

Summer Reading

June 2020

Dear Families,

It is that time again when we start thinking about the wonderful summer ahead and planning how to spend our time during those hot sunny days. It is our hope that our children will want to curl up with their favorite book or magazine or explore other options for books to read. Attached is a list of suggested book titles. (This list is also available on the Springhurst website.) We hope you will find this list helpful when visiting the public library or local bookstore. Please remember that these books are suggestions and are not required reading.

Our readers have strong opinions about themselves as readers. Some will say, "I like reading fantasy" or "I like to read a whole series in order", or "I am more of a nonfiction reader". We hope that these lists will offer plenty of opportunities for your child to find the right books for themselves this summer. There is a book out there for everyone, for sure! Please note that the books on the list represent a range of difficulty levels. The children know what a "just right" book is for them and should be able to choose a book that they will be able to read comfortably.

Springhurst School also has a subscription to a fun, reading program that you and your child can access from home this summer anywhere there is an internet connection. Scholastic BookFlix is an online literacy resource that pairs classic video storybooks with related non-fiction eBooks from Scholastic. This interactive resource also includes Spanish versions for many of their paired texts, a read aloud component in which children can hear a narrated story and definitions of key words, and educational games and activities. To access our school's subscription, follow these easy instructions:

- Go to: <http://auth.grolier.com/login/bookflix/login.php>
- User Name: springsch
- Password: bookflix

If your child had a RAZ Kids account throughout the year, they will still have access to it through the summer. Also, CommonLit.org is running a summer reading challenge for children in grades 3-12. Click on the link (<https://blog.commonlit.org/sign-up-your-child-for-commonlits-free-summer-reading-challenge-bbe5440a07d7>) and you will find all of the information needed to participate in this challenge.

As part of *Summer reading at New York Libraries* (<http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>), the State Education Department has a site with many resources families can utilize.

We hope that you have a fun-filled, story-filled summer!

Happy Reading!

Ms. Allison Fabrizio
Springhurst Librarian

Mrs. Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek
K - 8 Literacy Coordinator

2020 Summer Reading Suggestions
Entering 3rd and 4th Grade

Sarai and the Meaning of Awesome by Sarai Gonzalez and Monica Brown

Fourth grader Sarai Gonzalez can do anything. She can bake, dance, and run her own cupcake business. But when Sarai's grandparents are forced to move, even Sarai is not sure what to do. So she hatches a super-awesome plan with her younger sisters and cousin to buy back the house.

The Roots of Rap: 16 Bars on the 4 Pillars of Hip-Hop by Carole Boston Weatherford

The roots of rap and the history of hip-hop have origins that precede DJ Kool Herc and Grandmaster Flash. Learn about how it evolved from folktales, spirituals, and poetry, to the showmanship of James Brown, to the culture of graffiti art and break dancing that formed around the art form and gave birth to the musical artists we know today.

Cog by Greg Van Eekhout

Cog looks like a normal 12-year-old boy. But his name is short for “cognitive development”, and he was built to learn. But after an accident leaves him damaged, Cog wakes up in an unknown lab.

A Piglet Named Mercy by Kate DiCamillo

Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson live ordinary lives. Sometimes, their lives feel a bit too ordinary. Sometimes, they wish something different would happen. And one day, it does, when someone unpredictable finds her way to their front door.

The Phone Booth in Mr. Hirota's Garden by Heather Smith

When the tsunami destroyed Makio's village, Makio lost his father . . . and his voice. The entire village is silenced by grief, and the young child's anger at the ocean grows. Then one day his neighbor, Mr. Hirota, begins a mysterious project—building a phone booth in his garden.

You Are Home: An Ode to the National Parks by Evan Turk

A visual journey through 25 national parks. This collection of poetry reminds us that every animal, plant, and person helps make this land a brilliant, beautiful sanctuary of life.

Pie in the Sky by Remy Lai

When Jingwen moves to a new country, he feels like he's landed on Mars. To distract himself from the loneliness, Jingwen daydreams about making all the cakes on the menu of Pie in the Sky, the bakery his father had planned to open before he unexpectedly passed away.

Good Dog, McTavish by Meg Rosoff

McTavish is a rescue dog who, true to his mission, is ready to teach this family some new tricks. Getting the Peachey family to behave will take work, but if anyone can do it, McTavish can. After all, he's a very good dog.