Incoming Second Grade Reading List for the 2026-27 School Year

Required:

Thunder Rose by Jerdine Nolen

“Thunder Rose vows to grow up to be *more* than just big and strong, thank you very kindly--and boy, does she ever! But when a whirling storm on a riotous rampage threatens, has Rose finally met her match?
Jerdine Nolen's wondrous tale and Kadir Nelson's outstanding illustrations bring to life this larger-than-life story about a resilient young girl who overcomes adversity even in the face of mother nature.”

Suggested:

The Fisherman and his Wife by Rachel Isadora

“Caldecott Honor winning artist Rachel Isadora brings another fabulous fairy tale to brilliant life with her stunning collages. The Brothers Grimm story of the kind fisherman who catches an enchanted fish, and his greedy wife who always wants more, is perfect for these "give-me" times.
Rachel Isadora's captivating collage-style artwork, featuring the African landscape and the increasingly turbulent ocean, provides a wonderful new backdrop for this classic story.”

Greeking Out: Epic Retellings of Classic Greek Myths

by Kenny Curtis
“**From the creators of National Geographic Kids’ wildly successful *Greeking Out* podcast, this *New York Times* best-selling tie-in book delivers a clever tongue-in-cheek retelling of 20 classic Greek myths.**

This kid-friendly collection of tales from Greek mythology showcases familiar favorites from the well-loved *Greeking Out* podcast as well as brand-new, never-before-aired stories. Join Persephone on her journey through the mystifying depths of the Underworld. Venture onwards with Heracles as he tackles his 12 death-defying labors. And join mythological figures you may not have heard of before, including scheming gods and goddesses, honorable—and not so honorable—heroes, and magnificent monsters.

Dynamic, playful illustrations coupled with laugh-out-loud storytelling and real information about ancient Greece—delivered by the all-knowing Oracle of Wi-Fi—make this collection of fabulous fables a fresh addition to any history-lover's library.”