



Elementary School Book Review Committee Recommended Book List for 2007 – 2008

Non-Fiction: Kindergarten to 5th Grade

Bug Out!: The World's Creepiest, Crawliest, Critters by Ginjer Clark

Text and illustrations present many strange facts about bugs.

Marley, a Dog Like No Other by John Grogan. Mr. Grogan shares the story of his golden retriever Marley, and tells of the love his family has for the dog.

Dogs and Cats by Steve Jenkins. Two related works back to back. One about dogs with some comparisons to cats and one about cats with some comparisons to dogs.

Go to Sleep, Gecko! A Balinese Folktale By Margaret R. MacDonald. The gecko who complains to the village chief that the fireflies keep him awake at night but then learns that in nature all things are connected.

Bikes, Boards, and Blades by Tony Norman. Examines the basic training and equipment necessary for BMX bikers, in-line skaters, skateboarders, and snowboarders; and provides information on various jumps, stunts, and safety precautions.

Extreme Machines by Ian Stevens. Examines ten of the most extreme machines ever built including the V-22 Osprey Tiltrotor helicopter developed for the U.S. Marines.

Fiction: First Grade

Baby Bear, Baby Bear What do you see? by Bill Martin. A young bear searching for its mother and meeting many North American animals along the way.

Dog and Bear, Two Friends, Three Stories by Laura V. Seeger. Bear in the chair -- Play with me! Play with me! -- Dog changes his name.

New Socks by Bob Shea. A chicken is filled with excitement and self-confidence when he dons a new pair of orange socks.

Once I ate a Pie by Patricia Lachlan. A collection of fourteen poetic examples of a dog's life from the perspective of the animals.

Aggie and Ben: Three Stories by Lori Ries. After choosing a new dog, Ben describes what the pet Aggie can do and should not do around the house.

Straight to the Pole by Kevin O'Malley. A boy who is struggling through snow to get to school is about to give up but then hears some good news from his friends.

Fiction: Second Grade

Big Smelly Bear by Britta Teckentrup. Big Fluffy Bear insists that Big Smelly Bear visit the pond for a bath before she will scratch the itch he cannot reach

Winston the Book Wolf by Marni McGee. Winston loves to eat books because the words are so delicious, but when he gets trapped in the library by an angry librarian, a little girl named Rosie helps him to escape.

Mr. Pusskins A Love Story by Sam Lloyd. Grumpy Mr. Pusskins hates doing ordinary cat things such as playing with his owner Emily but a night out on the streets in search of adventure makes him reconsider the advantages of a loving home.

Bad Dog Marley! by John Grogan. Marley, a rambunctious puppy, causes lots of trouble in his new home--and feels very sad about it--but then proves beyond a doubt that he is a valuable member of the household.

Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend by Melanie Watt. Scaredy Squirrel chooses not to have any friends because he thinks they bite, until he discovers the true meaning of friendship.

Sebastian's Roller Skates by Joan de Deu Prats. Sebastian is a shy boy, until he finds a pair of roller skates and learns how to do more than skate.

Fiction: Third Grade

Ruby Lu, Empress of Everything by Lenore Look. After Ruby Lu's deaf cousin, Flying Duck, and her parents come from China to live



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with her, Ruby finds life challenging as she adjusts to her new family, tries to mend her rocky relationship with her friend Emma, and faces various adventures in summer school.

The Scallywags by David Melling. The Scallywags, a family of lazy, shiftless, mischief-making wolves, annoy all the other animals to the point where they quit getting invited to eat, play, or join in other activities.

Mars Needs Moms! by Berkeley. When a disgruntled boy sees his mother being kidnapped by Martians, he realizes he loves her and will protect her.

Punished! by David Lubar. Logan and his friend Benedict are playing tag in the library when a mysterious man punishes him for his disrespect by making him speak only in puns.

Tree Ring Circus by Rex Adamn. A cumulative tale, a tree becomes a hiding place for various animals, a runaway circus clown, and even an elephant.

The Magic Rabbit by Annette LeBlanc Cate. Ray the magician, and Bunny, his assistant and best friend, become separated while performing, which leaves Bunny all alone in the big city.

Mind your Manners, B.B. Wolf by Judy Sierra. When B.B. Wolf, who now lives in the Villain Villa Retirement Residence, is invited to the library for a storybook tea, he is careful

to follow the advice of his crocodile friend and impresses everyone with how polite he can be.

Pop's Bridge by Eve Bunting. Robert and his friend Charlie are proud of their fathers, who are working on the construction of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

Fiction: Fourth Grade

Cowboy & Octopus by Jon Scieszka. A cowboy and an octopus learn a thing or two about friendship as they struggle through a knock-knock joke, ugly hats, and a special dinner of beans.

Satch & me: A Baseball Card Adventure by Dan Gutman. With his ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe takes Flip with him to find out whether Satchel Paige really was the fastest pitcher ever.

Trolls United by Alan MacDonald. Mr. Troll and Mr. Priddle bet on which of their sons will make the school soccer team.

Toys Go Out by Emily Jenkins. In the backpack, where it is very dark -- The serious problem of Plastic-ness.

Phineas L. MacGuire Gets Slimed by Frances O'Roark Dowell. When his new best friend, Ben, decides to run for class president, fourth-grade science whiz Phineas reluctantly agrees to be his campaign manager in exchange for help with his latest experiment--cultivating exhibits for a mold museum

Fiction: Fifth Grade

Listen! by Stephanie Tolan. During her solitary convalescence from a crippling accident, twelve-year-old Charley finds a wild dog, and the arduous process of training him leads her to explore her feelings about her mother's death two years earlier

Free Baseball by Sue Corbett. Eleven-year-old Felix becomes a bat boy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney. Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship.

Cuckoo Feathers by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. When two pigeons that Sarah wants as pets move from her Chicago apartment's window ledge to the building next door, Sarah tries to figure out how to get them to come back