



Summer Reading 2011

Marion T.
Bedwell
School

The Importance of Summer Reading

Hello at Home,

Summer vacation is just around the corner! Everyone is ready for some sun, surf, and sand, but just because school is out, it doesn't mean that reading and learning should stop! Young students who don't continue to read over the summer (especially those who are reluctant or at-risk) are likely to lose crucial ground. One summer off can sometimes mean a whole school year of struggling academic performance.

Regardless of other activities, the best predictor of summer loss or gain is whether or not a child

reads during the summer. Studies suggest that children who read as few as six books over the summer maintain the level of reading skills they achieved during the preceding school year. Reading more books leads to even greater success!

The lesson? Read, read, read this summer! Here are some tips to make reading fun and motivating for students, even during the summer months:

- Schedule weekly trips to the public library to pick out books your kids want to read.
- Going on a long car or plane trip? Try listening to audio books!

- Set aside time for family read alouds. Kids benefit greatly from hearing adults model fluent, expressive reading.
- Purchase a notebook and have your child create a journal of summer experiences - including photos would be fun, too!
- See a movie and read the book by which it was inspired! Discuss the similarities and differences.
- Complete the Bedwell Summer Reading Log and return it to school in September for special recognition!

S. Crowley, S. Horowitz, and L. Smith

New This Summer! Bedwell Lending Library

This summer, Bedwell will host a lending library program, made possible through a generous HSA grant. Children who are reading on levels A/1 through G/11 will receive letters inviting them to visit Bedwell Wednesdays from 9-10 A.M. to borrow books to read and practice at home. The lending library currently focuses on providing books at the earlier levels because these materials can be difficult to find at libraries and book stores. We hope to see families take advantage of this new and exciting opportunity!



Bedwell Staff Picks

Bedwell staff members were asked to share their favorite childhood books or current favorite kid read alouds!

I loved *Little Bear's Visit* by Else Holmelund Minarik, *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett, and *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl. -Ms. Phelan

I cannot give just one favorite book. For younger readers, I love Mo Willems! His impact will rival Dr. Seuss! For older independent readers, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* tops my list. I also love the *Clementine* books for a laugh out loud family read! -Ms. Crowley

My class really enjoys a book I read aloud: *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles* by Julie Andrews-Edwards. -Mrs. Seelig

I love all of the picture books by Kevin Henkes. (*Owen* is my personal favorite!) -Mrs. Smith

I loved *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder. I actually loved the whole series! -Miss Schessler

My all time favorite book as a child was *Charlotte's Web* (I still cry when Charlotte dies) and my current read aloud favorites are *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* and *Clementine*. -Ms. King

The books I remember reading and loving were the *Little House on the Prairie* series. I especially remember loving the one, *On the Banks of Plum Creek*. One of my favorite books to read to my students is *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge*. -Mrs. S. Fischer

My favorite author for the summer months when I was a 2nd-3rd grader was Beverly Cleary. -Mrs. Fulton

Other Favorites Include:

Madeline -Mrs. Butler
Mr. Popper's Penguins -Mrs. Horowitz
Harry the Dirty Dog and *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* -Mrs. Dempsey
Blueberries for Sal -Miss Brooten
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle -Mrs. Maddaluna
Ramona -Mrs. Sombers
Alice in Wonderland -Mrs. Lemberg
The Little Engine That Could and *Are You My Mother?* -Mrs. Rokosky
Dandelion -Mrs. Leavenworth
Oh the Places You'll Go! -Mrs. Craver
Hide and Seek Fog -Mrs. Windisch
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane -Mrs. Mariani
Verdi -Mrs. Kirschner
Doll People series -Mrs. Och

Suggested Summer Reading

Top Books for Younger Readers Circulated at Bedwell Library in the '10-'11 School Year

There's a Bird on Your Head
by Mo Willems
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie
by Laura Numeroff
Yertle the Turtle
by Dr. Seuss
Fancy Nancy
by Jane O'Connor
The Cat in the Hat
by Dr. Seuss
I am Going!
by Mo Willems
Beatrice Doesn't Want To
by Laura Numeroff
Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
by Mo Willems

Favorite Chapter Books for Younger Readers

Judy Moody
by Megan McDonald
I, Freddy
by Dietlof Reiche
Babymouse
by Jennifer Holm
Franny K. Stein
by Jim Benton
Horrible Harry
by Suzy Kline
Weird School
by Dan Gutman
Horrid Henry
by Francesca Simon
Clementine
by Sara Pennypacker
Ivy and Bean
by Annie Barrows

Favorite Characters for Younger Readers

*The following characters are featured in
multiple titles by the same author*

Elephant and Piggie
by Mo Willems
Frog and Toad
by Arnold Lobel
Fly Guy!
by Tedd Arnold
Gossie & Gertie
by Olivier Dunrea
Henry and Mudge
by Cynthia Rylant
Bones
by David Adler
Amelia Bedelia
by Peggy Parish
George and Martha
by James Marshall
Slippers
by Andrew Clements

Favorite Chapter Books for Older Readers

The Lightning Thief
by Rick Riordan
The Doll People
by Ann M. Martin
Diary of a Wimpy Kid
by Jeff Kinney
The Invention of Hugo Cabret
by Brian Selznick
Into the Wild
by Erin Hunter
The Lemonade War
by Jacqueline Davies
11 Birthdays
by Wendy Mass
Big Nate
by Lincoln Peirce
Zigzag Kids
by Patricia Reilly Giff

Other Favorite Authors for Younger Readers

Doreen Cronin
Nick Bruel
Kevin Henkes
Laura Numeroff
David Shannon
Crosby Bonsall
Grace Lin
Jonelle Cannon
Jan Brett
Alyssa Capucilli
Lauren Child
David Elliott
Rosemary Wells
Emily Gravett

Classics for the Whole Family to Enjoy

*The Lion, the Witch, and
the Wardrobe*
by C.S. Lewis
Pippi Longstocking
by Astrid Lindgren
Anne of Green Gables
by L.M. Montgomery
How to Eat Fried Worms
by Thomas Rockwell
Harry Potter
by J.K. Rowling
*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs.
Basil E. Frankweiler*
by E.L. Konigsburg
The Cricket in Times Square
by George Selden

Internet Resources

There are numerous resources on the Internet that promote reading. Check these out!

<http://www.scholastic.com/summer>
<http://www.kidsreads.com/>
<http://www.readkiddoread.com>
<http://www.starfall.com>
<http://www.dogonews.com/>

Student's Name _____

Homeroom: _____



Directions

- Before returning the calendar to school, write your child's name and homeroom for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Optimally your child should read or be read to **every day**.
- **Color the square** or **mark the days** during the summer that your child reads.
- Sign the form and **return to school by Friday, September 9.**
- Any child who reads at least **twice a week** will be recognized.

July 2011

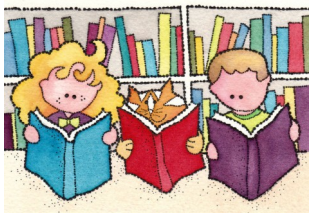
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

My favorite summer read was:

List some other books that you enjoyed this summer on the back!



Parent Signature: _____

Please return by September 9, 2011.

