

Manhattan Beach Unified School District
2020 Summer Pleasure Reading
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Resource Specialists
For Students Entering Grades 1 and 2

Picture Books

We Don't Eat Our Classmates, by Ryan Higgins (2018)

Funny but good advice, especially for Penelope when she finds she is not at the top of the food chain.

There Might be Lobsters, by Carolyn Crimi (2017)

But then again, there might not be. A nice lesson on overcoming fear.

A Normal Pig, by K-Fai Steele (2019)

After a new pig comes to school and makes fun of Pip's lunch, Pip tries to become more like the other pigs--and less like herself. Her family knows how to help: a visit to the big city shows Pip that the world is made up of all kinds of pigs.

The Very Impatient Caterpillar, by Ross Burach (2019)

Waiting can be hard, especially for the caterpillar in this story about metamorphosis.

Lost Cat, by C. Roger Mader (2013)

When Slippers the cat gets lost in the shuffle on moving day, her journey to find a home begins. The sweet ending leaves us breathing a big sigh of relief. Readers may note similarities to the CYRM nominee *Can I be Your Dog?*

If I Built a School, by Chris Van Dusen (2019)

By the author of *If I Built a Car* and *If I Built a House*, this new story is sure to inspire budding inventors. Jack, the creative builder, is dreaming even bigger this time.

Max and the Superheroes, by Rocio Bonilla and Oriol Malet (2018)

Max thinks every superhero is awesome, but Megapower is different from the others. Megapower is his favorite, and Max knows a secret about her.

Chapter Books in a Series

The Rescue Princesses, by Paula Harrison

The Secret Promise (2013)

These are no ordinary princesses...these are the Rescue Princesses, who are committed to saving animals in trouble.

Dragon, by Dav Pilkey

Dragon's Fat Cat (2019, originally published 1992)

The five-book ***Dragon*** series, by the author of *Dog Man* and *Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot*, is perfect for beginning readers. Have fun with Dragon as he finds a new pet.

Boris, by Andrew Joyner

Boris for the Win (2013)

It is Field Day and Boris is ready to win. But who will cross the finish line first? Ready, set, read!

Snail and Worm, by Tina Kugler

Snail and Worm All Day: Three Stories About Two Friends (2019)

Snail and Worm's adventures are sweet and genuinely funny. The stories in this new collection are about best days, a scary cave, and a bedtime story. Also ***Snail and Worm*** (2016) and ***Snail and Worm Again*** (2018).

Warren and Dragon, by Ariel Bernstein

100 Friends (2018)

A boy and his dragon, what adventure will they go on next? When Warren and his family move to a new town, Warren challenges himself to make 100 new friends. With the help of Dragon, can he do it?

Poetry

Won Ton and Chopstick: A Cat and Dog Tale Told in Haiku, by Lee Wardlaw (2015)

Won Ton the cat is not happy when a puppy joins the family. Told in a series of three-line poems, with illustrations that capture a bouncy pup and a sassy cat.

Nonfiction

Moon: Earth's Best Friend, by Stacy McAnulty (2019)

Who can resist learning fun facts about the Moon when they are told by Earth's own best friend, the Moon. Charming and informative.

When Sue Found Sue: Sue Hendrickson Discovers Her T. Rex, by Toni Buzzeo (2019)

From a young age, Sue Hendrickson would find things: lost coins, perfume bottles, even hidden treasure. Her endless curiosity led her to a career in paleontology, and in 1990 she discovered the largest, most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton ever unearthed, now on permanent display at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

Inky's Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart Octopus Found His Way Home, by Sy Montgomery (2018)

This is what happened when a real-life octopus known as Inky decided to explore beyond his tank at the New Zealand aquarium. Includes an instructive endnote and a page of octopus facts.

Secret Engineer: How Emily Roebling Built the Brooklyn Bridge, by Rachel Doherty (2019)

An eager learner as a child, Emily went on to marry engineer Washington Roebling, who planned to construct a link between Manhattan and Brooklyn in New York. But when her husband fell ill, Emily educated herself about engineering and oversaw the building of this beloved landmark at a time when the field of engineering was still very much dominated by men.