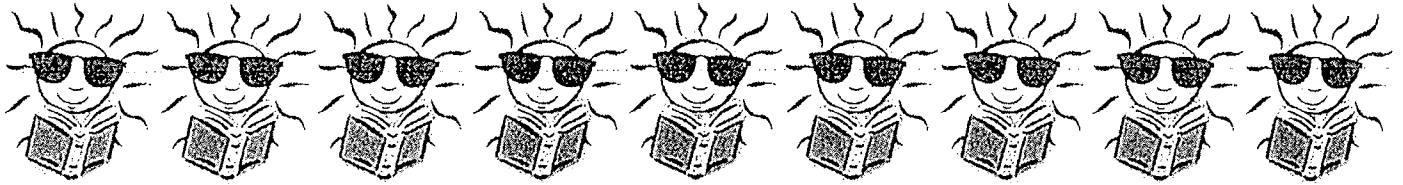


# Beat the Heat!

## Summer Reading Challenge



Summertime is a relaxing break from school routines, BUT that doesn't mean that your mind should take a break! Reading is a fun, calming activity that will help you prepare for your next grade level by stimulating your brain. In fact, did you know that reading for a mere twenty minutes a day means that by the end of summer, you will have read a total of 1,940 minutes? Think how much more ready you will be for your next grade level with 1,940 minutes of thinking under your belt. (Not to mention how impressed your new teacher will be!)

According to researchers at John Hopkins University, students can lose a total of two to three months of reading achievement over summer vacation. Another study out of Harvard found that reading four to five books over the summer can prevent a decline in reading achievement scores from spring to fall. Let's learn from these two studies, and prevent achievement loss by reading some good books over our three month summer!

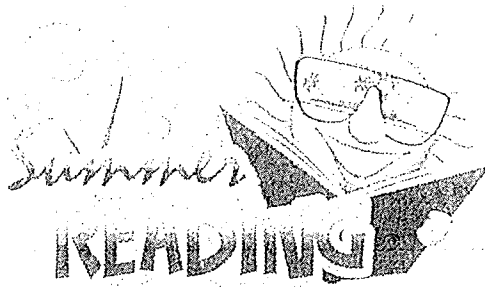
This summer, we are challenging our future 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders to keep a reading log of books completed over the summer. We are also attaching a calendar from "Reading is Fundamental". It includes fun literacy activities to complete during our long three month summer vacation.

Every student is encouraged to turn in the attached reading log to his/her teacher during the first week of school. Any student returning a completed reading log will be invited to participate in a celebration.

We are also attaching a lists of great books for those of you looking for good titles and a genre description list to help those of you trying to expand your repertoire of genre!

Remember, inactive minds can't grow, so read this summer!  
It's fun!





## Resources:

Monarch book list:

<http://www.islma.org/pdf/2016MasterList/2016MonarchAwardMasterList.pdf>

Caudill book list:

[www.rebeccacaudill.org/images/pdf/2016MasterList.pdf](http://www.rebeccacaudill.org/images/pdf/2016MasterList.pdf)

Newbury Award list:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberyhonors/newberymedal>

Caldecott Award list:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecotthonors/caldecottmedal>

Battle of the Books list:

(Visit the Crete Public Library site at: [www.cretelibrary.org](http://www.cretelibrary.org))

(It is NOT the national list)

## Genre Guide:

- Fable – narration demonstrating a useful truth, especially in which animals speak as humans; legendary, supernatural tale
- Fairy tale – story about magical creatures, often including princesses and princes
- Fantasy – fiction with strange or other worldly settings or characters; fiction which invites suspension of reality
- Folklore – the songs, stories, myths, and proverbs of a people or "folk" as handed down by word of mouth
- Graphic Novel – story written in a format similar to comic book writing
- Historical fiction – story with fictional characters and events in a historical setting
- Legend – story, sometimes of a national or folk hero, that has a basis in fact but also includes imaginative material
- Mystery – fiction dealing with the solution of a crime or the unraveling of secrets
- Mythology – legend or traditional narrative, often based in part on historical events, that reveals human behavior and natural phenomena by its symbolism; often pertaining to the actions of the gods
- Poetry – verse and rhythmic writing with imagery that creates emotional responses
- Realistic fiction – story that is true to life
- Science fiction – story based on impact of actual, imagined, or potential science, usually set in the future or on other planets
- Short story – fiction of such brevity that it supports no subplots
- Tall tale – humorous story with blatant exaggerations, swaggering heroes who do the impossible with nonchalance
- Biography/Autobiography - narrative of a person's life. A true story about a real person.
- Narrative nonfiction - factual information presented in a format which tells a story.

# GRADES H-2

**Are We There Yet?**  
by Dan Santat  
Little, Brown, 2016, ISBN:  
9780316199995

On a seemingly endless car trip, hours move so slowly that a boy imagines that time is actually moving backwards, sending him into a past full of pirates, dinosaurs, and adventure.

**Ballet Cat: Dance! Dance! Underpants!**  
by Bob Shea  
Disney-Hyperion, 2016, ISBN:  
9781484713792

Ballet Cat is simply manic for ballet and tries to get her friend Butter Bear to join in the dance.

**Deerly Verse**  
Illustrated by JooHee Yoon  
Enchanted Lion Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9781592701667

Text and art are interwoven to bring to life sixteen animal-related poems in this award-winning book.

**Duck, Duck, Dinosaur**  
by Kallie George  
Illustrated by Oriol Vidal  
HarperCollins, 2016, ISBN:  
97800623553085

Just when the game was getting to be fun, in came trouble—in this twist on the child's game.

**Earmuffs for Everyone!**  
How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs  
by Meghan McCarthy  
Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9781481406376

Learn about the invention of earmuffs by prolific inventor

and successful businessman Chester Greenwood in this humorous picture book.

**S: An Animal Alphabet**  
by Elisha Cooper  
Orchard Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9780545470834

In this counting alphabet book, Cooper delivers a unique gamelike quality to his story as readers learn about animals—both familiar and exotic—in this alphabetically arranged book that contains eight illustrations of each animal on its pages.

**Flowers Are Calling**  
by Rita Gray  
Illustrated by Kenard Pak  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015, ISBN:  
9780544340121

Playful rhyming text alternates with factual callouts that describe flowers and the pollination process. The watercolor illustrations are gorgeous and sure to inspire young naturalists everywhere!

**Freedom in Congo Square**  
by Carole Boston Weatherford  
Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie  
Little Bee Books, 2016, ISBN:  
9781499801033

Because of the unjust system of nineteenth-century Louisiana, the slaves are forced to work all week long, so they look forward to Sunday, when they can gather in New Orleans' Congo Square to dance, sing, and enjoy an afternoon of freedom.

**Gaston**  
by Kelly DiPucchio  
Illustrated by Christian Robinson  
Simon & Schuster/Athenium, 2014, ISBN:  
9781442451025

What does it take for a bulldog to fit in with his proper poodle family? It turns out to be something simple: love.

**Get a Hit, Mo!**  
by David A. Adler  
Illustrated by Sam Ricks  
Penguin, 2016, ISBN:  
9780670016327

Mo is used to stinking out, but when the bases are loaded, he may just finally hit a home run.

**The Grasshopper & the Ants**  
by Jerry Pinkney  
Little, Brown, 2015, ISBN:  
9780316400817

The third in his retellings of Aesop's Fables, Pinkney shows the grasshopper why the ants have worked so hard, and the ants learn the value of sharing.

**Hi, Koo! A Year of Seasons**  
by Jon J. Muth  
Scholastic, 2014, ISBN:  
9780545166683

Koo the panda is back and discovering each season through poetry.

**Ice Cream Summer**  
by Peter Sis  
Scholastic, 2015, ISBN:  
9780545731614

Get the scoop on some fun history, math, new vocabulary, and much more in this entertaining book all about ice cream.

**I Don't Want to Be a Frog**  
by Dev Petty  
Illustrated by Mike Boldt  
Doubleday Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9780385378666

A frog imagines what it would be like to be a rabbit, a cat, and other animals in this silly story.

**I Got the Rhythm**  
by Connie Schofield-Morrison  
Illustrated by Frank Morrison  
Bloomsbury, 2014, ISBN:  
9781619631786

A neighborhood walk becomes so much more as a little girl explores the music and sound of everyday urban life.

**Lenny & Lucy**  
by Philip C. Stead  
Illustrated by Erin E. Stead  
Roaring Brook Press, 2015, ISBN:  
9781596439320

Peter uses his imagination and pillows to create Lenny, the Guardian of the Bridge, and realizes that something is missing—a friend for Lenny.

**My New Friend Is So Fun!**  
by Mo Willems  
Disney-Hyperion, 2014, ISBN:  
9781423179580

Will a new friend break apart Piggie and Gerald's friendship?

**The Night Gardener**  
by Terry Fan and Eric Fan  
Simon & Schuster, 2016, ISBN:  
9781481439787

William and an elderly gardener help transform their town by creating anonymous topiary artwork.

**iOlinguito, de la A a la Z!**  
Descubriendo el bosque nublado / iOlinguito, from A to Z! Unveiling the Cloud Forest  
by Lulu Delacre  
Children's Book Press, 2016, ISBN:  
9780892393275

Explore the cloud forest of the Andes in Ecuador in this bilingual alphabetical book in verse.

**Power Down, Little Robot**  
by Anna Staniszewski  
Illustrated by Tim Zeltner  
Henry Holt, 2015, ISBN:  
9781627791250

This little robot has no plans to go to bed!

**Sam and Dave Dig a Hole**  
by Mac Barnett  
Illustrated by Jon Klassen  
Candlewick Press, 2014, ISBN:  
9780763662295

Sam and Dave do not find what they expect when they dig a hole, but they still end up having a pretty good day.

**Strictly No Elephants**  
by Lisa Mantchev  
Illustrated by Taeun Yoo  
Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2015, ISBN:  
9781481416474

Pets—and friends—come in all shapes and sizes.

**Surf's Up**  
by Kwame Alexander  
Illustrated by Daniel Miyares  
NorthSouth Books, 2016, ISBN:  
9780735942205

Frog friends Bro and Dude hilariously debate whether surfing or reading is a better way to spend a day at the beach.

**Ten Rules of Being a Superhero**  
by Deb Pilutti  
Henry Holt, 2014, ISBN:  
9780805097597

Anyone can be a superhero as long as they follow these ten important rules!

**Treat**  
by Mary Sullivan  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016, ISBN:  
9780544472709

Learn the many things this dog does in order to get a treat to eat in this light tale filled with humor.

