



BILL E. RICA, SUMMER READING MASCOT

June 2022

Dear Billerica Families,

Thanks for all your support this year! While summer break is an important time for children to rest, relax, and re-energize, it is equally important that they continue to read. Here's why. Students who read over the summer may *gain* a month of reading proficiency. Those who don't may *lose* two to three months of reading proficiency. Over the course of a child's elementary schooling, those months--win or lose--really add up. You can help us prevent the summer reading slide by making sure your child reads or is read to 30 minutes a day during the vacation months.

This summer Bill E. Rica, the elementary reading mascot, has returned to keep students reading through the summer. Each grade has a custom bingo board filled with different opportunities for students to practice reading. Students are expected to complete at least one row in any direction marking completed squares with an X. They may complete additional squares or, if they wish, they may fill the entire card. The choice is theirs. In addition to the bingo card, students are also expected to complete a book log documenting books read during the summer. Feel free to make additional copies of the online book log if your child completes the one provided. If you need book suggestions, please check out grade level reading lists on the district home page or visit the Billerica Public Library. The librarians there are always happy to help.

In September, completed book logs and bingo boards will be passed in to your child's new classroom teacher during the first week of school. Students who participated in the summer reading program will be recognized with a certificate of participation. On behalf of the Summer Reading Committee, I hope students and families have a wonderful summer and enjoy playing *Summer Reading BINGO!* together. Thanks again for your ongoing support.

Dr. Jill Geiser, Assistant Superintendent

BILLERICA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



ENTERING GRADE 2 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

READ A FAIRY TALE OR A FOLK TALE	READ WITH A FRIEND FOR 30 MINUTES	READ A CALDECOTT AWARD-WINNING BOOK	READ A WORDLESS BOOK	READ A BOOK ABOUT THE SEASONS
READ A BOOK ABOUT A GAME OR A SPORT	READ A BOOK ABOUT A FAMOUS PERSON	READ A MAP (from a museum, aquarium, amusement park, mall, etc)	READ OUTSIDE FOR 30 MINUTES	READ A BOOK WITH A COLOR IN THE TITLE
READ AN ONLINE BOOK Raz-Plus	READ AN NON-FICTION ANIMAL BOOK	 FREE CHOICE	READ A BOOK THAT BECAME A MOVIE	READ A BOOK OF POETRY
READ AN INFORMATIONAL TEXT	READ THE INSTRUCTIONS TO A GAME AND PLAY IT	READ A MAGAZINE	READ A BOOK FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARY	READ A RECIPE AND MAKE IT
READ TWO BOOKS ON THE SAME TOPIC	READ A BOOK ABOUT A PLACE YOU HAVE VISITED	READ IN YOUR PAJAMAS FOR 30 MINUTES	READ A BOOK ABOUT THE OCEAN	READ A BOOK BY YOUR FAVORITE AUTHOR

BILL E. RICA SAYS, "MAKE SURE TO MARK ALL COMPLETED SQUARES WITH AN X."

ELEMENTARY SUMMER READING LOG



STUDENT NAME: _____

BILL E. RICA SAYS, "FEEL FREE TO COPY THIS FORM OR PRINT MORE; IT'S AVAILABLE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE."

DATE	TITLE/AUTHOR	RATE IT (1-5 STARS)
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		☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
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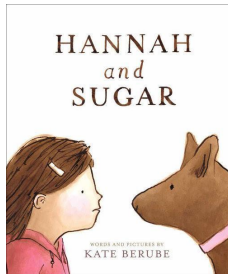
Suggested Book Titles Summer 2022

Entering Grade 2



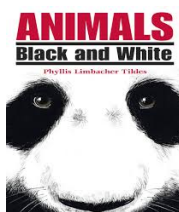
Whistle for Willie by Ezra Jack Keats

Since it was first published in 1964, *Whistle for Willie* has delighted millions of young readers with its nearly wordless text and its striking collage artwork depicting the story of Peter, who longs to whistle for his dog. *The New York Times* wrote: "Mr. Keats' illustrations boldly, colorfully capture the child, his city world, and the shimmering heat of a summer's day."



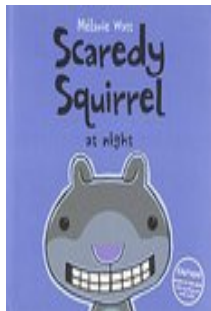
Hannah and Sugar By Kate Berube

Every day after school, Hannah's school bus is greeted by her classmate's dog, Sugar. All of the other kids love Sugar, but Hannah just can't conquer her fear of dogs. Then, one day, Sugar goes missing, so Hannah joins the search with her classmates. Will Hannah find a way to be brave, and make a new friend in the process?



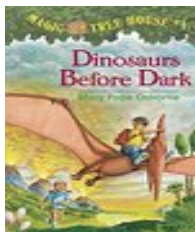
Animals: Black and White by Phyllis Limbacher Tildes

Find the answers to seven black-and-white riddles in a beautiful book of nature's bold designs! What cuddly giant loves to chew bamboo? What mammal swims with its friends in a school? What bird "flies" gracefully through the water?



Scaredy Squirrel at Night by Melanie Watt

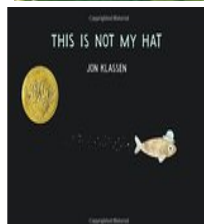
Scaredy never sleeps --- sleep might mean bad dreams about dragons, ghosts, vampire bats and polka-dot monsters. Our wide-eyed hero has a plan: stay awake all night, every night. With exhaustion taking its toll, Scaredy comes face-to-face with an alarming horoscope prediction: All his dreams are about to come true! He must prepare for the worst and his Bad Dream Action Plan includes a fire extinguisher to snuff out dragons and a fan to blast away ghosts. But when disaster strikes, will Scaredy survive this ordeal? Will he thank his lucky stars? Will he find sweet dreams?



Magic Treehouse Series by Mary Pope Osborne

Jack and Annie's very first fantasy adventure in the bestselling middle-grade series—the Magic Tree House! Where did the tree house come from?

Before Jack and Annie can find out, the mysterious tree house whisks them to the prehistoric past. Now they have to figure out how to get home. Can they do it before dark . . . or will they become a dinosaur's dinner?

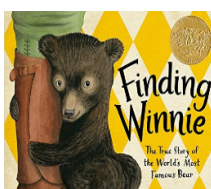


This Not My Hat by Jon Klassen When a tiny fish shoots into view wearing a round blue topper (which happens to fit him perfectly), trouble *could* be following close behind. So it's a good thing that enormous fish won't wake up. And even if he does, it's not like he'll ever know what happened. . . . Visual humor swims to the fore as the best-selling Jon Klassen follows his breakout debut with another deadpan-funny tale.



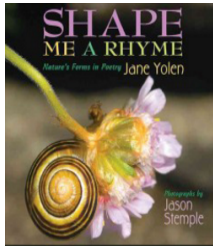
Weird Sea Creatures by Laura Marsh

Did you know that the deep-sea anglerfish has a glowing fishing rod attached to its body, or that the barreleye fish has a see-through head? See these wacky creatures and more in this brilliantly illustrated book that explores the strangest creatures under the sea.



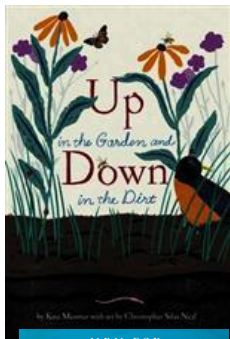
Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear by Lindsay Mattick

Before Winnie-the-Pooh, there was a real bear named Winnie. And she was a girl! In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, and he took the bear to war.



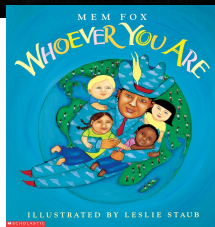
Shape Me a Rhyme by Jane Yolen

In this unusual collection, poems and photographs focus on shapes in nature. Some shapes are found in familiar places: A circle is the sun and a crescent is the moon. But there are imaginative surprises too: an alligator's tooth is a triangle and a frog's shadow forms a square. Related shape words—round, halo, sphere, etc.—are scattered throughout the spreads. This collaboration captures the beauty of shapes in nature in a playful way.



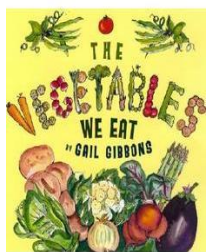
Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt by Kate Messner

This sweet exploration of the hidden world and many lives of a garden through the course of a year could not be more lovely. Up in the garden, the world is full of green – leaves and sprouts, growing vegetables, ripening fruit. But down in the dirt there is a busy world of earthworms digging, snakes hunting, skunks burrowing, and all the other animals that make a garden their home. In this exuberant and lyrical book, discover the wonders that lie hidden between stalks, under the shade of leaves...and down in the dirt.



Whoever You Are by Mem Fox and Leslie Staub

A heartwarming book about the great variety of children all over the world and a celebration of the fact that although we may look different, live in different places, speak different languages, and more, we share common dreams and emotions. Beautifully complemented by charming paintings.



The Vegetables We Eat by Gail Gibbons

Learn all about vegetables in this fun and colorful book. This book explains which parts of certain vegetables we eat, as well as how vegetables are grown. Vegetables come in many shapes, colors, and forms. Using her signature combination of a clear and informative text with plenty of illustrations, diagrams, and cross sections, Gibbons provides a wealth of information about produce.