



## **St. David's Lower School**

### **Summer Reading 2021**

Dear St. David's Students and Families:

Summer reading is an important extension of our educational program at St. David's. While there are no reading requirements for Lower School students over the summer, we hope and trust that our students will take time each day to read. The Lower School's summer reading list is organized by grade and is intended as a guide, with old favorites as well as newer selections. We encourage students to follow their own reading interests as well.

An optional goal sheet is included to help students set personal reading objectives for the summer and is not an assignment that should be turned in to your child's teacher at the end of the summer. A student might plan to read a certain number of books, to explore different genres, or to read about a topic of interest in science or history. The goal sheet is intended to be flexible and to inspire and encourage our Lower School students to grow as readers over the summer.

I look forward to hearing about your summer reading adventures when we return to school in the fall!

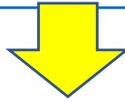
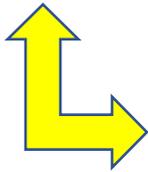
Sincerely yours,  
Ginny Cline, Director of Libraries



## St. David's Lower School Library

### Lower School Summer Reading 2021: Goal Sheet

My Reading Goal



I hope to achieve my goal by this date



Strategies - Who/What/How/Where

I did it! I achieved my goal on this day

Now on to my next goal!

**I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. – Phil 4:13**



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising Pre-K and Rising Kindergarten**

**Read-Aloud Books**

Ashman, Linda. *To the Beach!*  
Beaumont, Karen. *Move Over, Rover!*  
Berenstain, Stan, Jan & Mike. The Berenstain Bears series; The Living Lights series.  
Betton, Jen. *Hedgehog Needs a Hug.*  
Brown, Marcia. *Once a Mouse* (Caldecott Medal 1962).  
Brown, Margaret Wise. *Big Red Barn; Goodnight Moon; Goodnight Songs (poetry).*  
Bryan, Ashley. *Let It Shine.*  
Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* (and others).  
Cooper, Elisha. *Train.*  
Curato, Mike. *Little Elliot, Big City; Little Elliot, Big Family; Little Elliot, Big Fun.*  
Davey, J.S. *The Big Cat Spat.*  
Dean, James. *Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses* (and others).  
Dewdney, Anna. *Little Excavator; Llama Llama, Mess, Mess, Mess; Llama Llama, Red Pajama* (and others).  
Donaldson, Julia. *The Giant Jumperee; The Gruffalo; Where's My Mom?* (and others).  
Dyckman, Ame. *Boy + Bot.*  
Field, Rachel. *Prayer for a Child* (Caldecott Medal 1945).  
Freeman, Don. *Corduroy.*  
Henkes, Kevin. *Kitten's First Full Moon* (Caldecott Medal 2005); *A Parade of Elephants; Waiting* (Caldecott Honor 2016); (and others).  
Hill, Eric. *Where's Spot?*  
Hills, Tad. *Duck, Duck, Goose; Duck & Goose.*  
Himmelman, John. *Katie Loves the Kittens.*  
Johnson, Crockett. *Harold and the Purple Crayon.*  
Joyce, William. *The Numberlys.*  
Juster, Norton. *The Hello, Goodbye Window* (Caldecott Medal 2006).  
Keats, Ezra Jack. *Peter's Chair.*  
Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer.*  
MacDonald, Golden. *The Little Island* (Caldecott Medal 1947).  
MacLachlan, Patricia. *I Didn't Do It* (poems).  
McCloskey, Robert. *Make Way for Ducklings* (Caldecott Medal 1942).  
McDonnell, Patrick. *The Little Red Cat: Who Ran Away and Learned His A-B-C's (the Hard Way).*  
Miller, Pat Zietlow. *Remarkably You.*  
Morris, Richard T. *Bear Came Along* (Caldecott Honor 2020).  
Naterhaus, Sarvinder. *Blue Sky, White Stars.*  
Offill, Jenny. *Sparky!*



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising Pre-K and Rising Kindergarten**

Oldland, Nicholas. *The Busy Beaver*.  
Parr, Todd. *The Thankful Book*.  
Pinkney, Jerry. *The Lion & the Mouse* (Caldecott Medal 2010).  
Pizzoli, Greg. *The Book Hog* (Giesel Honor 2020).  
Portis, Antoinette. *Not a Box*.  
Rathmann, Peggy. *Good Night, Gorilla*.  
Rayner, Catherine. *Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit*.  
Reynolds, Peter. *The Dot; Ish*.  
Rinker, Sherri Duskey. *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site*.  
Rohmann, Eric. *My Friend Rabbit* (Caldecott Medal 2003).  
Santat, Dan. *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* (Caldecott Medal 2015).  
Shannon, David. *Too Many Toys*.  
Spier, Peter. *Noah's Ark* (Caldecott Honor 2003).  
Stead, Philip. *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* (Caldecott Medal 2011).  
Swanson, Susan Marie. *The House in the Night* (Caldecott Medal 2009).  
Tudor, Tasha (illustrator). *The Lord Is My Shepard*.  
Wenzel, Brendan. *They All Saw a Cat* (Caldecott Honor, 2017).  
Wiesner, David. *Art and Max*.  
Willems, Mo. *Elephant & Piggie series; Because; Knuffle Bunny* (Caldecott Honor 2005);  
*Knuffle Bunny Too* (Caldecott Honor 2008).  
Wilson, Karma. *Bear Snores On* (and others); *Mortimer's First Garden*.  
Wolff, Ashley. *Baby Bear Sees Blue*.  
Wood, Audrey. *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear*.  
Wright, Kenneth and Sarah. *Lola Dutch; Lola Dutch, I Love You So Much; Lola Dutch, When I Grow Up*.  
Yamada, Kobi. *What Do You Do with an Idea?*  
Yolen, Jane. *How Do Dinosaurs Go to School?: How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*

**Back-to-School Books**

Bourgeois, Paulette. *Franklin Goes to School*  
Numeroff, Laura. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie; If You Take a Mouse to School* (and others).  
Parish, Herman. *Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School*.  
Rockwell, Anne. *Welcome to Kindergarten*.  
Wells, Rosemary. *Timothy Goes to School*.  
Woodson, Jacqueline. *The Day You Begin*.

**Concept Books**



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising Pre-K and Rising Kindergarten**  
(Alphabet, Counting, Colors, Shapes)

Aylesworth, Jim. *Naughty Little Monkeys*.  
Baker, Keith. *LMNO Peas*.  
Baker, Keith. *1-2-3 Peas*.  
Bang, Molly. *Ten, Nine, Eight* (Caldecott Honor 1984).  
Crews, Donald. *Freight Train* (Caldecott Honor 1979).  
Cronin, Doreen. *Click, Clack, Quackity-Quack: An Alphabetical Adventure*.  
Demarest, Chris. *Alpha, Bravo, Charlie!*  
DeRolf, Shane. *The Crayon Box That Talked*.  
Ehlert, Lois. *Color Zoo* (Caldecott Honor 1990); *Eating the Alphabet*.  
Fleming, Denise. *Lunch*.  
Flocq, Brian. *The Racecar Alphabet*  
Lionni, Leo. *The Alphabet Tree; Little Blue and Little Yellow*.  
Lowenfield, Tricia. *S is for Shepherd*.  
Martin Jr, Bill. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* (and others).  
Martin Jr, Bill and John Archambault. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* (and others).  
Rosenthal, Amy. *Friendshape*.  
Seuss, Dr. *My Many Colored Days; Ten Apples Up on Top*.  
Walsh, Ellen. *Balancing Act; Mouse Paint*.  
Wells, Rosemary. *Max Counts His Chickens*.  
Wilson, Karma. *Bear Sees Colors; Bear's Loose Tooth* (and others).

**Books by These Authors**

Brett, Jan	Eastman, P.D.	Lionni, Leo
Brown, Margaret Wise	Ehlert, Lois	Lobel, Arnold
Carle, Eric	Freeman, Don	McCloskey, Robert
Cronin, Doreen	Henkes, Kevin	Moncure, Jane Belk
dePaola, Tomie	Hillert, Margaret	Numeroff, Laura
Dr. Seuss	Hoban, Russell and Lillian	Rosenthal, Amy
Dunrea, Olivier	Hoff, Syd	



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

**Fiction**

- Adler, David A. Young Cam Jansen series; *Don't Throw It to Mo!* (and others).  
Cam Jansen and his friends solve mysteries around their classroom and neighborhood in this fun series.
- Allard, Harry and Marshall, James. *Miss Nelson Is Missing*.  
The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher's good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a vile substitute.
- Aylesworth, Jim. *Old Black Fly*.  
Rhyming text and illustrations follow a mischievous old black fly through the alphabet as he has a very busy bad day landing where he should not be.
- Beaty, Andrea. *Ada Twist, Scientist; Iggy Peck, Architect; Rosie Revere, Engineer; Sophia Valdez, Future Prez*.  
Celebrate STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and the spirit of perseverance with four children who haven't seen a challenge they didn't like.
- Beaumont, Karen. *Wild About Us!*  
From Elephant's long nose to Kangaroo's huge feet to Monkey's stick-out ears, everyone is worth celebrating, no matter what they look like.
- Berenstain, Stan and Jan, Mike. The Berenstain Bears series.  
Enjoy the adventures of Papa Bear, Mama Bear, Brother Bear, and Sister Bear as they have fun and learn lessons along the way about getting along with others.
- Berkes, Marianne Collins. *Seashells by the Seashore*.  
Presents a children's counting book about a child and her friend who collect a number of seashells on the shore.
- Blackall, Sophie. *Hello Lighthouse*. (Caldecott Medal 2019)  
Explores the life of one lighthouse as it beams its message out to sea through shifting seasons, changeable weather, and the tenure of its final keeper.
- Brett, Jan. *Cinders: A Chicken Cinderella* (and others).  
Cinders, the most picked upon hen in the flock, becomes the most loved by Prince Cockerel when she arrives at his ball looking so beautiful that even her bossy sisters do not recognize her.
- Brown, Laurie Krasny and Brown, Marc. *How to Be a Friend: A Guide to Making Friends and Keeping Them*.  
Dinosaur characters illustrate the value of friends, how to make friends and how to rate them, and how not to be a good friend.
- Burrows, Alisa. *The Jar of Happiness*.  
Is there a recipe for happiness? Meg certainly thinks so. She collects the ingredients in a jar, which she uses to cheer people up when they are feeling low.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

- Burton, Virginia Lee. *The Little House* (Caldecott Medal 1943); *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*.  
Classic children's stories by a well-loved author/illustrator.
- Capucilli, Alyssa Satin. Biscuit series.  
Biscuit the puppy has lots of adventures in his neighborhood and beyond in this sweet series of stories.
- Chaconas, Dori. Cork and Fuzz series.  
A possum and a muskrat become friends despite their many differences.
- de Brunhoff, Jean. *The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant* (and others).  
Young Babar, escaping from a hunter, goes to a city where he is befriended by a rich old lady.
- Dean, James. *Pete the Cat and the Cool Cat Boogie*.  
Pete the cat is learning a new dance – The Cool Cat Boogie! When he hears a groovy beat, he's full of happy feet.
- Donaldson, Julia. *Charlie Cook's Favorite Book; The Snail and the Whale* (and others).  
A circular tale in which each new book character is reading about the next, beginning and ending with Charlie Cook.
- Ehlert, Lois. *Leaf Man*.  
A man made of leaves blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him.
- Elliott, David. *Henry's Map*.  
Henry, a very organized pig, frowns at the untidy farm where he lives, but after making a map to show where everything belongs, he and the other farm animals discover a big problem.
- Emmett, Jonathan. *The Best Gift of All; No Place Like Home* (and others).  
Mole has not seen his friend, Rabbit for days because it has been raining, and when he decides to tunnel to her home, he accidentally meets Squirrel and Hedgehog, who would like to visit her, as well.
- Fleming, Denise. *Lunch*.  
A very hungry mouse eats a large lunch comprised of colorful foods.
- Fucile, Tony. *Let's Do Nothing!*  
Young friends, Frankie and Sal, believing they have "done it all," decide to do nothing for a while, but Frankie has a little trouble with the concept and it is not long before the boys realize there is no way to do nothing.
- Gág, Wanda. *Millions of Cats*.  
An old man sets out in search of a pet for his lonely wife and returns with millions of cats, all claiming to be the most beautiful of the bunch.
- Galdone, Paul. *The Monkey and the Crocodile: A Jataka Tale from India*.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Retelling of one of the Indian fables relating to the former births of Buddha, in which as a monkey he manages to outwit the crocodile who decides to capture him.

Ginsburg, Mirra. *Mushroom in the Rain*.

How can an ant, butterfly, mouse, sparrow, and rabbit all take shelter from the rain under the same mushroom when, at first, there was only room for the ant?

Green, John. Kitten Construction Company series (Graphic Novel).

A handful of kittens have what it takes to run a construction company, but first they must be taken seriously by everyone who thinks they are only cute kittens.

Henkes, Kevin. *Owen* (Caldecott Honor 1994); *Penny and Her Doll*; *Penny and Her Song* (and others).

Owen's parents try to get him to give up his favorite blanket before he starts school, but when their efforts fail, they come up with a solution that makes everyone happy.

Hills, Tad. *Duck and Goose*; *Duck, Duck, Goose*; *Rocket Learns to Read*.

Duck and Goose learn to work together to take care of a ball that they think is an oversized egg.

Hoban, Russell. *Bread and Jam for Frances*.

Frances decides she likes to eat only bread and jam at every meal until – to her surprise – her parents grant her wish.

Hoff, Syd. *Arturo's Baton*; *Mrs. Brice's Mice*; *Sammy the Seal* (and others).

When an orchestra conductor misplaces his baton and feels he cannot work without it, he learns that it is his own talents, not a little stick, that make him famous.

Hutchins, Pat. *Rosie's Walk*.

Although aware that a fox is after her as she takes a walk around the farmyard, Rosie the hen still manages to lead him into once accident after another.

Isadora, Rachel. *Ben's Trumpet*.

Ben wants to be a trumpeter, but plays only an imaginary instrument until one of the musicians in a neighborhood night club discovers his ambition.

Jonas, Ann. *Round Trip*.

Black and white illustrations and text record the sights on a day trip to the city and back home again to the country.

Keller, Laurie. *We Are Growing!*

Walt is not the tallest or the curliest or the pointiest or even the crunchiest. A confounded blade of grass searches for his 'est' in this story about growing up.

Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer*.

Leo, a young tiger, finally blooms under the anxious eyes of his parents.

Krauss, Ruth. *The Carrot Seed*.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Despite everyone's dire predictions, a little boy has faith in the carrot seed he plants.

Langstaff, John. *Over in the Meadow*.

A presentation of an old counting rhyme about meadow animals and their activities.

Leaf, Munro. *The Story of Ferdinand*.

Ferdinand likes to sit quietly and smell the flowers, but one day he gets stung by a bee and his snorting and stomping convince everyone that he is the fiercest of bulls.

Lester, Helen. Tacky series.

Tacky the penguin does not fit in with his sleek and graceful companions, but his odd behavior comes in handy when hunters come with maps and traps.

Lionni, Leo. *Alexander and the Wind-up Mouse* (Caldecott Honor 1970);  
*Swimmy* (Caldecott Honor 1964).

Alexander, the mouse, makes friends with Willy, a toy mouse, and wants to be just like him until he discovers Willy is to be thrown away.

Lobel, Arnold. *Princess Furball*.

A princess in a coat of a thousand furs hides her identity from a king who falls in love with her.

Lovell, Patty. *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon*.

Even when the class bully at her new school makes fun of her, Molly remembers what her grandmother told her, and she feels good about herself.

Manushkin, Fran. Katie Woo series.

Follows the adventures of Katie as she learns to stand up for herself, say goodbye to friends and has other adventures.

Marshall, James. *George and Martha*.

Relates several episodes in the friendship of two hippopotamuses.

Martin Jr, Bill and Archambault, John. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*.

An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree.

Mayer, Mercer. Little Critter series.

The stories of Little Critter include visiting a firehouse, being sick, helping out, and going through his town.

McBratney, Sam. *You're All My Favorites*.

Three much-loved baby bears begin to wonder if their parents have a favorite.

McCloskey, Robert. *Blueberries for Sal* (Caldecott Honor 1949).

Little Sal and Little Bear both lose their mothers while eating blueberries and almost end up with the other's mother.

McDonnell, Patrick. *Me...Jane* (Caldecott Honor 2012).



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Holding her stuffed toy chimpanzee, young Jane Goodall observes nature, reads Tarzan books, and dreams of living in Africa and helping animals.

McMullan, Kate. Pearl and Wagner series.

The adventures of Wagner, a mouse, and his best friend Pearl, a rabbit.

McNamara, Margaret. *A Poem in Your Pocket*.

Elinor is used to doing very well in school, but as Poem in Your Pocket Day approaches, bringing an opportunity to meet a real poet, her struggle to write a perfect poem causes Elinor's confidence to falter.

Meshon, Aaron. *Take Me Out to the Yakyu*.

A little boy's grandfathers, one in America and one in Japan, teach him about baseball and its rich varying cultural traditions.

Noble, Trinkia Hakes. *The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash*.

Jimmy's boa constrictor wreaks havoc on the class trip to a farm.

Numeroff, Laura. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (and others).

A young boy, having given a cookie to a bossy mouse, is run ragged by the energetic rodent's subsequent requests.

Parish, Peggy. Amelia Bedelia series.

A literal-minded housekeeper causes a ruckus wherever she goes whenever she tries to follow directions.

Peet, Bill. *The Ant and the Elephant*.

Of all the animals the elephant rescues, only the tiny ant returns the favor.

Rathmann, Peggy. *Officer Buckle and Gloria* (Caldecott Medal 1996).

The children of Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

Rey, H. A. *Curious George* (and others).

The curiosity of a monkey gets him into trouble.

Rocco, John. *Blackout* (Caldecott Honor 2012).

Neighbors gather on the roof after the power goes out on a hot night in the city and start having so much fun that not everyone is happy when the lights go back on.

Rosen, Michael. *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

Brave bear hunters go through the grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat.

Rosenthal, Amy. *Chopsticks*.

A pair of chopsticks gets separated, but after some traumatic moments the two friends eventually learn to stand on their own.

Rylant, Cynthia. *When I Was Young in the Mountains* (Caldecott Honor 1983).



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

- Reminiscences of the pleasure of life in the mountains as a child.
- Rylant, Cynthia. Mr. Putter and Tabby series.  
Mr. Putter and his faithful cat, Tabby, are always ready for adventure, quick to help a friend, or just love one another.
- Santat, Dan. *The Cookie Fiasco*.  
There are only three cookies and four hungry friends to share them with. This is not good! This is not equal!
- Santat, Dan. *Harold and Hog Pretend for Real*.  
Harold and Hog, huge fans of Piggie and Gerald, decide to play dress-up but find they may not be suited to their roles.
- Scanlon, Liz. *All the World* (Caldecott Honor 2012).  
Follows a group of family members and friends through the course of a day as they learn the importance of all things great and small.
- Schaefer, Lola M. Mittens series.  
Enjoy the adventures of a young kitten named Mittens.
- Selznick, Brian. *Baby Monkey, Private Eye* (Graphic Novel).  
While Baby Monkey may only be a baby and a monkey, he is also a private investigator.
- Silverman, Erica. Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa series.  
The wonderful adventures of Cowgirl Kate and her always hungry horse, Cocoa.
- Silverman, Martin. *My Tooth is Loose!*  
When Georgie announces he has a loose tooth, all of his friends have advice to offer him, but none that sound appealing.
- Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys and Their Monkey Business*.  
A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.
- Small, David. *Imogene's Antlers*.  
One Thursday, Imogene wakes up with a pair of antlers growing out of her head and causes a sensation wherever she goes.
- Smith, Lane. *Grandpa Green* (Caldecott Honor 2012).  
A child explores the ordinary life of his extraordinary great-grandfather, as expressed in his topiary garden.
- Spires, Ashley. *The Most Magnificent Thing*.  
A little girl has a most wonderful idea. With the help of her canine friend she is going to make the most magnificent thing!
- Stein, David Ezra. *Interrupting Chicken* (Caldecott Honor 2011).



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Little Red Chicken wants her papa to read her a bedtime story, but interrupts almost immediately as he begins each tale.

Timbaland. *Nighttime Symphony* (Caldecott Honor 2020).

The sounds of a storm in the city create a melodious lullaby and bedtime story told by a father to his son. This beautiful story was written by music producer and musician Timbaland.

Toscano, Charles. *Papa's Pastries*.

Miguel sees the results of his father's faith and generosity when, although his own family is facing the oncoming winter with threadbare clothing, a leaky roof, and no firewood, Papa gives away the pastries he has baked.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Tales of Amanda Pig*.

Amanda Pig and her brother and parents share a busy day, working and playing together from breakfast to bedtime.

Verde, Susan. *I Am Human: A Book of Empathy*.

A child recognizes his own humanity, his capacity for doing harm and being harmed, his ability to feel joy and sadness, and his belief in hope.

Waber, Bernard. *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile*.

Lyle is perfectly happy living with the Primms on E. 88<sup>th</sup> Street until irritable Mr. Grumps next door changes all of that.

Walker, Anna. *Florette*.

When Mae's family moves from the country to the city, she is sad to leave behind her beloved backyard garden, but before long, she finds a way to start a new garden.

Walsh, Ellen Stoll. *Mouse Paint*.

Three white mice discover jars of red, blue, and yellow paint and explore the world of color.

Wells, Rosemary. *Yoko*; Max and Ruby series (and others).

The delightful stories of Rosemary Wells are sure to please any young reader.

Willems, Mo. *Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!* (and others); *That Is Not a Good Idea*; *Nanette's Baguette*; Elephant and Piggie series.

Mo Willems' humor shines through in his always popular books about animals and their adventures.

Williams, Vera B. *A Chair for My Mother* (Caldecott Honor 1983).

A child, her waitress mother, and her grandmother save dimes to buy a comfortable armchair after all their furniture is lost in a fire.

Wood, Audrey. *The Napping House*.

In this cumulative tale, a wakeful flea atop a number of sleeping creatures causes a commotion, with just one bite.

Zion, Gene. *Harry the Dirty Dog*.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

When a white dog with black spots runs away from home, he gets so dirty his family doesn't recognize him as a black dog with white spots.

**Nonfiction**

- Adler, David A. *A Picture Book of Benjamin Franklin* (and others).  
Surveys the life of Benjamin Franklin, highlighting his work as an inventor and Statesman.
- Allen, Judy. *Are You a Ladybug?*  
Introduces the life cycle of a ladybug, showing how it changes from an egg to an adult.
- Andrews, Troy. *Trombone Shorty* (Caldecott Honor 2016; Coretta Scott King Award 2016)).  
New Orleans jazz musician Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews tells the story of how he got his nickname and his start in jazz music.
- Bishop, Nic. *Butterflies and Moths; Frogs; Snakes; Spiders* (and others).  
Full-color photographs and illustrations describe the physical characteristics, behaviors, habits, and life cycle of butterflies and moths.
- Bourke, Anthony and John Rendall. *Christian the Lion: Based on the True Story of Anthony (Ace) Bourke, John Rendall and Christian the Lion*.  
Details the experiences of Anthony Bourke and John Rendall, who bought a lion cub from a department store, raised him as a pet, reintroduced him to the wild in Kenya, and years later received a warm welcome from the grown lion.
- Brown, Margaret. *Goodnight Songs*.  
A collection of twelve lullabies featuring illustrations by contemporary, award-winning artists.
- Brown, Susan Taylor. *Can I Pray with My Eyes Open?*  
In rhyming text, a child wonders how and when and where is the perfect way to say a prayer and realizes that there is no wrong time or place for prayer.
- Carle, Eric. *The Tiny Seed*.  
A simple description of a flowering plant’s life cycle through the seasons.
- Chin, Jason. *Gravity*.  
What keeps objects from floating out of your hand? What stops everything from floating into space? An exploration of what holds us to the Earth.
- Clinton, Chelsea. *She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World* (and others).  
Chelsea Clinton presents the achievements of 13 American women who left their mark on American history.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Cooper, Elisha. *Train*.

Board a commuter train in New York, then follow the journey west and see the stations, the scenery, the different types of trains, and all the people who travel and work on the railroad system.

Davies, Nicola. *White Owl, Barn Owl*.

A grandfather and his small grandchild find an owl roost, open owl pellets, install a nest box and watch patiently until spring when they are rewarded with the sight of owls, hunting in their fields and feeding a family in the box they have provided.

Gaines, Joanna. *We Are the Gardeners*.

Joanna Gaines and her children record their attempts to create a garden, and they share what they learned along the way.

Gibbons, Gail. *Giant Pandas (and others)*.

An introduction to the physical characteristics, behavior, life cycle, and habitat of these endangered animals.

Gibson, Amy. *Around the World on Eighty Legs (poems)*.

An illustrated collection of poems that provides information about animals around the world.

Hale, Christy. *Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building*.

A collection of concrete poetry, illustrations, and photographs that shows how young children's constructions, created as they play, are reflected in notable works of architecture from around the world.

Harrison, David L. *Johnny Appleseed: My Story*.

Illustrations and simple text offer young readers a brief introduction to the life of Johnny Appleseed.

Jenkins, Steve. *Actual Size*.

Discusses and gives examples of the size and weight of various animals and parts of animals.

Jenkins, Steve. *What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* (Caldecott Honor 2004).

A look at the ways in which different animals use their ears, eyes mouths, feet, and tails.

Karas, G. Brian. *On Earth*.

Text and illustrations relate the motions of the Earth to time, such as the year, seasons, and days.

McAnulty, Stacy. *Earth: My First 4.54 Billion Years*.

Introduces readers to key moments in the planet's life, from its formation over four billion years ago to the present.

Munro, Roxie. *Hatch!*

Presents illustrations of various eggs with related clues, prompting readers to



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

guess which type of bird laid the eggs. Provides details on the appearance, habitat, and behavior of each featured type of bird.

Paterson, Katherine. *The Light of the World: The Life of Jesus for Children.*

Tells the story of Jesus' life from his birth in Bethlehem to his crucifixion and resurrection, and describes his teachings, explaining why he is called "the light of the world."

Sis, Peter. *The Train of States.*

Gives information about each state, including capital, motto, state tree, state bird, source of name, and date of statehood.

Thomas, Joan Gale. *If Jesus Came to My House.*

A little boy imagines that Jesus spends an afternoon with him.

Various Authors. *Read a Rhyme, Write a Rhyme.*

Presents a collection of complete and incomplete illustrated poems that encourage children to write.

Yousafzai, Malala. *Malala's Magic Pencil.*

As a young child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy and to erase the smell of garbage from her city. As she grew older, Malala realized that she could work hard every day to make her wishes for a better world come true.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

**Fiction**

Adler, David A. Cam Jansen series.

Cam Jansen uses her photographic memory to solve various crimes.

Barnett, Mac. *Extra Yarn*.

With a supply of yarn that never runs out, Annabelle knits for everyone and everything in town until an evil archduke decides he wants the yarn for himself. (Caldecott Honor 2013)

Bemelmans, Ludwig. Madeline series.

Madeline, one of twelve girls in two straight lines, always ends up in various adventures. (Caldecott Medal 1954, Caldecott Honor 1940)

Birney, Betty G. *The World According to Humphrey* (and others).

Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, learns that he has an important role to play in helping his classmates and teacher.

Brumbeau, Jeff. *The Quiltmaker's Journey*.

The quiltmaker grows up wealthy and sheltered, but radically changes her life after she discovers the poverty and need outside her town.

Cannon, Janell. *Verdi*.

A young python does not want to grow slow and boring like the older snakes he sees in the tropical jungle where he lives.

Coerr, Eleanor. *Chang's Paper Pony*.

Chang longs for a pony to ease the loneliness he feels in his new country, but even in Gold Rush California, enough gold to buy a pony is hard to come by.

Davey, J. S. *The Lion's Pride*.

The second in the Proverbs & Parables series, two brother lions handle ruling their kingdoms in completely different ways.

Daywalt, Drew. *The Day the Crayons Quit*.

A little boy finds a stack of letters, written by his crayons, detailing their woes and successes working for him.

de la Pena, Matt. *Last Stop on Market Street*.

On a bus ride across town with his grandmother, a young boy learns to find beauty in his surroundings. (Newbery Medal Winner 2016; Caldecott Honor 2016.)

Demi. *The Empty Pot*.

When Ping admits that he is the only child in China unable to grow a flower from the seeds distributed by the Emperor, he is rewarded for his honesty.

Gerstein, Mordicai. *The First Drawing*.

Illustrated by a Caldecott Honoree, this is a fictional tale of how the first cave drawings may have come to be.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

- Guthrie, Woody. *This Land Is Your Land*.  
Presents the lyrics to Woody Guthrie's classic song "This Land Is Your Land" along with rich illustrations of America's many landscapes.
- Hering, Marianne. Imagination Station series.  
Cousins Patrick and Beth travel back in time. This Christian series by Focus on the Family has been compared to the Magic Tree House series.
- Hoban, Russell. *A Bargain for Frances*.  
Thelma usually outsmarts Frances until Frances decides to teach her a lesson about friendship.
- Jeffers, Oliver. *Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth*.  
A beautifully written book that reminds us that we are all on Earth together and we should appreciate Earth and one another.
- Jordan, Delores and others. *Salt in His Shoes*.  
A young Michael Jordan puts salt in his shoes, hoping it will help him grow tall enough to become a famous basketball player.
- Kay, Verla. *Hornbooks and Ink Wells*.  
Two boys spend a year in a frontier one-room schoolhouse.
- Krall, Dan. *The Great Lollipop Caper*.  
A caper, upset that adults love him but children don't, sets out to right the wrong with an awful plan that involves...lollipops.
- Kuhlmann, Torben. *Edison: The Mystery of the Missing Mouse Treasure*.  
Beautifully illustrated, science-based tale about two tiny creatures who build a vessel capable of taking them to the bottom of the ocean.
- Lionni, Leo. *Tico and the Golden Wings*.  
A wingless bird is granted his wish for a pair of golden wings.
- Lobel, Arnold. Frog and Toad series.  
These tales recount the adventures of best friends Frog and Toad.
- Mattick, Lindsay. *Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear*.  
Fictionalized account of the real bear cub that became the inspiration for Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh. (Caldecott Medal 2016)
- McCloskey, Robert. *Make Way for Ducklings*.  
Mr. and Mrs. Mallard proudly return to their home in the Boston Public Garden with their eight offspring. (Caldecott Medal 1942)
- McKissack, Patricia. *What is Given From the Heart*.  
James Otis has lost his father, home, and dog in a short period of time. However, his mother helps him to see that others also suffer and that we can give comfort to others when giving from the heart.
- Minarik, Else. Little Bear series.  
Little Bear's adventures include taking a trip to the moon and having a birthday party.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

My America series (various authors)

Diaries set during various historical periods about children living during those times.

Novesky, Amy. *Mary Poppins* (a picture book adaptation).

The East Wind blows Mary Poppins into the lives of the Banks' children, who are in need of a nanny.

O'Connor, Jane. Nancy Clancy series.

Third grader Nancy Clancy enjoys lots of adventures with her friends and learns lessons along the way. (The author enchanted students when she visited St. David's School.)

Osborne, Mary Pope. Magic Tree House series.

Jack and Annie travel back in time to many different historical places.

Rylant, Cynthia. Henry and Mudge series.

Henry and his dog Mudge have many adventures together with friends, through different seasons, and during different times.

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. Nate the Great series.

Nate the Great sets out to solve mysteries for friends and family.

Sobol, Donald J.. Encyclopedia Brown series.

America's Sherlock Holmes in sneakers sets out to prove that kids can solve mysteries too!

Stevens, Janet. *The Great Fuzz Frenzy*.

When a mysterious green fuzzy object falls into the prairie dog tunnels, they aren't sure what to do with it...but everyone wants a bit of it!

Teague, Mark. *Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School*.

Gertrude LaRue receives letters from her dog Ike, both paw-written and typed, begging her to let him leave the Igor Brotweiler Canine Academy and come home.

Turnbull, Victoria. *Pandora*.

Pandora the fox lives alone in a junkyard with little access to the outside world until she rescues a bluebird and finds a friend.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. The Boxcar Children series.

Orphaned children are worried about meeting their grandfather.

Wiesner, David. *Mr. Wuffles*.

Mr. Wuffles ignores all his cat toys but one, which turns out to be a spaceship piloted by small green aliens. When Mr. Wuffles plays rough with the little ship, the aliens must venture into the cat's territory to make emergency repairs. (Caldecott Honor 2014)

Willems, Mo. *The Story of Diva and Flea*.

In the bustling city of Paris, a brave dog named Diva meets an adventurous cat named Flea and they become unlikely friends.

Wiseman, B. *Morris Goes to School*.

Morris the moose has an exciting day in school learning the alphabet, counting, singing, spelling, and doing other things that make him a unique moose.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

Yamada, Kobi. *What Do You Do with a Problem?*

When a problem becomes too big from worrying about it, a child decides to face the problem and learns that problems can make us stronger.

Ziefert, Harriet. *A New Coat for Anna.*

Even though there is no money, Anna's mother finds a way to make Anna a badly needed winter coat.

**Nonfiction**

Bang, Molly and Chisholm, Penny. *Ocean Sunlight: How Tiny Plants Feed the Sea.*

Explains how tiny plants feed our seas.

Berne, Jennifer. *Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau.*

An illustrated biography of Jacques Cousteau, discussing how his youthful fascinations with filming and underwater exploration translated into his life's work.

Biebow, Natascha. *The Crayon Man: The True Story of Crayola Crayons.*

The story of Edwin Binney and his invention of one of the most popular childhood toys of all time.

Bridges, Ruby. *Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story.*

Tells the true story of Ruby Bridges, who at age 6 became the first African American to attend an all-white school in New Orleans.

Bryant, Jen. *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus.*

A picture book of Peter Mark Roget, the creator of *Roget's Thesaurus*, one of the most widely used reference books ever published. (Caldecott Honor 2015)

Burleigh, Robert. *Look up!: Henrietta Leavitt, Pioneering Woman Astronomer.*

An illustrated biography of the pioneering woman astronomer Henrietta Leavitt.

Chin, Jason. *Grand Canyon.*

A detailed pictorial history of the Grand Canyon. (Caldecott Honor 2018)

Countryman, Jack. *God's Promises for Boys; God's Promises for Girls.*

Religious quotes, Bible verses, and poetry for girls and boys.

Dempsey, Kristy. *A Dance like Starlight: One Ballerina's Dream.*

A young girl growing up in Harlem in the 1950s dreams of becoming a prima ballerina one day and has the opportunity to see Janet Collins, the first "colored" prima ballerina, perform.

Engle, Margarita. *Bravo!*

Portraits and poems present lesser known Latinos from varied backgrounds who have faced life's challenges in creative ways.

Ferris, Jeri. *Walking the Road to Freedom: A Story about Sojourner Truth.*

Traces the life of the Black woman orator who spoke out against slavery throughout New England and the Midwest.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

Floca, Brian. *Locomotive*.

Details what the first passengers experienced as they traveled West on the transcontinental railroad in the summer of 1869. (Caldecott Medal 2014)

Gall, Chris. *Go for The Moon: A Rocket, A Boy, and The First Moon Landing*.

A young boy narrates the launching of Apollo 11, the first rocket to bring men to the moon, while imagining that he is also launching into space and landing on the moon.

Gibbons, Gail. *From Seed to Plant; Monarch Butterfly; The Moon Book; The Planets; The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree*.

Gibbons uses her beautiful illustrations to explore various nonfiction topics.

Golenbock, Peter. *Teammates*.

Describes the racial prejudice experienced by Jackie Robinson when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers to become the first African American player in Major League Baseball and depicts the acceptance and support he received from his white teammate Pee Wee Reese.

Hall, Ron and Moore, Denver. *Same Kind of Different as Me for Kids*.

A remarkable story of what can happen when we choose to help others who are less fortunate.

Harrison, Vashti. *Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World*.

The true stories of 35 famous women who invented, created art, made discoveries in science, and more. While not all of the women are well-known, all have made a contribution to society.

Hatkoff, Isabella and Craig. *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship*.

Illustrated text and full-color photographs tell the true story of the unusual relationship between Owen, a baby hippopotamus orphaned by the tsunami, and Mzee, a 130-year-old giant tortoise.

Jenkins, Priscilla. *A Nest Full of Eggs*.

Explains how four blue eggs develop into robins. Also looks at feathers from many different types of birds.

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. *The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name*.

Presents more than forty illustrated stories from the Old and New Testaments, explaining for children that Jesus is the focus of the Bible and describing his promise to come again.

Lucado, Max. *Grace for the Moment: 365 Devotions for Kids*.

This presents the message of God's grace in a way that children can understand, with devotions and scriptures for each day to encourage growth in God.

Maynard, Thane. *Saving Fiona*.

The true story of Fiona, a hippopotamus born prematurely at the Cincinnati Zoo, and the scientists and caretakers who helped Fiona survive in the early days of her life.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading List 2021**  
**Rising 2nd Grade**

- McGinty, Alice B. *Gandhi: A March to the Sea*.  
Recounts the story of the March to the Sea, in which seventy protestors and Gandhi march from Admedabad to Dandi to protest the tax that Great Britain put on salt.
- Mitton, Jacqueline. *Zoo in the Sky: A Book of Animal Constellations*.  
Identifies the groups of stars known as constellations and discusses their origins.
- Park, Linda Sue. *Tap Dancing on the Roof (Sijo)*.  
Presents twenty-six Korean sijo (syllabic poems with a twist) with themes both in the classroom and outdoors.
- Parks, Rosa. *I Am Rosa Parks*.  
Tells of Rosa Parks' acts of civil disobedience, which led to the 1956 Supreme Court order to desegregate buses in Montgomery, Alabama.
- Prelutzky, Jack. *If Not for the Cat (poems)*.  
Presents an illustrated collection of haiku-style poems about different animals.
- Priceman, Marjorie. *Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot Air Balloon Ride*.  
Presents a colorful children's story about the first passengers on the very first hot air balloon ride.
- Roop, Peter. *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie*.  
In the winter of 1856, a storm delays the lighthouse keeper's return to an island off the coast of Maine, and his daughter Abbie must keep the lights burning by herself.
- Rosenstock, Barb. *The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art*.  
Fascinating story of one of the first painters of abstract art. (Caldecott Honor 2015)
- Slade, Suzanne. *A Computer Called Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Helped Put America on the Moon*.  
Katherine knew it was wrong that African Americans couldn't have the same rights as others, or that women could only be nurses and teachers. She determined to prove the world wrong, and eventually helped NASA send the first man into space.
- St. George, Judith. *So You Want To Be President*.  
Presents an assortment of facts about the qualifications and characteristics of U.S. Presidents, from George Washington to Bill Clinton.
- Stevenson, Robert Louis. *A Child's Garden of Verses (poems)*.  
A collection of poems that address the lives of children.
- Weatherford, Carole Boston. *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*.  
An account of Harriet Tubman's efforts to escape slavery and bring others along the Underground Railroad to freedom.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Fiction**

***Action/Adventure: Characters may travel and be required to go on a “quest” for certain information.***

Barnett, Mac. Mac B, Kid Spy series.

A thrilling and hilarious series about a young boy, Mac, who becomes a spy at the request of the Queen of England!

Fleischman, Sid. *The Whipping Boy* (Newbery Medal Winner 1987).

A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

Gardiner, John Reynolds. *Stone Fox*.

Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.

Gibbs, Stuart. *Spy School* (book series).

Young and awkward Ben is shocked when the science magnate school he gets into is actually a school run by the CIA.

Hutchens, Paul. *The Swamp Robber* (and others in the Sugar Creek Gang series).

The Sugar Creek Gang, a group of young Christian boys, find a disguise hidden in a sycamore hollow that leads them into an encounter with a bank robber and other adventures.

Winston, Sherri. *Jada Sly, Artist, and Spy*.

Enjoy the adventures of Jada, a student, artist, and budding spy, as she records her training in her art journal.

***Fantasy: Characters or settings are magical or surreal. May include talking animals, stories set in the future, characters who are able to do things that real people are not (flying, traveling in time, etc.).***

Applegate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan* (Newbery Medal Winner 2013).

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Avi. *The Mayor of Central Park*.

Oscar Westerwit, a squirrel who loves baseball and Broadway musicals, fights back when a gangster rat named Big Daddy Duds and his thugs invade Central Park and evict Oscar and his animal friends from their homes.

Birney, Betty. Humphrey series.

Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, learns that he has an important role to play in helping his classmates and teacher.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

Bond, Michael. *Paddington Bear series.*

A very small bear found by Mr. and Mrs. Brown at Paddington Station becomes one of the family.

Broach, Elise. *Marvin and James Save the Day (and Elaine Helps!).*

Marvin the beetle tries to reassure his human boy, James, who is worried about his father's upcoming wedding and the changes it will bring.

Cameron, W. Bruce. *Molly's Story.*

Molly, a puppy, must hide in her owner CJ's room so CJ's mom will not find out.

Cleary, Beverly. *The Mouse and the Motorcycle.*

A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

Cole, Henry. *A Nest for Celeste.*

Celeste, a mouse longing for a real home, becomes a source of inspiration to teenaged Joseph, assistant to the artist and naturalist John James Audubon, at a New Orleans, Louisiana, plantation in 1821.

Cronin, Doreen. *The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure.*

Four chicks band together to figure out why a squirrel named Tall is afraid.

DiCamillo, Kate. *Flora and Ulysses* (Newbery Medal Winner 2014).

A girl named Flora and a squirrel named Ulysses, whose life was saved by Flora after he was involved in an incident with a vacuum cleaner, team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak.

DiCamillo, Kate. *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane.*

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him.

DiTerlizzi, Tony. *Kenny & the Dragon.*

Kenny Rabbit tries to save his friend, the dragon, after he is labeled a community nuisance by the simple people of Roundbrook, who arrange for the creature to be fought by St. George.

Fleming, Ian. *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.*

Two children persuade their inventor father to purchase and restore an old car, which turns out to have magical powers.

Gannett, Ruth Stiles. *My Father's Dragon.*

A young boy determines to rescue a poor baby dragon who is being used by a group of lazy wild animals to ferry them across the river on Wild Island.

Grahame, Kenneth. *The Reluctant Dragon.*

A boy who finds a dragon in a cave knows it is a kindly, harmless one, but how can he convince the frightened villagers and especially St. George the dragon killer?

Hatke, Ben. *Mighty Jack* (an illustrated, 'graphic' novel).

Jack might be the only kid in the world dreading summer since it means he must watch his kid sister Maddie. But one day Maddie tells Jack to trade his mom's car for magic seeds, and he does, transforming his summer.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

Jenkins, Emily. *Toys Go Out; Toy Dance Party*.

Stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.

Kingsmith, Dick. *Babe, the Gallant Pig*.

A piglet comes to Farmer Hogget's farm, where he is adopted by an old sheepdog and accomplishes amazing things.

Lewis, C.S. *The Chronicles of Narnia series*.

Four children find themselves in the midst of a battle between good and evil in another world, trying to help the lion Aslan save Narnia from the White Witch.

Maclachlan, Patricia. *The Poet's Dog*.

A dog with unusual communication talents loses his poet owner unexpectedly, then rescues two children during a snowstorm by bringing them back to his home.

Mass, Wendy. *Bob*.

When Livy returns to visit her grandmother in Australia after five years, she is certain that she left something behind on her last visit. Who or what could it be?

Patterson, James. *Dog Diaries*.

Junior and his human, Rafe, have many adventures together when Rafe begins attending middle school.

Peck, Richard. *The Mouse with the Question Mark Tail*.

A very small mouse of unknown origins runs away from school in the Royal Mews of Buckingham Palace shortly before the celebration of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee, celebrating her sixty years on the British throne.

Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square* (and others) (Newbery Medal Winner 1961).

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.

Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures* (Caldecott Medal Winner 2008).

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Voigt, Cynthia. *Young Fredle*.

Fredle, a young mouse cast out of his home, faces dangers and predators outside, makes some important discoveries and allies, and learns the meaning of freedom as he struggles to return home.

White, E.B. *Stuart Little*.

The adventures of the debonair mouse Stuart Little as he sets out in the world to seek out his dearest friend, a little bird who stayed a few days in his family's garden.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

***Historical Fiction: A book that is set during a real period or era. Examples of these books include the following series: American Girl; Little House; and Dear America.***

American Girls series (various authors).

This series follows various American girls in adventures during different eras—from the Revolutionary War to the Great Depression.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *A Little Princess*.

Sara Crewe, a pupil at Miss Minchin's School for Girls, left in poverty when her father dies, is later rescued by a mysterious benefactor.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden*.

A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire Moors, where she discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

Coerr, Eleanor. *Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express*.

Sixteen-year-old Bill finds adventure when he becomes a rider for the Pony Express, though his letters home never hint at the dangers he encounters.

Dalgliesh, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble*.

Remembering her mother's words, an eight-year-old girl finds courage to go alone with her father to build a new home in the Connecticut wilderness and to stay with the Indians when her father goes back to bring the rest of the family.

Dear America series (various authors).

An expansive series of fictional diaries set during different important times in history, including the Civil War, immigration to the United States, the Great Depression, and many more.

Hale, Nathan. *Big Bad Ironclad!: A Civil War Steamship Showdown*.

(and others in Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales series)

A fun graphic novel series that retells events from history.

Lawson, Robert. *Mr. Revere and I*.

The life of the Revere family and the doings of the Sons of Liberty as told from the point of view of Paul Revere's horse.

Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars* (Newbery Medal Winner 1990).

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Parenteau, Shirley. *Ship of Dolls*.

In 1926 Portland, a little girl works to help her class make a beautiful friendship doll to travel to Japan, hoping that it will help her reconnect with her estranged mother.

Phelan, Matt. *Bluffton: My Summers with Buster* (an illustrated, 'graphic' novel).

The year is 1908 and a troupe of vaudeville performers have arrived in a sleepy



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

Michigan town to spend the summer. Young Henry Harrison is fascinated with the animals and performers and connects with a boy his age named Buster Keaton.

Polacco, Patricia. *Pink and Say*.

Chronicles the friendship of Pink, a fifteen-year-old African American Union soldier, and Say, his poor white comrade, as one nurses the other back to health from a battle wound and the two of them are imprisoned at Andersonville. Based on a true story.

Tarshis, Lauren. *I Survived Series*.

Adventures of children from many different eras and events, such as the Battle of Gettysburg, the Great Molasses Flood in Boston, and sinking of the Titanic.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. *Pioneer Daughters series*.

This series is a heartwarming portrait of a colonial girl and her family struggling to meet the challenges of pioneer life during the Revolutionary War.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little House series*.

Laura Ingalls Wilder recounts her journey from the Big Woods of Wisconsin to living on the plains with her family during pioneer times.

***Mystery: Characters have questions that are answered throughout the story, often using elements of action or adventure.***

Adler, David. *Cam Jansen series*.

Cam Jansen uses her photographic memories to help family and friends solve various mysteries.

Clements, Andrew. *We the Children (Benjamin Pratt and the Keepers of the School series)*.

Ben and his friend Jill find themselves in danger when they discover the secret history of their Massachusetts school.

Sobol, Donald J. *Encyclopedia Brown series*.

America's Sherlock Holmes in sneakers sets out to prove that kids can solve mysteries too.

Nancy Springer. *Enola Holmes: The Case of the Missing Marquess (and other titles in the series)*.

Enola Holmes, the much younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, must travel to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. *The Boxcar Children series*.

Four orphaned children, afraid to go live with their grandfather, set up housekeeping in an abandoned boxcar and are doing fine until one of them becomes ill.

Winkler, Henry. *Hank Zipzer series*.

Hank Zipzer refers to himself as the world's greatest underachiever, but always manages to help out friends and family when things aren't what they seem.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

***Realistic Fiction: Realistic fiction has characters and storylines that could actually happen, with relatable characters and tales, but the stories are made up by the authors.***

Cameron, Ann. *Gloria's Way*.

Gloria shares special times with her mother and father and with her friends Julian, Huey, and Latisha.

Carlson, Natalie. *The Family under the Bridge* (Newbery Honor Book 1959).

An old tramp, adopted by three fatherless children when their mother hides them under a bridge on the Seine, finds a home for mother and children and a job for himself.

Christopher, Matt. *Shoot for the Hoop* (and others).

Rusty's parents do not want him to play basketball because of his diabetes, so Rusty, with the encouragement of his coach, must prove his ability to play.

Cleary, Beverly. *Dear Mr. Henshaw* (Newbery Medal Winner 1984).

In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.

Cleary, Beverly. *Henry Huggins* (and others).

When Henry adopts Ribsy, a dog of no particular breed, humorous adventures follow.

Clements, Andrew. *Frindle*.

When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Clements, Andrew. Jake Drake series.

Jake Drake and his friends learn how to deal with the ups and downs of fourth grade.

Creech, Sharon. *Saving Winslow*.

Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures—not even lightning bugs, worms, or goldfish. So, when his father brings home a sickly, newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him.

Davies, Jacqueline. The Lemonade War series.

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand.

DeJong, Meindert. *The Wheel on the School* (Newbery Medal Winner 1955).

The residents of a small town in Holland try to bring storks to nest in their village.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. Phineas L. MacGuire series.

Fourth-grade science whiz Phineas MacGuire is forced to team up with the new boy in class on a science fair project, but the boy's quirky personality causes Phineas to wonder if they have any chance of winning.

Edwards, Julie Andrews. *Mandy*.

Longing for a place of her own, a ten-year-old orphan creates a secret home in a deserted cottage in the village of St. Martin's Green.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

- Estes, Eleanor. *The Hundred Dresses* (Newbery Honor Book 1945).  
In winning a medal she is no longer there to receive, a tight-lipped little Polish girl teaches her classmates a lesson.
- Estes, Eleanor. The Moffats series.  
Relates the adventures and misadventures of the four Moffat children living with their widowed mother in a yellow house on New Dollar Street in the small town of Cranbury, Connecticut.
- Gifford, Peggy Elizabeth. *Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little* (and others).  
With summer coming to an end, about-to-be-fourth grader Moxy Maxwell does a hundred different things to avoid reading her assigned summer reading book.
- Glasser, Karina Yan. *The Vanderbeekers of 141<sup>st</sup> Street* (and others in the series).  
Told that they will have to move out of their Harlem brownstone just after Christmas, the five Vanderbeeker children decide to change their reclusive landlord's mind.
- Hannigan, Katherine. *Emmaline and the Bunny*.  
Everyone and everything in the town of Neatasapin is tidy, except Emmaline who likes to dig dirt and jump in puddles and wants to adopt an untidy bunny.
- Henkes, Kevin. *The Year of Billy Miller* (Newbery Honor Book 2014).  
Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts the year with a bump on his head and a lot of worries, but by the end has developed good relationships with his teacher, sister, parents and learned many important lessons.
- Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague*.  
Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.
- Hesse, Karen. *Sable*.  
Tate Marshall is delighted when a stray dog turns up in the yard one day, but Sable, named for her dark, silky fur, causes trouble with the neighbors and has to go.
- Hurwitz, Johanna. *Class President*.  
Julio hides his own leadership ambitions to help another candidate win the nomination for class president.
- Kerrin, Jessica. Martin Bridge series.  
Meet Martin Bridge – a boy whose well-meant plans sometimes go awry.
- Lucado, Max. *Tell Me the Story*  
Uses stories and anecdotes to introduce children to various parts of the Bible, including the creation of the universe, the Fall, and the Resurrection.
- MacDonald, Betty. Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle series.  
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle, an eccentric woman who lives in an upside-down house, helps children and parents be the best they can be in very funny ways.
- MacLachlan Patricia. *Through Grandpa's Eyes*.  
A young boy learns a different way of seeing the world from his blind grandfather.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Word After Word After Word*.

A visiting poet, Ms. Mirabel, teaches five friends in grade school about the power of words and writing.

McCloskey, Robert. *Homer Price*.

Six episodes in the life of Homer Price, including one in which he and his pet skunk capture four bandits, and another about a donut machine on the rampage.

Morey, Walt. *Gentle Ben*.

Traces the friendship between a boy and a bear in the rugged Alaskan Territory.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Shiloh* (Newbery Medal Winner 1992).

Marty finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, and tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

Palacio, R. J. *Wonder* (Also *Auggie & Me: Three Wonder Stories*).

Ten-year old Auggie, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, where he must adjust to life among fearful classmates.

Spinelli, Eileen. *Where I Live*.

When her family is forced to move, Diana wonders if she'll ever find that same grounded and happy feeling that she had in her old home.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Fourth Grade Rats*.

Suds learns that his best friend is wrong. You don't have to be a tough guy, a "rat," to be a grown up fourth grader.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Third Grade Angels*.

George "Suds" Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first "halo" of the year for good behavior but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated.

Viorst, Judith. *Lulu Walks the Dogs*.

Lulu is determined to earn money to get what she is always and forever going to want, but her playful charges have another idea.

### Nonfiction

***Biography/Autobiography: Nonfiction books about people's lives, or books they have written about their own lives.***

Adler, David. *Heroes of the Revolution*.

The profiles of twelve men and women who had a significant impact on the American Revolution.

Berne, Jennifer. *On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein*.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

- A beautifully illustrated overview of Einstein's life and how his remarkable ideas changed the way scientists viewed light and numbers.
- D'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar Parin. *Abraham Lincoln* (Caldecott Medal Winner 1940).  
Text and illustrations present the life of the boy born on the Kentucky frontier who became the sixteenth president of the United States.
- Eggers, Dave. *Her Right Foot*.  
A historic look at the creation of the Statue of Liberty, the move to the United States, and the significant meaning behind her right foot.
- Fritz, Jean. *Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?* (and others).  
A biography of George the Third, King of Great Britain at the time of the American Revolution.
- Heiligman, Deborah. *The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos*.  
Growing up in Hungary during WWI, Paul Erdos was fascinated by numbers from an early age. He spent his adult life flying around the world, staying with other mathematicians, and working collaboratively on challenging math problems.
- Jurman, Suzanne Tripp. *The Worst of Friends: Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and the True Story of an American Feud*.  
Describes how their different political views caused friends Thomas Jefferson and John Adams to become rivals, until they learned to set aside their differences for the sake of their friendship.
- Mayo, Margaret. *Brother Sun, Sister Moon: The Life and Stories of St. Francis*.  
The story of St. Francis of Assisi, who rejected his wealthy background to lead a life of poverty, good works, and kindness to animals.
- Meloche, Renee. Heroes for Young Readers series.  
A series of biographies that introduces younger children to the lives of important Christian heroes, including politicians, inventors, authors and others.
- Nelson, Kadir. *Nelson Mandela* (Coretta Scott King Honor Book 2014).  
A biography of the former South African president best known for his political activism and fight to end apartheid.
- Stone, Tanya Lee. *Sandy's Circus: A Story about Alexander Calder*.  
The story of an artist and his amazing metal sculptures and mobiles that are celebrated the world over.
- Sweeney, Linda Booth. *Monument Maker: David Chester French and The Lincoln Memorial*.  
A young farm boy enjoys building and carving with his hands. Follow his journey from carving turnips to designing and building the Lincoln Memorial.
- Sweet, Melissa. *Some Writer: The Story of E. B. White*.  
A beautifully illustrated biography of beloved author E.B. White, including photographs, letters, and manuscripts.
- Tracosas, L. J. *White House Winners: What You Don't Know About the Presidents*.  
A hilarious look at the United States Presidents and some of the little-known facts about those well-known men.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

Walker, Sally. *Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh*.  
When Harry Coleburn, veterinarian and WWI soldier, saw a bear at a train station, he knew he could care for her. Naming her after Winnipeg, his camp's hometown, he brought her with him to training, but when the war called Harry away- who would care for Winnie?

Weidt, Maryann. *Oh, the Places He Went*.  
A fantastic journey into the world of Dr. Seuss.

Who Was....? Who Is...? Series (various authors).  
A series of biographies about famous politicians, artists, musicians and American figures.

Winter, Jonah. *Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of R.B.G. vs. Inequality*.  
The life story of the first Jewish-American woman to serve as a Justice on the United States Supreme Court.

Winter, Jonah. *You Never Heard of Willie Mays?*  
A visual profile of baseball star Willie Mays, tracing his Birmingham childhood, achievements in the Negro Leagues, and fame as a center fielder for the Giants.

Zeldis, Yona. *Little Author in the Big Woods: A Biography of Laura Ingalls Wilder*.  
This narrative biography details Laura's life homesteading on the prairie and points out some of the fictional differences from her real life.

***General Nonfiction: Includes science, poetry, puzzles and more.***

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem. *What Color Is My World? The Lost History of African-American Inventors*.  
While twins Ella and Herbie help the handyman, Mr. Midal work on their new home, he tells them about such inventors as Granville Woods, Dr. Henry T. Sampson, and James West, giving them a new view of their heritage as African Americans.

Aguilar, David A. *Luna: The Science and Stories of our Moon*.  
Read the myths, learn how the Moon formed, and explore the relationship between the Earth and the Moon.

Alexander, Kwame. *The Undefeated* (Caldecott Medal 2020; Newbery Honor 2020; Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award 2020).  
This poem movingly describes the trials and triumphs of black Americans throughout history. End-of-book notes provide further historical context.

Cheney, Lynne. *When Washington Crossed the Delaware: A Wintertime Story for Young Patriots*.  
This illustrated book tells the story of George Washington crossing the Delaware on Christmas night 1776 with his troops to attack the Hessians and the British at Trenton and Princeton, turning the tide of the Revolution in favor of the Americans.

DeYoung, Kevin. *The Biggest Story: How the Snake Crusher Brings Us Back to the Garden*.  
In this Bible storybook, chapters are divided into the many stories of the Bible,



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

- beginning with the Creation and taking us through the life of Christ.
- Graham, Ian. *The Science of Bridges and Tunnels: The Art of Engineering*.  
Through wonderful experiments students can learn the how and why of building and engineering.
- Harrison, Vashti. *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History*.  
Short biographies of 40 notable African American women who broke barriers of race and gender to pave the way for future generations.
- Janeczko, Paul B. *The Death of the Hat: A Brief History of Poetry in 50 Objects*.  
A collection of poetry about objects, from the Middle Ages to modern times, covering everything from swords and mice to birthday cards.
- A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms* (selected by Paul Janeczko).  
An illustrated collection of poems, which showcases twenty-nine different poetic forms, each with a brief definition.
- Levine, Robert. *The Story of the Orchestra: Listen While You Learn about the Instruments, the Music and the Composers Who Wrote the Music!*  
Descriptions of the sounds of instruments in the orchestra and a CD bring the orchestra and famous composers to life!
- Motum, Markus. *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover*.  
Learn how a little robot rover was designed, built, and launched into space to explore the planet Mars.
- National Geographic. *125 Cool Inventions*.  
Descriptions and photos include a dancing robot, flying cars, and light-up pillow.
- Nivola, Claire A. *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*.  
Relates the story of Wangari Maathai, a native Kenyan who taught the people living in the highlands how to plant trees and care for the land.
- Prelutsky, Jack. *Stardines and Other Poems*.  
Jack Prelutsky delights with this collection of imaginary animals and their activities.
- Rey, H.A. *The Stars: A New Way To See Them; Find the Constellations*.  
Includes drawings of constellations, star charts, descriptions of the physical characteristics of the planets, and principles of astronomy.
- Shivers, Holly. *I Can Learn the Bible: The Joshua Code for Kids: 52 Scriptures Every Kid Should Know*.  
Verses and devotionals to help write God's word on a child's heart. Using kid friendly language, it teaches Scripture in a way that helps kids commit Scripture to memory.
- Silverstein, Shel. *Where the Sidewalk Ends; A Light in the Attic* (and others)  
Books of poems about silly things and serious things from a celebrated children's poet.
- Singer, Marilyn. *Rutherford B., Who Was He?: Poems about Our Presidents*.  
A collection of children's poems about the presidents.
- St. George, Judith. *The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence*.  
An illustrated introduction to the Declaration of Independence, from its origin to its final home in the National Archives.



**St. David's School**  
**Lower School Suggested Summer Reading 2021**  
**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Grades**

Steig, William. *C D B!*

Captions for Steig's drawings are letters, symbols, and numbers that must be changed into words.

Thimmesh, Catherine. *Camp Panda: Helping Cubs Return to the Wild* (Sibert Honor Book 2019).

A look at attempts to save the dwindling giant panda population by having people dress up as pandas and teach panda cubs how to live and survive in the wild.

What Was...? Series (various authors).

This series covers famous events from history or famous institutions.