



Summer Reading Packet Grade 2 to 3

Dear Families, Guardians, and Caregivers,

Summer is a wonderful time to rest and play. It is also an important time to keep your child's reading skills growing!

Research shows that children that read over the summer maintain and strengthen their literacy skills.

Just 15-20 minutes a day can:

- Build vocabulary and language development
- Improve listening and comprehension skills
- Strengthen memory and attention
- Support future reading and academic success

The Bridgeport Public Schools Summer Reading Packet is designed to support your child's continued reading growth through the summer months.

The activities inside this packet:

- Reinforce key foundational skills your child learned in kindergarten
- Provide structured yet flexible practice to prevent summer learning loss
- Encourage daily reading routines and habits that build strong readers
- Offer opportunities for talking, drawing, and thinking about stories
- Help families feel confident supporting literacy at home

How can you support at home:

- Go to your local library and take out some books
- Participate in the [Governor's Summer Learning Challenge](#)
- Read together every day for 15–20 minutes
- Ask questions like: "What do you think will happen next?" "Who is your favorite character?"
- Share favorite parts or draw about stories
- Read anywhere—home, outside, or on the go. Read signs, look for letters in the grocery store, etc.

You do not need to complete everything at once. Small, daily efforts make the biggest impact!

Thank you for being your child's most important reading partner!

The Governor's Summer Learning Challenge

Reading List

Grade 2



To support you as you work toward finishing the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge, the following list of titles has been compiled by the Connecticut State Library.

Every reader has different interests and reads at different levels, so choose a book that's right for you!

If none of the books on the list appeal to you, check the grade above or below. You can also reach out to your public library! They're professionals at guiding readers to find the perfect book!



This project is funded by the State of Connecticut and the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Connecticut State Library.

Descriptions for the books are compiled from Goodreads and Novelist.



Cabin Head and Tree Head

Scott Campbell

Cabin Head and Tree Head are irresistible buddies who have fun together, support one another's ideas and help one another overcome challenges.

Graphic Novel



Don't Eat Eustace

Lian Cho

When Bear, who lives alone in a lighthouse, catches Eustace the fish for lunch, Eustace's pleas may be just enough to change Bear's menu.

Picture Book



Earl & Worm #1

Greg Pizzoli

Neighbors Earl and Worm couldn't be more different. Bird Earl bounces through life. Introverted Worm prefers quiet times at home with a book.

Early Reader



Eyes That Kiss in the Corners

Joanna Ho

A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers but she recognizes her own beauty, self-love, and empowerment.

Picture Book

The Governor's Summer Learning Challenge

Reading List

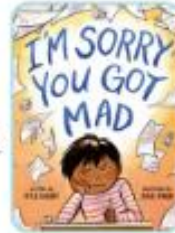
Grade 2



The Fastest Drummer
Dean Robbins

This affectionate portrait of Viola Smith, one of the few female professional drummers of the early 20th century.

Biography



I'm Sorry You Got Mad
Kyle Lukoff

After he hurts his friend Zoe's feelings, Jack discovers there's more to an apology than just saying "I'm sorry."

Picture Book



The Fire-Breathing Duckling
Frank Cammuso

An adopted, fire-breathing and scaly "duckling" tries to find out who he really is.

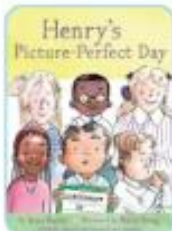
Graphic Novel



Lone Wolf Gets a Pet
Kiah Thomas

Grumpy Wolf wants jellybeans, and it seems that the only way he can get some is to win the local Best Pet Competition, but first he has to find a pet who will cooperate.

Early Reader



Henry's Picture-Perfect Day
Jenn Bailey

It's Picture Day and the teacher says the class will take a perfect picture, but Henry, a sensitive child on the autism spectrum, does not feel perfect.

Chapter Book



Meet the Mini-Mammals
Melissa Stewart

Big mammals like elephants, hippos, and giraffes get a lot of press, but what about the little guys?

Nonfiction



How Sweet the Sound
Kwame Alexander
A celebration of the history of Black music in America features artists including Miles Davis, Kendrick Lamar, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Beyonce and more.

Nonfiction



Mystery Driver
Elizabeth Tracy

Alice is determined to build the fastest car in the boys-only soap box derby. She works with Daddy to build a car with an airplane's nose cone, in a story of engineering and joy of creating one's dreams.

Biography

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Grade 2

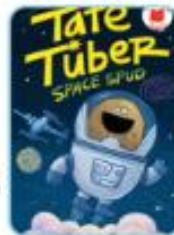


Orris and Timble

Kate DiCamillo

Treasure-hoarding rat Orris might seem like a grumpy loner, but when he meets a trapped owl, he just has to help, leading to an unlikely friendship.

Chapter Book

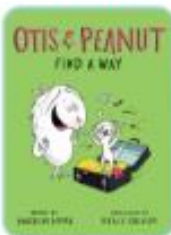


Tate Tuber, Space Spud

Michael Slack

Tate Tuber is a potato who wants to be an astronaut, but when he gets his chance to go on a mission, it is not what he expected

Graphic Novel



Otis & Peanut Find a Way

Naseem Hrab

Together, the iconic long-haired guinea pig and naked mole rat navigate deep truths about life and human nature while letting their friendship shine.

Graphic Novel



The Teeny-Weeny Unicorn

Shawn Harris

Tired of being small in a family of extra-large unicorns, Teeny-Weeny Unicorn runs away from home, but an encounter with an gnome makes him wonder if he's teeny weeny--or just the right size.

Picture Book



Reina Ramos, Neighborhood Helper

Emma Otheguy

Upset because her class lost the food drive competition, Reina remembers just what the competition was all about after spending some time helping her Abuela.

Early Reader



This Is How We Play

With love and adaptation, this is how we play demystifies and respects how people with disabilities and their families use adaptive, imaginative, and considerate play so everyone can join in the fun.

Picture Book



Survival Scout: Tsunami

Maxwell Eaton III

Learn about tsunamis - the causes, recognizing the signs, and evacuation plans.

Graphic Novel

The Governor's Summer Learning Challenge

Reading List

Grade 2

Authors to Enjoy!

J. Dillard
Jacqueline Jules
Jennifer Thermes
Melissa Iwai
Norm Feuti
Saadia Faruqi
Shannon Hale
Susan Hood

Additional Reading Lists

The Charter Oak Book Awards!

Reading BINGO

 Read under	 A history book	 Before bed	 About a movie	 About summer
 Comic	 Animals	 A sports book	 Weekend reading	 In PJ's
 Someone picked	 Blanket fort	FREE SPACE	 30+ minutes	 Read aloud
 After dinner	 Funny book	 Graphic novel	 Beach book	 Library read
 New genre	 Picture book	 Flashlight Read	 Rainy Day	 Read poetry

Color in or cross off each box
as you complete it! Try to fill in the entire Bingo
Card!

Summer Reading Packet Grade 2 to 3

Alphabet

Routine: Say the word for the pictures. Say the letter. Say the sound the letter makes.

Aa  Apple	Bb  Ball	Cc  Cat	Dd  Dog	Ee  Egg	Ff  Fire
Gg  Guitar	Hh  House	Ii  Insect	Jj  Jump rope	Kk  Koala	Ll  Lemon
Mm  Map	Nn  Nest	Oo  Octopus	Pp  Piano	Qq  Queen	Rr  Rose
Ss  Sun	Tt  Turtle	Uu  Umbrella	Vv  Volcano	Ww  Window	Xx  Box
Yy  Yarn	Zz  Zebra				

High Frequency Words from *Wonders*



Grade 2 • High-Frequency Word Cards

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. ball | 47. right | 93. field |
| 2. blue | 48. says | 94. flower |
| 3. both | 49. understands | 95. grow |
| 4. even | 50. work | 96. leaves |
| 5. for | 51. because | 97. light |
| 6. help | 52. cold | 98. orange |
| 7. put | 53. family | 99. ready |
| 8. there | 54. friends | 100. until |
| 9. why | 55. have | 101. about |
| 10. yellow | 56. know | 102. around |
| 11. could | 57. off | 103. good |
| 12. find | 58. picture | 104. great |
| 13. funny | 59. school | 105. idea |
| 14. green | 60. took | 106. often |
| 15. how | 61. change | 107. part |
| 16. little | 62. cheer | 108. second |
| 17. one | 63. fall | 109. two |
| 18. or | 64. five | 110. world |
| 19. see | 65. look | 111. also |
| 20. sounds | 66. open | 112. apart |
| 21. boy | 67. should | 113. begin |
| 22. by | 68. their | 114. either |
| 23. girl | 69. won | 115. hundred |
| 24. he | 70. yes | 116. over |
| 25. here | 71. almost | 117. places |
| 26. she | 72. buy | 118. those |
| 27. small | 73. food | 119. which |
| 28. want | 74. out | 120. without |
| 29. were | 75. pull | 121. better |
| 30. what | 76. saw | 122. group |
| 31. another | 77. sky | 123. long |
| 32. done | 78. straight | 124. more |
| 33. into | 79. under | 125. only |
| 34. move | 80. wash | 126. our |
| 35. now | 81. baby | 127. started |
| 36. show | 82. early | 128. three |
| 37. too | 83. eight | 129. who |
| 38. water | 84. isn't | 130. won't |
| 39. year | 85. learn | 131. after |
| 40. your | 86. seven | 132. before |
| 41. all | 87. start | 133. every |
| 42. any | 88. these | 134. few |
| 43. goes | 89. try | 135. first |
| 44. new | 90. walk | 136. hear |
| 45. number | 91. bird | 137. hurt |
| 46. other | 92. far | 138. old |

Summer Reading Packet Grade 2 to 3

Writing

Use **8-10 High Frequency words** in a short story. You can use another piece of paper.

Prompt ideas: A summer adventure A mystery at the beach A day something surprising happened

Requirements: Underline vocabulary words and include a beginning, middle, end.

I went to the ____.	One day, I was at the beach.	One day, I went ____.
I saw a ____ and a ____.	I saw a ____.	I did not know ____.
It was so ____.	It was not ____.	Then I saw ____!
I like to ____ with my ____.	I said, "What is that?"	I was so ____.
	Then I found ____.	It was a ____ day.

Comprehension: Key Details

Picture This!

Let's read these paragraphs and look for the details. You can circle the picture that shows a detail. Then, tell me how you chose your answer.

1. Maria could not find her basketball. First she looked in the closet. Next she asked her friend Kali. Finally she remembered! She had left it at school!



2. Ahmed and Mark were laughing. They had each put on the other one's jacket. Each boy gave the right jacket to his friend.



3. Callie and Chas helped their father paint the garage. Chas stirred the paint. Their father put up the ladder. Callie began painting the trim.



4. A beaver began to build a dam. He chewed down a small tree. Then he carried branches in his teeth and swam into the stream. Finally, he finished his home.



Comprehension: Compare and Contrast

A Summer Vacation

Read the short story. Think about how the characters and the settings are alike and how they are different. Then let's complete the questions.

Marcus and his family were planning their next summer vacation.

"We went to the mountains last year," said Marcus's dad. "Where should we go this year?"



"To the ocean or to a big river," piped up Malia. "I want to go canoeing and swimming. And I'd love to see a whale."

"I'd rather go west, where we can see deserts and neat rock formations," said her brother Marcus. "I want to take pictures of the sun on the red rock in Utah."

"Well, those all sound like good places to visit," said the children's father. "I'd really like to take a boat trip down the Mississippi River. It has so much history."

"Why don't we go to all three places?" giggled the children.

1. Which character likes history?
2. Which character likes swimming?
3. Which part of the country does Marcus want to visit?
4. Which settings would please both Malia and her father?
5. How are all three characters alike?

Comprehension: Author's Purpose

What's the Purpose?

Let's read each passage and decide the author's purpose in writing it. Then you circle the answer.

1. A newspaper article tells about two French brothers who invented the first hot-air balloon. They knew that hot air was lighter than cool air. Their balloon was made of cloth, and a fire heated the air that filled it. The balloon rose and flew until the air inside the balloon cooled. Then it came back down.



The author's purpose is to _____.

persuade the reader entertain the reader inform the reader

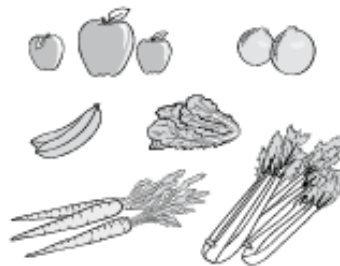
2. A book tells about a man who travels with his dog across the country. Smokey the dog has many adventures with his owner. In one city, the man takes him to a concert. When Smokey hears the singers, he barks and howls to add to the concert. The audience laughs and claps for Smokey.



The author's purpose is to _____.

persuade the reader entertain the reader inform the reader

3. A newspaper editorial talks about an upcoming election. The writer wants people to vote to replace the fatty foods in the local schools. She says the schools should serve more healthful foods, such as fresh fruit and vegetables. She wants people to vote to protect children's health.



The author's purpose is to _____.

persuade the reader entertain the reader inform the reader

Comprehension: Main Topic and Key Details

Match It!

Let's read these short paragraphs with their titles. Then we'll look at the pictures and decide which ones could be details in the stories. Draw a line from each picture to match the details to their stories.

The Cake

Henry wanted to make a cake for his mother's birthday. He asked his older brother to help. They decided that they would make it when she was at work on Saturday morning.



I'd Like a Pet

I want a pet. Any kind will do! I really prefer a puppy or a kitten, but my dad is allergic to dogs and cats. I think I could be happy with a different kind of pet.



My Favorite Season

I like summer the best of all. I enjoy the sunny days and warm weather when we can spend long days at the beach. Sometimes my family and other families eat dinner outdoors.



Comprehension: Sequence

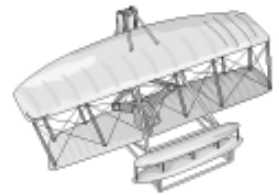
Inventions

Let's read the text below together, which tells when some important things we use every day were invented. Then we'll answer the six questions below.

Our lives are made easier by all kinds of inventions. The paper clip was invented in 1867. In 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first American airplane flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Five years later, Henry Ford's Model T was first put on the market. It was the first automobile that ordinary people could afford to buy. In 1926, Robert Goddard tested the first liquid-fuel rocket. This invention made the space program possible.

A year later, Philo Farnsworth demonstrated the first television. In 1981, IBM introduced the first personal home computer.



1. In which year could ordinary people first afford to buy a car? _____
2. How many years are between the first airplane flight and the first liquid-fuel rocket flight? _____
3. Which invention came first, the airplane or the Model T? _____
4. When was the first television demonstrated? _____
5. Which is the oldest invention? _____
6. In which year was something invented that helps you do your homework? _____

Comprehension: Problem and Solution

The Walkathon

Listen as I read a short story. Think about the problem that is described. Then circle the answers to the questions below. What solution would you suggest?

Keisha and Malik were talking about the walkathon. The sixth-graders at their school were having an event to raise money for a food bank. The money would be given to the food bank to help buy food for people who didn't have enough to eat.

"The weather report says it may be stormy and windy that day," said Malik. He looked worried. "Do you think people will walk in the rain?"

"Maybe, maybe not," said Keisha. "Let's stop here to get some poster board to make signs for the walkathon." The friends walked into the indoor mall, where their families often shopped.

"If we change the date, we'll probably lose some walkers," said Malik. "Keisha, what should we do?"



1. What is the problem in this story?
 - a. Malik worries much more than Keisha does.
 - b. The weather may rain out the walkathon.
 - c. There is no other date to have the walkathon.
2. What solution is possible for this problem?
 - a. Change the date for the event.
 - b. Have the walkathon in the indoor mall if it rains.
 - c. Make signs that say the walkathon is cancelled.