

Elysian Charter School  
Summer Reading List  
Kindergarten - 3rd Grade

Some books to read aloud:

*Abiyoyo*, by Pete Seeger

A father and his son sing down a slovenly giant.

*Buster Goes to Cowboy Camp*, by Denise Fleming. After a week at Cowboy Camp for Dogs, Buster's homesickness evaporates.

*Charlie Parker Played Be Bop* by Chris Raschka

Sing and swing with a great jazz saxophonist.

*Juan Bobo* by Carmen Bernier-Grand

A little boy has funny adventures in four folktales from Puerto Rico.

*The Drinking Gourd* by F. N. Monjo

Tommy discovers that his house is a station on the Underground Railroad.

*Down in the Subway* by Miriam Cohen

Enjoy an underground adventure.

*Goose and Duck*, by Jean Craighead George. Goose imprints on the boy who finds his egg; Duck imprints on Goose; both follow boy around until they figure out who they are.

*Kitten for a Day* by Ezra Jack Keats

A puppy and kittens play together.

*Abuela* by Arthur Dorros

A little girl and her grandma enjoy a special view of New York City.

*The Gardener* by Sarah Stewart

Lydia Grace plants a rooftop garden. This is one of my favorite picture books.

*How to Heal a Broken Wing*, by Bob Graham. An injured pigeon on a busy city street.

*Lon Po Po: A Red Riding Hood Story from China* by Ed Young

Three sisters outsmart a hungry wolf.

*Next Stop Grand Central* by Maira Kalman

*Grandfather's Journey*, by Alan Say

*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka

*Papa and Me*, by Arthur Dorros. A father and son spend a special day together in the city.

*Rosie & Michael* by Judith Viorst

*Uncle Jed's Barbershop* by Margaret King Mitchell

Sarah Jean's uncle finally achieves his dream in the segregated South.

*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett

The tale of the town of Chewandswallow, where meals fall from the sky.

*Just Us Women* by Jeannette Caines

A girl and her aunt share a convivial road trip to North Carolina.

*Strega Nona* by Tomi DePaola

Just one book by this wonderful and prolific author.

*Chester's Way* by Kevin Henkes

Just one book by another wonderful author.

*Angelina Ballerina* by Katharine Holabird

Angelina is a mouse child who loves to dance. A series.

*The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats

Perfect for a hot summer day! One book by this great author.

*Swimmy* by Lio Lionni

A school of fish find a way to work together to evade their predators. Great author.

*Thundercake* by Patricia Polacco

While gathering ingredients for her grandmother's "thundercake" a young girl overcomes her fear of storms. A wonderful author.

***Beginning Reader Books. One book from each series is recommended, just to get you started!***

Step Into Reading, Level One Books (Random House)

*Sir Small and the Dragonfly*

Hello Reader! Level One (Scholastic)

*The Classroom Pet*

Bank Street Ready-to-Read, Level One

*My First Day at Camp*

Get Ready, Get Set, Read, Set One (Barron's)

*The Bug Club*

An I Can Read Book, Level One (Harper Trophy)

*The Horse in Harry's Room*, by Syd Hoff

Dorling Kindersley Readers, Level One, Beginning to Read

*a Day in the Life of a Firefighter*

***Beginning Chapter Books - great for new readers.***

*The Fire Cat*, by Esther Averill

*Abigail Takes the Wheel*, by Avi

*Fox Be Nimble* by James Marshall  
One of a series of books about Fox.

*Mr. Putter and Tabby Paint the Porch* by Cynthia Rylant  
One of a series by the author of *Henry and Mudge* and the *Poppleton* books.

*Nate the Great* books by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat  
A series of mysteries.

*Days with Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel  
A short series.

*Cam Jansen* by David Adler  
A series about a girl detective.

*Danny and the Dinosaur* by Syd Hoff

*Little Bear* by Else Minarik

*Meet M&M* by Pat Ross  
A series.

*Tales of Oliver Pig* by Jean Van Leeuwen  
A series.

*Pinky and Rex* by James Howe  
A short series.

*Poppleton*, by Cynthia Rylant. A short series.

### ***Chapter Books :***

*Pirate's Promise* by Clyde Bulla.

Against his will, a young boy is separated from his sister and sold as a bonded servant, but the good-hearted pirate captain who rescues him makes possible a happier future.

*Me Tarzan* by Betsy Byars

Dorothy successfully auditions for the part of Tarzan in the class play, but her jungle yell has unexpected results.

*Annabel the Actress Starring in Just a Little Extra* by Ellen Conford

A spunky aspiring actress pushes her way into an "extra" role in a movie being filmed locally.

*Busybody Nora* by Johanna Hurwitz

Nora wants to get to know all 200 people living in her New York apartment building.

*Jenius: The Amazing Guinea Pig* by Dick King-Smith

Judy's pet guinea is so brilliant that he can play dead, but during show and share, she discovers he might not always perform in front of an audience. (Check out the other fun books by this author.)

*Horrible Harry and the Ant Invasion* by Suzy Kline

Harry becomes the class ant monitor when Mrs. Mackle gets an ant farm, but temporarily loses his position when he is bitten while locating a couple of escaping ants. A series.

*The Dragonling* by Jackie French Koller

Derek longs to go on a dragon quest, but when he finds a baby dragon, he cannot help wanting to rescue it.

*The Littles* by John Peterson

A very small family lives in the Bigg's house. A series.

*Dragon's Fat Cat* by Dav Pilkey

Dragon finds a fat cat in the snow outside his house, brings it inside, and soon has a family. (This is the author of *Captain Underpants*... he's a very funny writer.)

*Marvin Redpost: Kidnapped at Birth* by Louis Sachar

A funny, easy-to-read chapter book about a third-grade boy who is convinced that he was kidnapped at birth and is really the Lost Prince of Shampoo.

*Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith

Henry eats so much chocolate that he makes medical history with the very first case of Chocolate Fever.

*Lou Gehrig: The Luckiest Man* by David A. Adler  
Discover the life of the great Yankee.

*The House With a Clock in its Walls* by John Bellairs  
A boy and his uncle, who is a wizard, search their old house for a clock hidden in the walls. Part of a short series. The author has written other series of scary books.

*Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library* by Eth Clifford  
During a blizzard, two girls spend an intriguing night trapped inside a public library.

*Felicia the Critic* by Ellen Conford  
Felicia is so determined to be truthful that she doesn't realize her criticism is annoying the people around her. Other popular books by this author include *The Luck of Pokey bloom*, *Dreams of Victory*, and *Hail, Hail Camp Timberwood*.

**Some popular series to try:**

*The Secrets of Droon* by Abbott

*Arthur Chapter Books* by Brown

*The Stories Julian Tells* by Cameron

*The Bailey School Kids* by Dadey

*Bullseye Step Into Classics*, various authors

*The Zack Files* by Greenburg

*A to Z Mysteries* by Roy

*Magic Tree House* by Osborne

*Werewolf Club Series* by Pinkwater

*The Ink Drinkers* by Sanvoisin

*The Time Warp Trio* by Scieszka

*Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective*, by Sobol

*The Boxcar Children* by Warner

*American Girl Collection*

*Ivy and Bean*, by Annie Barrows.

***Poetry & Word Play***

*Go Hang a Salami I'm a Lasagna Hog* by Agee  
Lots of funny palindromes.

*You Read To Me I'll Read To You*, Ciardi

*Nathaniel's Talking* by Clifton

Composed in a variety of styles - rap, blues, free verse - these 18 poems offer nine-year-old Nathaniel's thoughts about himself, his family and friends.

*From Sea to Shining Sea: A Treasury of American Folklore and Folk Songs*, Cohn

*Anna Banana's 101 Jump Rope Rhymes*, Cole

*Arroz con Leche*, Delacre

A collection of Traditional Latin American songs and rhymes, in Spanish and English, with the music included.

*Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices*, Fleischman

*Souls Looks Back in Wonder*, Feelings

Artwork and poems by Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes, Askia Toure and others portray the creativity and strength of their African American heritage.

*The Sun is So Quiet*, Giovanni

Poems primarily about nature and the seasons but also about chocolate and scary movies.

*The Llama Who Had No Pajama 100 Favorite Poems*, Hoberman

*A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems*, Janeczko

*Knock at a Star: A Child's Introduction to Poetry*, Kennedy

*Pizza the Size of the Sun*, Prelutsky  
(or any other book by this author!)

*Where the Sidewalk Ends*, Silverstein  
(or any other book by *this* author!)

*If I Were in Charge of the World and Other Worries: Poems for Children and their Parents*, Viorst

