

**Manhattan Beach Unified School District**  
**2018 Summer Pleasure Reading**  
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Media Specialists  
For Students Entering Grades 1 and 2

**Picture Books**

***How Rocket Learned to Read***, by Tad Hills (2010)

A dog named Rocket meets a little yellow bird who teaches him how to read. Also ***Rocket Writes a Story*** (2012), in which the little yellow bird helps Rocket write a story.

***Snapsy the Alligator and His Best Friend Forever (Probably)***, by Julie Falatko (2018)

The sequel to ***Snapsy the Alligator (Did Not Ask to Be in This Book!)*** (2016) finds the introverted reptile longing for a quiet evening but repeatedly being interrupted by a well-intentioned chicken who makes nonstop overtures in the name of best friendship.

***A Busy Creature's Day Eating!*** by Mo Willems (2018)

A greedy child eats his way through the alphabet in this hilarious tale of hunger, regret, and redemption. Fans of Mo Willems will delight in spotting a one-eyed Knuffle Bunny.

***The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors***, by Drew Daywalt (2017)

A very funny look at how this classic playground game was started (or not).

**Chapter Books**

***Life with Mammoth***, by Ian Fraser (2010)

Cavemen Ogg and Bob search for their “pet” mammoth, Mug, to give him a bath and to try to figure out which one of them is Mug’s best friend. Also ***Meet Mammoth*** (2010).

***Charlie & Mouse***, by Laurel Snyder (2017)

This chapter book tells the story of two brothers in a charming, easy-to-read way that is sure to please young readers who are transitioning to chapter books. Also ***Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy*** (2017).

***Baby Monkey, Private Eye***, by Brian Selznick and David Serlin (2018)

Baby Monkey solves tricky crimes—as soon as he can get his pants on. Extensively illustrated in the style of Selznick’s books for older children (such as *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, 2007).

***Aggie Gets Lost***, by Lori Ries (2011)

It's Ben's worst day ever when his dog, Aggie, gets lost in the park. With the help of a friend, Ben discovers a smarter way to use his senses to find his dog. Also ***Aggie and Ben: Three Stories*** (2006), ***Good Dog, Aggie*** (2009), and ***Aggie the Brave*** (2010).

### Chapter Books in a Series

***Horrid Henry***, by Francesca Simon. ***Horrid Henry*** (2009)

Each book is composed of several short stories about the shenanigans and general naughtiness of Horrid Henry, who is the counterpoint to his brother, Perfect Peter. Originally from Great Britain, released in the United States beginning in 2009.

***Owl Diaries***, by Rebecca Elliott. ***Eva's Treetop Festival*** (2015)

Written in diary format, this series stars a beret-wearing owl named Eva Wingdale. In ***Eva's Treetop Festival***, she offers to put on a "Bloomtastic" spring celebration but then realizes she can't do it all on her own.

***Fly Guy***, by Tedd Arnold. ***Hi! Fly Guy*** (2005)

With upbeat hijinks and laugh-out-loud humor, Fly Guy's adventures from ***Hi! Fly Guy*** to ***Fly Guy's Big Family*** (2017) encourage repeat readings by even the newest readers.

### Nonfiction

***A Hundred Billion Trillion Stars***, by Seth Fishman (2017)

Looks at mathematical counts of miscellaneous objects and achievements on earth and in outer space, including such items as trees, gallons of water, rabbits, cities and towns, ants, stars, and more. Certain to inspire a sense of awe in young and old alike. An author's note provides further reading.

***Pink Is for Blobfish***, by Jess Keating (2016)

Welcome to a whole world of weird pink animals.

***The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of the Architect Zaha Hadid***, by Jeanette Winter (2017)

Curving, twisting, soaring—Zaha Hadid's creations go beyond the rectilinear shapes that define most structures. This biography discusses the challenges Hadid overcame in pursuing her professional and artistic goals and the design philosophy that inspired her architecture, furniture, and fashion.