

**PACKER COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE**  
**SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS**  
**FOR**  
**INCOMING SECOND GRADERS**  
**2008**

**YOUNG CAM JANSEN AND THE LOST TOOTH** by David Adler

Cam uses her photographic memory to help a classmate find the tooth she lost at school. This is just one of many other books in the Young Cam Jansen series.

**THE CAT WHO GOT CARRIED AWAY** by Allen Ahlberg

It is an exciting couple of days for the Gaskitt family and their community—with missing pets, an unusual substitute teacher, and a special addition to their household.

**THE PAIN AND THE GREAT ONE** by Judy Blume

Six-year-old (The Pain) and his eight-year-old sister (The Great One) see each other as a troublemaker and the best-loved in the family.

**FLAT STANLEY** by Jeff Brown

Relates the humorous adventures of Stanley, a little boy who wakes up flat, (four feet tall, about a foot wide, and half an inch thick) after a bulletin board falls on him during the night. This is the first book in the Stanley series.

**BEANS ON THE ROOF** by Betsy Byars

As each of the five members of the Bean family tries to write a “roof” poem, they come to realize how nice it is to be a Bean. This is the first in a series books about the Bean family.

**JULIAN SECRET AGENT** by Ann Cameron

When Julian, his little brother Huey, and their friend Gloria decide to be “crime busters,” they find themselves involved in one adventure after another. This is one of many books about Julian, Huey, and Gloria.

**THE CHOCOLATE TOUCH** by Patrick Catling

A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

**JAKE DRAKE: BULLY BUSTER** by Andrew Clements

Jake always felt that he was a bully magnet. Things come to a head when a new boy joins his second grade class and picks on Jake at every opportunity. This is first book in the Jake Drake series.

**HATTIE AND THE WILD WAVES** by Barbara Cooney

A young girl from Brooklyn, New York enjoys her summer at the beach where she can paint and listen to the wild waves.

**MERCY WATSON TO THE RESCUE** by Kate DiCamillo

After Mercy the pig snuggles down to sleep with the Watsons, all three awaken to find the bed teetering on the edge of a giant hole.

**WESLANDIA** by Paul Fleischman

Wesley's garden produces a crop of huge, strange plants which provide him with clothing, shelter, food, and drink, thus helping him create his own civilization and changing his life.

**MEET DANITRA BROWN** by Nikki Grimes

In these thirteen poems, Zuri discusses her friendship with Damitra Brown "the most splendid girl in town."

**IRIS AND WALTER** by Elissa Haden Guest

When Iris moves to the country, she misses the city. With the help of a new friend, Walter, she adjusts to life in her new home. This is the first book in the Iris and Walter series.

**SNAKEY RIDDLES** by Katy Hall

An illustrated collection of riddles about snakes, including "What kind of snake do you find in front of your car? (Windshield Viper)." There are many other riddle books in the series, such as Piggy Riddles, Dino Riddles, and Mummy Riddles.

**PEEWEE'S TALE** by Johanna Hurwitz

When his owner's parents let him go in Central Park, a young guinea pig learns to survive in the natural world with the help of a "park-wise" squirrel friend. Followed by Lexi's Tale, Peewee and Plush, and Squirrel World.

**JENIUS: THE AMAZING GUINEA PIG** by Dick King-Smith

Eight-year-old Judy tries to convince her parents and classmates that her brilliant guinea pig can do some outlandish tricks.

**THE DRAGONLING** by Jackie French Koller

Finding a baby dragon accidentally left alive after his older brother's dragonquest, Darek risks death and the anger of his people to return it to the Valley of the Dragons. This is the first book in the Dragonling series.

**A HARE-RAISING TALE** by Elizabeth Levy

Basset hound, Fletcher, and his flea pal, Jasper, are happy living with Fletcher's new owner Jill, until Jill and her best friend, Gwen, take Fletcher to school for show-and-tell.

**RUBY LU, BRAVE AND TRUE** by Lenore Look

"Almost-eight-year-old" Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks, and has adventures with both new and old friends. The sequel is Ruby Lu, Empress of Everything.

**STINK: THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING KID** by Megan McDonald

The shortest kid in the second grade, James Moody, also known as Stink, learns all about the shortest President of the United States, James Madison, when they celebrate President's Day at school. This is the first book in the Stink series.

**ROXABOXEN** by Alice McLerran

A hill covered with rocks and wooden boxes becomes an imaginary town for Marian, her sisters, and their friends.

**FLUFFY GOES TO SCHOOL** by Kate McMullan

Fluffy the guinea pig suffers many humiliations at the hands of the students in Ms. Day's classroom. This is one of many books in the Fluffy series.

**HAILSTONES AND HALIBUT BONES** by Mary Le Duc O'Neill

With a sense of rhythm and powerful images, the author explores the spectrum in the twelve poems about color.

**STUART GOES TO SCHOOL** by Sara Pennypacker

Worried about his first day at a new school, eight-year-old Stuart wears his magic cape and hopes that it will help him. Followed by sequel, Stuart's Cape.

**THE LITTLES GO TO SCHOOL** by John Peterson

Tom and Lucy Little, two very tiny children, attend school with Henry Bigg where they encounter problems due to their size. This is one of many books in the Littles series.

**IF A BUS COULD TALK: THE STORY OF ROSA PARKS** by Faith Ringgold

A biography of the African American civil rights activist whose refusal to give up her seat on a bus led to a boycott of the Montgomery, Alabama, bus system lasting more than a year.

**MARVIN REDPOST: A FLYING BIRTHDAY CAKE** by Lois Sachar

Two days after Marvin sees a glowing green thing like a flying birthday cake in the night sky, his third grade class is joined by a mysterious new boy with some peculiar habits. One of many books in the Marvin Redpost series.

**BRAVEST DOG EVER: THE TRUE STORY OF BALTO** by Natalie Standiford

Recounts the life of Balto, the sled dog who saved Nome, Alaska in 1925 from a diphtheria epidemic by delivering medicine through a raging snowstorm.

**OLIVIA SHARP: THE PIZZA MONSTER** by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat,

Young detective Nate the Great's cousin Olivia, an "agent for secrets," gets to work on a mystery of her own when a schoolmate named Duncan calls to tell her his best friend has disappeared at the pizza shop. One of many books in the Olivia Sharp mystery series.

## Books to Read Together

**MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS** by Richard Atwater

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the polar regions.

**Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing** by Judy Blume

Peter Drexler, who is tired of having to keep mischievous two-year-old Fudge out of trouble, discovers that his pet turtle is missing. This is the first of many books about the Drexler family

**OTIS SPOFFORD** by Beverly Cleary,

The misadventures of young Otis Spofford whose mischievous spirit constantly gets him into trouble.

**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY** by Roald Dahl

Five children will be lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory—will Charlie be one of them? Followed by Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator.

**PIPPY LONGSTOCKING** by Astrid Lindgren

Escapades of a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey—but without any parents—at the edge of a Swedish Village. Followed by many other stories about Pippi.

**THE TRUMPET OF THE SWAN** by E.B. White

Knowing how to read and write is not enough for Louis, a voiceless Trumpeter Swan; his determination to learn to play a stolen trumpet takes him far from his wilderness home.

**LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE** by Laura Ingalls Wilder,

A family travels from the big woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie, where they build a house, meet their new neighbors, build a well, and fight a prairie fire. This is the first of many books in this classic series.