



# *Sayreville Public Schools*

## *Office of Elementary Education*



Spring 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Reading is one of the most important endeavors we can share with our children. A student's ability to read fluently with comprehension is a lifelong skill that requires ongoing practice. We encourage you to read to your child, with your child, and to listen to your child read to you. This can be done at home, at the beach, at the park, or anywhere you can!

Students entering grades 1-5 are being asked to read for at least twenty minutes each day and to keep a record of their reading using a Bingo-style reading challenge board. Copies of these Bingo boards will be shared by each school and can also be found on the district website. These Bingo boards will be collected by your child's teacher in September, and students will be recognized for their summer reading achievements within their individual schools.

Children can read any books they choose. We have provided a list of suggested texts separated by grade level. This list is also located on our district website.

Have a wonderful summer, and happy reading! 📖

Sincerely,

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# Top Picks: Summer Reading 2026

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## Grades 1-2

### Fiction

*LEGO Ninjago* - Various Authors  
*The Critter Club* series - Callie Barkley  
*Extra Yarn* – Mac Barnett  
*Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* – Judi Barrett  
*FKS* series - Jim Benton  
*According to Humphrey* series – Betty G. Birney  
*Heidi Heckelbeck* series – Wanda Coven  
*Mercy Watson to the Rescue* – Kate DiCamillo  
*Bink and Gollie* – Kate DiCamillo  
*Mouse Scouts* – Sarah Dillard  
*Owl Diaries* - Rebecca Elliot  
*Meet Yasmin!* series - Saadia Faruqi  
*Captain Awesome* series - Stan Kirby  
*Jasmine Toguchi* series - Debbi Michiko Florence  
*Princess in Black* series - Shannon Hale  
*The Honeybee* - Kirsten Hall  
*Dory Fantasmagory* series - Abby Hanlon  
*Armstrong: The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon* - Torben Kuhlmann  
*Ling and Ting: Twice as Silly* – Grace Lin  
*Stink and the Incredible Super Galactic Jawbreaker* – Megan McDonald  
*Nancy Clancy, Super Sleuth / Fancy Nancy* – Jane O'Connor  
*The Magic Treehouse* series – Mary Pope Osborne  
*ABC Mysteries* series – Ron Roy  
*Dragon Masters* series - Tracey West  
*Fireworks* - Matthew Burgess  
*Henry's Picture-Perfect Day* - Jenn Bailey  
*Hurricane* - Jason Chin

### Humorous Fiction

*Ivy and Bean* – Annie Barrows  
*The Bad Guys* - Aaron Blabey  
*Flat Stanley* series – Jeff Brown  
*Bad Kitty* series – Nick Bruel  
*Read the Book, Lemmings!* - Ame Dyckman  
*Babymouse* series – Jennifer L. Holm  
*Horrible Harry* series – Suzy Kline  
*Alvin Ho* series - Lenore Look

*Clementine* series – Sara Pennypacker  
*Ricky Ricotta* series – Dav Pilkey  
*Splat the Cat* series - Rob Scotton

### Classics

*The Chocolate Touch* - Patrick Catling  
*Ramona* series - Beverly Cleary  
*Magic Finger* - Roald Dahl  
*The Hundred Dresses* – Eleanor Estes  
*Ferdinand* - Munro Leaf  
*Pippi Longstocking* – Astrid Lindgren  
*Frog and Toad Are Friends* - Arnold Lobel  
*Sarah, Plain and Tall* - Patricia MacLachlan  
*Winnie the Pooh* - A. A. Milne  
*Amelia Bedelia* – Herman Parish  
*Sideways Stories* – Louis Sachar  
*Encyclopedia Brown* - Donald Sobol  
*Stuart Little* – E.B. White

### Nonfiction

*I Am...* series - Various Authors  
*Extraordinary Engineering* series - Various Authors  
*Trombone Shorty* - Troy Andrews  
*Titanosaur: Discovering the World's Largest Dinosaur* - Dr. Jose Luis Carballido  
*Locomotive* - Brian Floca  
*The Iridescence of Birds* - Patricia MacLachlan  
*Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear* - Lindsey Mattick  
*Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down* - Andrea Davis Pinkney



## Top Picks: Summer Reading 2026

### Grades 3-5

#### Fiction

*The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* series – Tom Angleberger  
*American Girl* series – Various Authors  
*Ivy & Bean* series – Annie Barrows  
*El Deafo* – Cece Bell  
*The Penderwicks* series – Jeanne Birdsall  
*Humphrey* series – Betty Birney  
*Best Babysitters Ever* series - Caroline Cala  
*Hurricane Child* - Kheryn Callendar  
*The Friendship War / Frindle* - Andrew Clements  
*All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* – Leslie Connor  
*The Goat* - Anne Fleming  
*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* – Jack Gantos  
*Kid Owner* - Tim Green  
*Inside Out and Back Again* – Thanhha Lai  
*Lucky Luna* - Diana Lopez  
*The Season of Styx Malone* - Kekla Magoon  
*Rain Reign* – Ann Martin  
*11 Birthdays* – Wendy Mass  
*Pax* – Sara Pennypacker  
*My Life as a Book* - Janet Tashjian  
*Justin Case* – Rachel Vail  
*Octopus Moon* - Bobbie Pyron

#### Historical Fiction

*Dear America* series – Various Authors  
*The War that Saved My Life* – Kimberly Brubaker Bradley  
*Chasing Secrets* – Gennifer Choldenko  
*Stella by Starlight* – Sharon M. Draper  
*Some Kind of Courage* – Dan Gemeinhart  
*Full of Beans* - Jennifer L. Holm  
*Wonderstruck* – Brian Selznick  
*I Survived* series – Lauren Tarshis  
*Gone Crazy in Alabama* – Rita Williams-Garcia

#### Adventure and Fantasy

*Spirit Animals* series – Various Authors  
*The Jumbies* - Tracey Baptiste  
*Aru Shah* series - Roshani Chokshi  
*The Magisterium* series - Holly Black and Cassandra Clare  
*NERDS* series – Michael Buckley  
*Fairy Tale Reform School* series - Jen Calonita  
*How to Train Your Dragon* series – Cressida Cowell  
*The Tale of Despereaux* – Kate DiCamillo  
*Unicorn Rescue Society* series - Adam Gidwitz  
*Knights vs.* series - Dan Greenburg  
*The Princess Academy* – Shannon Hale  
*Warrior* series – Erin Hunter  
*A Wrinkle in Time* series – Madeleine L'Engle  
*Whatever After* series - Sarah Mlynowski  
*Wings of Fire* series - Tui. T. Sutherland  
*Nevermoor* series - Jessica Townsend  
*Dragonbreath* series – Ursula Vernon

#### Mystery

*The 39 Clues* - Various Authors  
*Chasing Vermeer* – Blue Balliett  
*The Sisters Grimm* series – Michael Buckley  
*Under the Egg* – Laura Marx Fitzgerald  
*A Tangle of Knots* – Lisa Graff  
*The Missing* series - Margaret Peterson Haddix  
*Nooks & Crannies* – Jessica Lawson  
*Holes* – Louis Sachar  
*A Series of Unfortunate Events* – Lemony Snicket



## Top Picks: Summer Reading 2026

### Classics: New and Old

*The One and Only Ivan* – Katherine Applegate  
*Peter Pan and Wendy* – J.M. Barrie  
*The Girl Who Drank the Moon* – Kelly Barnhill  
*The Secret Garden* – Frances Hodgson Burnett  
*All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* – Leslie Connor  
*Sticks and Stones* – Abby Cooper  
*The BFG* – Roald Dahl  
*Flora and Ulysses* – Kate DiCamillo  
*The Black Stallion* - Walter Farley  
*George* – Alex Gino  
*The Land of Forgotten Girls* – Erin Entrada Kelly  
*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* – Jacqueline Kelly  
*Listen, Slowly* – Thanhha Lai  
*Ella Enchanted* – Gail Carson Levine  
*The Magician's Nephew* – C.S. Lewis  
*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* – Grace Lin  
*The Remarkable Journey of Charlie Price* – Jennifer Maschari  
*Anne of Green Gables* – Lucy Maud Montgomery  
*Bridge to Terabithia* – Katherine Paterson  
*The Red Pencil* – Andrea Davis Pinkney  
*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* – J. K. Rowling  
*Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms* – Katherine Rundell  
*Amal Unbound* - Aisha Saeed  
*The Secret Horses of Briar Hill* – Megan Shepherd  
*Charlotte's Web* - E. B. White

### Nonfiction

*Who Was...?* series - Various Authors  
*Seeing Stars: a Complete Guide to the 88 Constellations* - Sara Gillingham  
*Great Art in 30 Seconds* - Susie Hodge  
*Bones: Skeletons and How They Work* - Steve Jenkins  
*Ken Jennings' Junior Genius Guides* - Ken Jennings  
*The Building Blocks of Science* series - Joseph Midthun  
*We Are the Ship* - Kadir Nelson  
*Tricky Vic: The Impossibly True Story of the Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower* - Greg Pizzoli  
*Bomb* - Steve Sheinkin  
*Some Writer! The Story of E. B. White* - Melissa Sweet  
*I Survived True Stories: Five Epic Disasters* - Lauren Tarshis  
*Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry* - Neil Degrasse Tyson  
*3 Weeks in the Rainforest: A Rapid Inventory in the Amazon* - Jennifer Swanson

# Summer Reading

# BINGO!

Grades 1-2



**B**

**I**

**N**

**G**

**O**

Read with a friend

Read outside

Read to a pet

Read in your pajamas

Read for 60 minutes

Read a nonfiction book

Read to a stuffed animal

Read a mystery book

Read with a flashlight

Read to a family member

Read a fiction book

Read by the pool or ocean

FREE SPACE!



Read your friend's favorite book

Read wearing sunglasses

Read a book about animals

Read out loud

Read at the park

Read in a swimsuit

Read on a beach towel

Read on the couch

Read a fairy tale

Read poetry

Read in bed

Read on a rainy day



# Summer Reading

# BINGO

GRADES 3-5

B

I

N

G

O



<b>Read outside</b>	<b>Read to a family member</b>	<b>Read to a pet</b>	<b>Read a graphic novel</b>	<b>Write a summary of your book</b>
<b>Read for 20 minutes</b>	<b>Read a fiction book</b>	<b>Read at the park</b>	<b>Read with a friend</b>	<b>Read on the couch</b>
<b>Write a book recommendation</b>	<b>Read in bed</b>		<b>Read poetry</b>	<b>Read for 60 minutes</b>
<b>Write a new ending for your book</b>	<b>Read after dinner</b>	<b>Read a nonfiction book</b>	<b>Read a book that is also a movie</b>	<b>Read a mystery book</b>
<b>Read a book recommended by a friend</b>	<b>Read a narrative nonfiction book</b>	<b>Read a biography</b>	<b>Read by the pool or ocean</b>	<b>Read on a rainy day</b>