the shark and the crow and the tiny ant survive millions of years? When 99 percent of life forms on earth have become extinct, why do some survive? And survive not just in one place but in many places. Just how do they become ubiquitous? Science and poetry combine with art. Joyce Sidman's poetry has inspired the art of two Caldecott winners. This one could be a third.