



The Keystone State Literacy Association has proclaimed April as

Families and Reading Month



"Children develop a love of stories and poems when they read or are read to on a regular basis. These experiences enrich and expand their world and encourage imagination."

Debbie Urso
Keystone State Literacy Association
Families and Reading Chair

A special message to our families



March 2021

Dear Families,

Let's read!

Children develop a love of stories and poems when they read or are read to on a regular basis. These experiences enrich and expand their world and encourage imagination. At the same time, you will be building family memories to last a lifetime.

With this in mind, the Keystone State Literacy Association (KSLA) – which is committed to developing a love of reading in all children across Pennsylvania, – is proclaiming the month of April as Families and Reading Month. Throughout the month, families all across the state will be sharing the joys of reading at home. We hope you will join in the fun by reading with your child each day in April.

Throughout Families and Reading Month, we encourage families to engage in reading or reading activities for 15 minutes each day during the month of April. Attached you will find a calendar of ideas and activities to promote reading. The activities are suggestions that can also be incorporated into a reading schedule throughout the year.

As a thank-you for your support and encouragement, we ask, at the end of April, that you sign the attached calendar and return it to your child's teacher. In return, you and your child will receive a Certificate of Achievement.

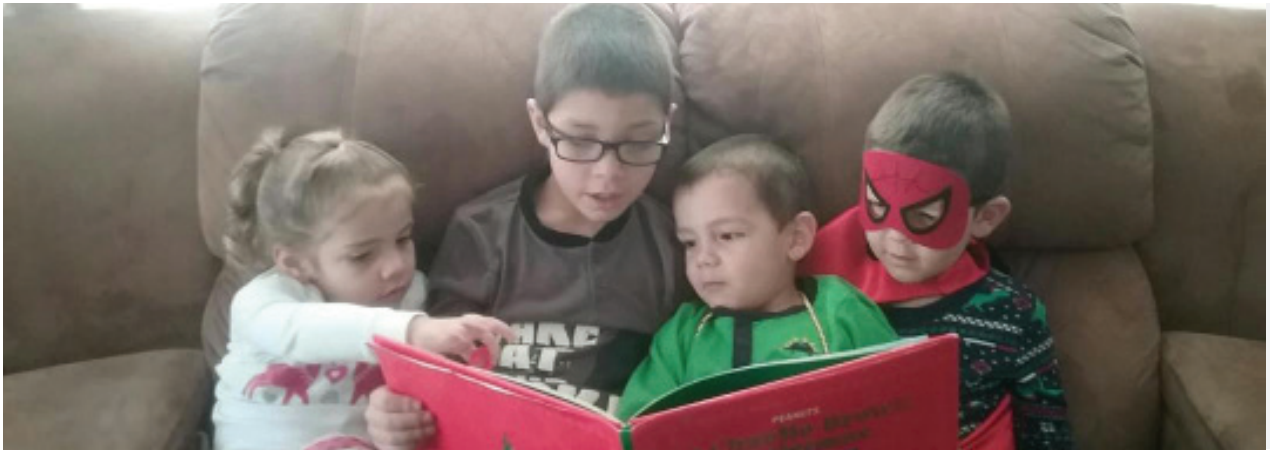
We hope you will take time to create some special memories during April. Now, *let's read!*
Sincerely,

Debbie Urso

Debbie Urso
KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair



A special message to our families



Marzo 2021

Queridas Familias,

¡Vamos a leer!

Los niños desarrollan un amor a los cuentos y poemas cuando leen o les leen regularmente. Estas experiencias enriquecen y amplía su mundo y fomentan la imaginación. Al mismo tiempo, se le construyen recuerdos familiares que durarán toda la vida.

Con esto en mente, La Asociación Estatal de Lectura Keystone de Pensilvania (KSLA)- que se compromete a desarrollar un amor por la lectura en los niños a través de Pensilvania - proclama el mes de abril como el Mes de las Familias y la Lectura. Durante todo el mes, las familias en todo el estado va a compartir las alegrías de la lectura en casa. Esperamos que se unan a la diversión de la lectura con su hijo(a) todos los días en abril.

Por medio de las familias y Mes de Lectura, animamos a las familias a participar en la lectura o las actividades de lectura por 15 minutos cada día durante el mes de abril. Adjunto encontrará un calendario de ideas y actividades para promover la lectura. Las actividades son sugerencias de que también se pueden incorporarse en un horario de lectura durante todo el año.

Como agradecimiento por su apoyo y ánimo, nos le pedimos que a finales de abril firme el calendario adjunto y devolverlo al profesor(a) de su hijo(a). A cambio, usted y su hijo(a) recibirán un Certificado de Aprovechamiento.

Nosotros esperamos que usted crea memorias especiales durante el mes de abril. *¡Ahora vamos a leer!*

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Debbie Urso".

Debbie Urso
KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair



Reading Aloud to your Children

Reading aloud is a gift you can give to your children from the day they are born until the time they leave the nest. Children's reading experts agree that reading aloud offers the easiest and most effective way to help children become lifelong readers. It will be as much fun for you as it is for your children.

A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them. To spark this desire in your children, you may want to try some of these suggestions offered by Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a national nonprofit organization that inspires youngsters to read.

- Set aside a special time each day to read aloud to your children. Fifteen minutes a day is an ideal time.
- Vary your selections. For very young children, look for picture books with illustrations or photographs and print that is simple and clear. Once your child enters elementary school, consider picture books, magazines, and even chapter books.
- Read slowly and with expression. The more you ham it up, the more your children will love it. Try substituting your child's name for a character in the story.
- Have your children sit where they can see the book clearly, especially if it is a picture book or magazine.
- Allow time for your children to settle into the story, as well as time afterwards to talk about it.
- As you read aloud, encourage your children to get in on the act. Invite them to describe pictures, read bits of text, or predict what will happen next. It is even fun to dramatize the roles in the story or read lines of dialogue.
- Children like a sense of completion, so finish what you begin. If the book is too lengthy to finish in one sitting find an appropriate stopping point, such as the end of a chapter, and visit it later in the day or the next day.
- Continue to read aloud to your children even after they begin school and are independent readers. There is no age limit to reading to your children.
- Older children may enjoy reading aloud to a younger sibling. They often like to revisit some of their old favorites.



Fun Fact: A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them.

Leyendo en Voz Alta a sus Niños

Leer en voz alta es un regalo que le puede dar a sus hijos desde el día que nacen hasta que dejan el nido. Los expertos en la lectura de los niños están de acuerdo que leer en voz alta ofrece la manera más fácil y efectiva de ayudar a los niños a convertirse en lectores de por vida. Será tan divertido para usted, así como para sus niños.

Un niño cuyo día incluye escuchar historias animadas es más probable que crezca amando los libros y queriendo leerlos. Para despertar este deseo en sus hijos, es posible que desee probar algunas de estas sugerencias que ofrece Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) (Leer Es Fundamental), una organización sin fines de lucro que inspira a los jóvenes a leer.

- Reserve un tiempo especial cada día para leer en voz alta a sus hijos. Quince minutos al día es un tiempo ideal.
- Varíe sus selecciones. Para los niños muy pequeños, busque libros con ilustraciones o fotografías, y que la letra sea simple y clara. Una vez que su niño ingrese a la escuela elemental, considere libros con dibujos, revistas, y hasta libros de capítulos.
- Lea lentamente y con expresión. Mientras más lo exagere, más les gustará a sus niños. Trate de sustituir el nombre de su hijo por el de un personaje de la historia.
- Haga que sus niños se sienten en un lugar donde puedan ver el libro claramente, especialmente si es un libro con dibujos o revistas.
- Dele tiempo a sus niños para que se adapten a la historia, así como tiempo después de la historia para hablar de ella.
- Mientras lee en voz alta, anime a sus niños a participar. Invítelos a describir las imágenes, leer fragmentos del texto, o predecir lo que pasará después. Es hasta divertido dramatizar los roles en la historia o leer líneas del diálogo.
- A los niños les gusta un sentido de finalización, entonces termine lo que empezó. Si el libro es demasiado largo para terminarlo en una sola vez, busque un punto apropiado para parar, así como el final de un capítulo, y visítelo más tarde en el día, o al día siguiente.
- Continúe leyendo en voz alta a sus niños incluso hasta después de empezar la escuela y sean lectores independientes. No hay límite de edad para leer a sus niños.
- Los niños mayores pueden disfrutar de leer en voz alta a su hermano menor. A menudo les gusta revisar sus libros viejos favoritos.



Dato curioso: es más probable que un niño cuyo día incluya escuchar historias animadas crezca amando los libros y queriendo leerlos.

Tips for Selecting & Using Literature With Children



With so many books to choose from, how do you select the right ones for your child? How do you know if your child is enjoying or understanding what you're reading together? May you find these suggestions useful as you discover the wonderful world of books with your family!

- Select books that appeal to your child's interest.
- Take your child to the local public library. If he/she doesn't already have a library card, get him/her one. Browse the bookshelves and borrow some new titles that you can read together.
- Talk to your child about what you are reading together.
 - Ask questions about what is happening and why.
 - Encourage him to ask questions to clarify what is happening or wonder about something that isn't clear.
 - Ask questions that begin with why or how to promote deep thinking.
- Use the Internet to research answers to unanswered questions or to extend learning about a certain topic from a book.
- Help your child summarize a story using these questions:
 - Who or what is the story about?
 - When or where does the story take place?
 - What happens first?
 - What happens next?
 - How does the story end?
 - What lesson did the character learn?
- Read books aloud to your child on a regular basis. No matter your child's age, reading aloud to him/her is a great bonding experience.
- Use the five-finger rule to help your child select books appropriate for his/her independent reading level. Encourage your child to choose a book that looks interesting, open it to any page, and read. Each time your child comes to an unknown word, a finger is raised. Five unknown words on a page indicate that the book is too difficult for independent reading. Save the book for him/her to read at a later time or read it to your child.
- Provide opportunities for shared reading. In a shared reading, you take turns reading aloud with your child. This could be taking turns reading a page or a paragraph.
- Invite your child to read a favorite book to a younger sibling, friend, or even a family pet.
- Record your child reading a favorite book or part of a book. Email the video to a relative or friend.
- Invite your child to draw a picture illustrating a favorite scene or character from a book. Encourage your child to write a descriptive paragraph about the scene or character. Ask your child to read it to you.
- Encourage your child to create an advertisement for a favorite book or create a skit about it.
-

Consejos para Seleccionar y Usar Literatura con Niños



Con tantos libros que se puede elegir, ¿cómo seleccionas los adecuados para tu niño? ¿Cómo sabes si tu niño está disfrutando o entendiendo lo que están leyendo juntos? ¡Ojalá encuentre útiles estas sugerencias a medida que descubre el maravilloso mundo de los libros con su familia!

- Seleccione libros que atraigan el interés de su niño.
- Lleve a su niño a la biblioteca pública local. Si él o ella no tiene todavía una tarjeta de la biblioteca, consíganle una. Busque en las estanterías y pida prestados algunos títulos nuevos que puedan leer juntos.
- Hable con su niño acerca de lo que están leyendo juntos.
- Haga preguntas acerca de lo que está pasando y por qué.
- MotíVELO a que haga preguntas para clarificar lo que está pasando o cuestione algo que no está claro.
- Haga preguntas que empiecen con por qué o cómo para promover el pensamiento profundo.
- Utilice el internet para buscar respuestas a preguntas sin respuesta o para ampliar el aprendizaje acerca de un tema determinado de un libro.
- Ayude a su niño a resumir la historia utilizando las siguientes preguntas:
 - ¿De quién o de qué se trata la historia?
 - ¿Cuándo o dónde se desarrolla la historia ?
 - ¿Qué pasa primero?
 - ¿Qué pasa después?
 - ¿Cómo termina la historia?
 - ¿Qué lección aprendió el personaje?
- Lea libros en voz alta regularmente. No importa la edad de su niño, leer libros en voz alta es una gran experiencia de unión.
- Utilice la regla de los cinco-dedos para ayudar a su niño a seleccionar libros para su nivel de lectura independiente. Motive a su niño a elegir un libro que se vea interesante, ábralo en cualquier página y léalo. Cada vez que su niño se encuentre con una palabra desconocida, se levanta un dedo. Cinco palabras desconocidas en una página indica que el libro es muy difícil para la lectura independiente. Guarde el libro para que él o ella lo lea después, o para que usted se lo lea.
- Brinde oportunidades para la lectura compartida. En la lectura compartida, se turnan con su niño para leer en voz alta. Esto podría ser turnarse leyendo una página o un párrafo.
- Invite a su niño a leer su libro favorito a un hermano menor, amigo, o incluso a la mascota de la familia.
- Grave a su niño leyendo su libro favorito o parte de un libro. Mande por correo el video a un familiar o amigo.
- Invite a su niño a dibujar ilustrando su escena o personaje favorito de un libro.
- Anime a su niño a escribir un párrafo describiendo la escena o personaje. Pídale a su niño que se lo lea a usted.
- Anime a su niño a crear un anuncio o una parodia de su libro favorito.

Families and Reading Month

Intermediate Grades

April 2021



***Ensure your child completes the suggested activity or reads for 20 minutes each day. Initial the box for that day. If you skip a day, read for 40 minutes the next day and initial both boxes. At the end of the month, sign the calendar and return it to your child's teacher. Activities listed are not required for the Certificate of Achievement.**



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
Child's Name & Grade		Parent's Name		Visit the library. Explore a new topic to learn about and read together.	Play a word game such as Scrabble, Password, or Boggle with your child.	Have your child write a letter or email to a friend or relative. Be sure to mail it!
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Visit a historical landmark in your area. Write about the experience.	Read several books by the same author. Discuss similarities and differences.	Explore a new magazine with your child.	Give your child written directions to find a hidden object.	Ask your child to list things that a person can do now that couldn't be done 100 years ago.	Look at an atlas together to find all the places your family has visited.	Write a message to your child. Encourage your child to write back.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Have a scavenger hunt.	Create a poster or poem about spring with your child.	Have your child make a list of ways to save electricity in the home.	Complete a crossword puzzle or Sudoku with your child.	Cut off the last frame of a cartoon strip. Ask your child what will happen next.	Have your child use a map to plan an imaginary trip. Find the shortest route.	Help your child create a collage that represents what he/she likes to do.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Help your child start a collection of something natural like leaves or flowers. Find a book about them.	Help your child write captions for family photos.	Write tongue twisters together.	Have fun reading and writing with your child.	Play 20 questions with your child. Pick an object and see if he can guess your object asking only yes or no questions.	Watch a science program together on TV. Discuss what was learned and interesting.	Begin to keep a journal. Encourage your child to write in it everyday.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Let your child plan a meal. Look for sales and coupons and go grocery shopping together.	Have your child tell how two holidays are alike and different.	Find a cozy place to read a book together. Have your child retell a chapter or two.	Look at the weather map. Compare your weather with other regions.	Ask your child to notice ten details about his/her route to school.	Read directions for a project with your child. Create the project together.	

Prepared by the Families and Reading Committee of the Keystone State Literacy Association

MES DE FAMILIAS Y LECTURA

Grados Intermedios

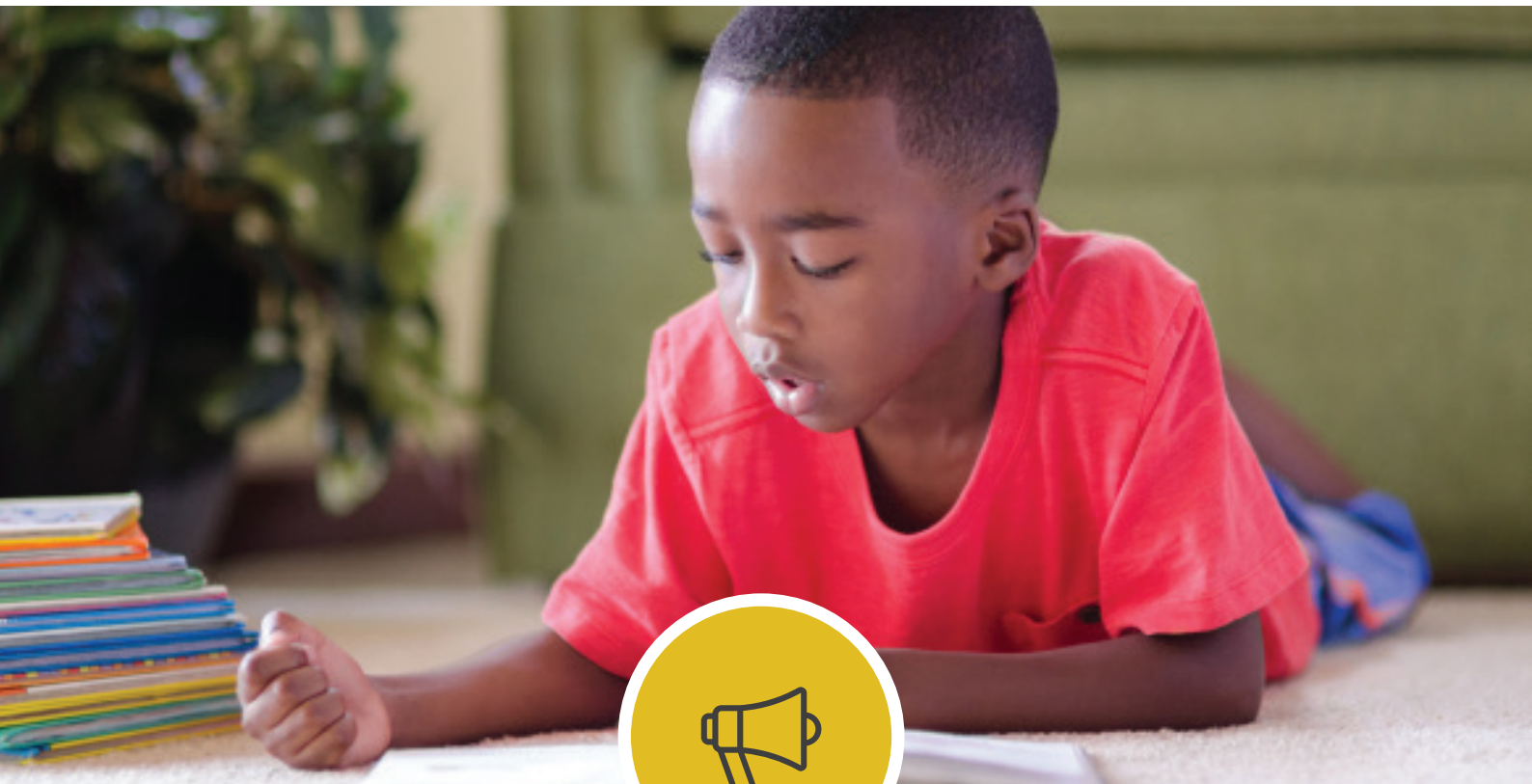
Abril 2021

* Asegúrese de que su hijo termine la actividad sugerida o lee durante 20 minutos cada día. Inicial de la caja para ese día. Si se olvida de un día, leer durante 40 minutos al día siguiente y sus iniciales en ambos cuadros. Al final del mes, el calendario firma y regresar a la maestra de su hijo. Actividades enumeradas no son necesarios para el Certificado de Logro.



domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sabado
				1	2	3
Nombre del Estudiante & Grado		Nombre del Padre		Visite la biblioteca. Explora un nuevo tema para conocer y leer juntos.	Juegue un juego de palabras como Scrabble, Password, o Boggle con su niño.	Haga que su niño(a) escriba una nota a un amigo o miembro de la familia. ¡Esté seguro de enviarlo!
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Visite un lugar histórico en su área. Escribe acerca de la experiencia.	Lean varios libros por el mismo autor. Hablen de las similares y las diferencias.	Explora una nueva revista con su hijo.	Déle a su niño(a) direcciones escritas donde encontrar un objeto escondido.	Pida que su niño(a) liste las cosas que una persona puede hacer ahora que no se podría hacer hace 100 años.	Mire un atlas para encontrar juntos todos los lugares que su familia ha visitado.	Escribir un mensaje a su hijo. Anime a su hijo a escribir de nuevo.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Tener una búsqueda del tesoro.	Crear un cartel o un poema sobre la primavera con su hijo.	Haga que a su niño(a) liste maneras de economizar electricidad en el hogar.	Completar un crucigrama o Sudoku con su hijo.	Corte el último marco de un dibujo cómico. Pídale a su niño(a) que le diga lo que va pasar.	Deje que a su niño(a) utilice un mapa para planear un viaje imaginario. Busquen la ruta más corta.	Ayude a su niño(a) crea un dibujo que representa lo que a él/ella le gusta hacer.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Ayúdele a su niño(a) empezar una colección de algo natural como hojas o flores. Busquen un libro acerca de ellos.	Ayude a su niño(a) escribir títulos para fotos de la familia.	Escribe trabalenguas juntos.	Diviértete lectura y la escritura con su hijo .	Juega 20 preguntas con su hijo. Elige un objeto y ver si puede adivinar el objeto que pide sólo preguntas "sí o no."	Ver un programa de ciencia en televisión juntos. Discuta lo aprendido e interesante.	Comience a mantener un diario. Motive a su niño(a) a escribir en el diario.
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Deje que su niño planee una comida. Busque las ofertas y cupones e ir de compras juntos.	Pídale a su niño(a) que le diga cómo dos días festivos son iguales y diferentes.	Encuentren un lugar cómodo y lean unos libros juntos. Deje que a su niño(a) le cuente de nuevo un capítulo o dos.	Miren el mapa de clima en el periódico. Compare su clima con otras regiones.	Pídale a su hijo a notar diez detalles de su / su camino a la escuela.	Lea las direcciones para un proyecto con su niño(a). Crean los proyectos juntos.	

Special **thanks**



Many people have contributed to the Families & Reading resources. Their book recommendations and suggestions for improvement of the materials were invaluable.

- Susan Berrier, Chambersburg Area School District
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Also, thank you to all of the families who submitted photographs of themselves reading together. The response was overwhelming! It makes my heart smile to see so many adults inspiring life-long readers.

Happy reading!

Debbie Urso, KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair

Grades 4-5 **reading list**

The Families and Reading resources are created to give families suggestions of new books, magazines, and apps to share. The information presented in these books and magazines represents the thoughts and opinions of the authors and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Keystone State Literacy Association.

For more resources, visit your local library or one of the following sites:

- Power Library (www.powerlibrary.org) - A PA library collaboration of shared materials and resources. Click on the links at the top of the homepage to view recommendations or to visit Power Kids.
- Visit Scholastic (www.scholastic.com/parents) and Amazon (www.amazon.com) for more book options.



Grades 4-5 Reading List

Classic Books:

- *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl
- *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman
- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin
- *Holes* by Louis Sachar

Newer Informational Books:

- *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander - This poetic book highlights contributions made by some of the world's greatest Black American heroes throughout history to more recent events.
- *Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams* by Lesa Cline-Ransome - Venus and Serena Williams beat the odds to play in a white-dominated sport, but they did not let challenges stop them.
- *She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History* by Chelsea Clinton - Celebrate women in history who have spoken out for what's right, even when they have to fight to be heard.
- *Baking Class: 50 Fun Recipes Kids Will Love to Bake* by Deanna Cook - Enjoy 50 easy-to-follow recipes with photos every step of the way.
- *The Boy Who Grew a Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng* by Sophia M. Gholz - Jadav was distressed by the destruction that deforestation was causing on his island home, so he began planting trees. It began as a small thicket of bamboo, but it turned into much more.
- *Overview, Young Explorer's Edition: A New Way of Seeing Earth* by Benjamin Grant and Sandra Markle - Discover Earth as you've never seen it before, in this stunning and unique collection of satellite images that offer an unexpected look at our planet.
- *Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History* by Vashti Harrison - The legends in this book span centuries and continents, but what they have in common is that each

one has blazed a trail for generations to come.

- *Torpedoed: The True Story of World War II Sinking of the "Children's Ship"* by Deborah Heiligman - Amid the constant rain of German bombs and the escalating violence of World War II, British parents by the thousands chose to send their children out of the country through a government relocation program.
- *Leading the Way: Women in Power* by Janet and Theresa Howell - This collection of biographies highlights the actions, struggles, and accomplishments of more than fifty of the most influential leaders in American political history.
- *United Tastes of America: An Atlas of Food Facts and Recipes from Every State* by Gabrielle Langholtz - A full-spread introduction to each state features background about its culinary culture with illustrated food facts, maps, and an easy-to-follow recipe with a photograph of the finished dish.
- *Hidden Wonders: A Guide to the Planet's Wildest, Weirdest Places* by Lonely Planet Kids - Take a journey into the unknown and discover the planet's wildest and most wonderful sights that you never knew existed.
- *Lost in Outer Space: The Incredible Journey of Apollo 13* by Tod Olson - From "Houston, we've had a problem" to the final tense moments at Mission Control, go on the unbelievable journey of Apollo 13 and inside the minds of its famous and heroic astronauts.
- *Little Libraries, Big Heroes* by Miranda Paul - Thanks to Todd Bol and thousands of volunteers, many of whom are kids, millions of books in Little Free Libraries have been enjoyed around the world.
- *Americans* by Douglas Wood - Americans are different from one another in many ways. Despite these differences, Americans share certain ways of doing and being that hold us all together.

Newer Fiction Books:

- *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate - We first met Bob the dog in *The One and Only Ivan*. This is Bob's story. Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in

Grades 4-5 Reading List

- search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan and Ruby.
- *Goodbye, Mr. Spalding* by Jennifer Robin Barr - Set in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, a twelve-year-old boy and his best friend attempt to stop a wall from being built at Shibe Park that would block the view of the baseball field from their rooftops.
 - *New Kid* by Jerry Craft - Jordan loves drawing cartoons. Instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enrolled him in a private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color.
 - *Saving Winslow* by Sharon Creech - Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures, but when his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him.
 - *Louisiana's Way Home* by Kate DiCamillo - When Louisiana's granny wakes her up in the middle of the night to tell her that they have to leave home immediately, Louisiana isn't overly worried. After all, Granny has many crazy ideas.
 - *Zap!* by Martha Freeman - Luis and Maura try to discover why their city has no power. They discover that there's more to the story and there's someone out there who wants to keep their city in the dark.
 - *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise* by Dan Gemeinhart - For five years, Coyote and her dad have lived on the road in an old school bus, criss-crossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters in a car crash.
 - *Lion Down* by Stuart Gibbs - For once, operations at the enormous zoo/theme park appear to be running smoothly, but then a local lion is accused of killing a famous dog. Teddy finds his detective skills wrapped up in the middle of his most bizarre, hilarious, and dangerous case yet.
 - *Best Friends* by Shannon Hale - Sixth grade is supposed to be perfect. Shannon's got a sure spot in the in-crowd, and her best friend is their leader and the most popular girl in school. The rules to be cool are always changing though.
 - *Rescue and Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship* by Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes - Rescue gets the news that he's better suited to being a service dog than a Seeing Eye dog. Then, he meets Jessica, a girl whose life is turning out differently than the way she'd imagined it, too.
 - *Puma Dreams* by Tony Johnston - A girl visiting her grandmother longs for a glimpse of the rarely seen puma. Finally, she sees the beautiful animal and knows it's everyone's responsibility to protect these animals.
 - *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller - Would you make a deal with a magical tiger? This uplifting story brings Korean folklore to life as a girl goes on a quest to unlock the power of stories and save her grandmother.
 - *Restart* by Gordon Korman - Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof. He doesn't remember hitting his head. He doesn't, in fact, remember anything. He wakes up and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again.
 - *The King of Bees* by Lester Laminack - Henry can't wait until he can have a bee suit of his own so he can help his Aunt Lilla with the sister bees. Then, he finds himself alone when the bees are ready to swarm.
 - *A Handful of Stars* by Cynthia Lord - When Lily's blind dog, Lucky, slips his collar and runs away, it's Salma who manages to catch him. Together the girls tackle the themes of prejudice and friendship, loss and love.
 - *Batting Order* by Mike Lupica - Matt and Ben couldn't be more different on and off the ballfield, but now they need to work together to help their team.
 - *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwama Mbalia - Trisitan is visited by a strange creature. An adventure ensues but it turns into a battle. Can Tristan save himself and the world with the help of some famous folk heroes and gods?
 - *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty - Lucy's life was changed forever when she was struck by lightning. The zap gave her genius-level math skills, and she's technically ready for college. She just has to pass one more test - middle school!

Grades 4-5 Reading List

- *Straw into Gold: Fairytales Re-spun* by Hilary McKay - Revisit a collection of fairy tales respun with modern twists.
 - *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* by Meg Medina - Sixth-grader Merci Suarez navigates difficult changes with friends, family, and everyone in between.
 - *Wish* by Barbara O'Connor - Charlie has been making the same secret wish every day since fourth grade. After many heart aches, Charlie is discovering that what she thought she wanted may not be what she needs at all.
 - *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds - Told in a short story format, readers learn what happens after the dismissal bell rings. Then the stories are woven together into one funny look at the detours we face on the walk home and in life.
 - *The Oddmire, Book 1: Changeling* by William Ritter - To renew the fading magic, goblins must perform a rare, ancient ritual involving one of their young, but something goes wrong. Now their young goblin looks like a human and is being raised by them.
 - *Birdie* by Eileen Spinelli - Twelve-year-old Birdie is still grieving for her father, a firefighter killed in the line of duty, as she struggles to adjust to many changes in her life.
 - *Roll with It* by Jamie Sumner - Ellie isn't just the new kid at school. She's the new kid in the wheelchair who lives in the trailer park on the wrong side of town. As an aspiring baker, Ellie cooks up a plan to make her life better.
 - *The Real McCoys: Wonder Undercover* by Matthew Swanson - Moxie, fourth grade detective, goes undercover in the Wonder Scouts to see who is sabotaging the badge competition.
 - *Guts* by Raina Telgemeier - Raina wakes up one morning with a stomach ache. She thinks it's just a bug, but maybe it has to do with what she is worrying about at school.
 - *Blacksmith's Song* by Elizabeth Van Steenwyk - The son of an enslaved blacksmith learns that his father is using the rhythm of his hammering to communicate with travelers on the Underground Railroad. When Pa falls ill, who will help them?
 - *Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson - ZJ understands that his dad's head injuries, sustained during his football career, have caused ZJ's dad to become forgetful, but forgetting his own son's name really hurts.
- Series Books:**
- *According to Humphrey* by Betty Birney
 - *The Last Kids on Earth* by Max Brallier
 - *A Dog's Purpose* by W. Bruce Cameron
 - *The Land of Stories* by Chris Colfer
 - *Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
 - *The Treehouse Books* by Andy Griffiths
 - *Horse Diaries* by Catherine Hapka and Ruth Sanderson
 - *Goddess Girls* by Joan Hulab and Suzanne Williams
 - *Amulet* by Kazu Kibuishi
 - *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
 - *Swindle* by Gordon Korman
 - *The Baby-Sitters Club Graphic Novels* by Ann Martin
 - *Lunar Chronicle* by Marissa Meyer
 - *Next Time You See...* nonfiction series by Emily Morgan
 - *39 Clues* by Rick Riordan
 - *The (Fairly) True Tales* by Liesl Shurtliff
 - *Bone Collection* by Jeff Smith
 - *The Wings of Fire* by Tui Sutherland
 - *I Survived...* by Lauren Tarshis
 - *Predator Vs. Prey* by various authors
 - *Who Was...?* by various authors
 - *HiLo* by Judd Winick
 - *Ten True Tales* by Allan Zullo
- Poetry:**
- *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming: And Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-Ups* by Chris Harris - Pour over the text and illustrations as you read these laugh-out-loud poems for the young and old.
 - *Keep a Pocket in Your Poem: Classic Poems and Playful Parodies* by J. Patrick Lewis - Lewis honors thirteen classic poems by a variety of poets by writing a parody of his own.
 - *Earth Verse: Haiku from the Ground Up* by Sally M. Walker - A combination of haiku and art encourages readers to think about the processes of our planet.

Magazines:

- Highlights for Children
- Kids, Codes, and Computer Science
- Kids Discover
- National Geographic Kids
- Owl Kids
- Ranger Rick
- Sports Illustrated for Kids
- Zoobooks

Educational Apps:

- Adobe Spark - create graphics, web pages, and video stories
- Adventure Academy - learning games and books for reading, math, and science
- Bloxels - build, play, and share your own video games
- Chicktionary - create as many possible words from seven letters
- Duolingo (iOS) - learn another language
- Epic - build an unlimited library of children's books
- Four Letters - given four letters, build the word
- GoodReader (iOS) - can open content from many sources and allows students to annotate the text
- Google Arts and Culture: People, places, and events that shaped our world (also a website)
- Jumpline 2 - word games
- Little Bird Tales (iOS) - take photos and record audio and use them to create a story
- Mad Libs - like the paper-pencil version, create stories using various parts of speech
- My Story (iOS) - create a book with visuals and text
- News-O-Matic - interactive, subscription based newspaper app
- Novel Effect - bring your stories to life with music, sound effects, and character voices
- OverDrive or Libby by OverDrive - borrow eBooks from your local library
- Sushi Scramble - make words from the given letter tiles
- That's Baloney - quiz-like game for all content areas



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