

2010 Summer Pleasure Reading

Non-required reading recommended by MBUSD Library Media Specialists

For Students Entering Grade 3

Picture Books

The Black Book of Color by Menena Cottin and Rosana Faria (2008)

This unique book about color is written in both Braille and English. It is a delight!

Chowder by Peter Brown (2006)

What's not to love about a quirky dog who learns to make friends with other animals?

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown (2009)

A curious boy becomes a gardener and his garden takes on a life of its own.

One Giant Leap by Robert Burleigh (2009)

A beautifully illustrated telling of the 1969 lunar landing.

Chapter Books

Adventures in Cartooning by James Sturm (2009: 109 pages)

A magical elf helps a princess learn how to draw a comic and by the twist at the end of the plot aspiring artists will know techniques for creating their own cartoon stories.

Greetings from Planet Earth by Barbara Kerly (2007: 256 pages) *

It's 1977 and Theo and his class are creating a record inspired by the one Voyager 2 will carry into space. At the same time he begins to wonder what happened to his father in Vietnam and why his mother has been keeping secrets all these years.

Igraine the Brave by Cornelia Funke (2007: 212 pages) *

The daughter of two magicians, Igraine wants nothing more than to be a knight. When her castle is attacked by a neighbor, she has an opportunity to demonstrate her bravery.

Say What? By Margaret Peterson Haddix (2004: 91 pages)

Three children try to figure out why their parents are acting strange, saying things that make no sense. Have they been replaced by aliens? Their investigation leads to a kids-vs-parents war. This humorous book casts a new light on family rules.

The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook by Eleanor Davis (2009: 153 pages, graphic novel format)

Eleven-year-old Julian Calendar forms an alliance with fellow inventors Greta and Ben and works with them to prevent one of their gadgets being used for nefarious purposes.

Zorgamazoo by Robert Paul Weston (2008: 288 pages) *

A rhyming tale of Katrina and Morty (a zorgle) who uncover an intergalactic conspiracy that threatens the existence of every last mythical creature on the planet!

* *2010-2011 California Young Reader Medal Nominee*

Series Chapter Books

Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon (2009: 146 pages)

When Danny Dragonbreath (a dragon who cannot yet breathe fire) must rewrite his science paper, he and his friends encounter strange sea creatures in pursuit of an "A". Others in this series: *Attack of the Ninja Frogs* and *Curse of the Were-Wiener*.

Magic Pickle by Scott Morse (2008-2009)

A unique and funny superhero, in the tradition of Captain Underpants that has special appeal to reluctant readers.

Ottoline by Chris Riddell (2008-2009)

Follow Ottoline and her very helpful "dog," Mr. Munroe, as they solve mysteries around town (in *Ottoline and the Yellow Cat*) and at school (*Ottoline Goes to School*).

The Pain and the Great One by Judy Blume (2001-2009)

Beloved author Judy Blume brings us the story of six-year-old The Pain and his sister (The Great One) who each believe that the other is a trouble-maker and the best-loved in the family. Followed by *Friend or Fiend?*, *Going, Going, Gone!*; and *Cool Zone*.

Thea Stilton (2009-2010)

A new series written by Geronimo Stilton's sister Thea, these books are sure to be a hit with all fans of the original series.

Non Fiction

Christian the Lion by Anthony (Ace) Bourke and John Rendall (2009)

Christian the lion lived in a London furniture store until John and Ace gave him a home, but soon Christian grew too big for them to keep him. Christian needed a chance to live in the wild where lions belong.

Sisters and Brothers by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page (2008)

Another great offering from Steve Jenkins that explores sibling relationships in the animal world.