

Live Oak School Summer Reading List: First Grade and Second Grade

Are you looking for some great books to read over the summer? The list below provides recent and classic titles for your family's reading enjoyment. An **e** in front of the title lets you know if it is available as an ebook. The link at the end of the book description takes you directly to the library record: **LOS** = Live Oak School (SORA) and **SFPL** = San Francisco Public Library.

If you are purchasing books, we encourage you to support our local independent bookstores. You can order online with bookshop.org (a consortium of independent booksellers). Local bookshops with our summer reading lists include [Books, Inc.](#), [Christopher's Books](#) or [Folio](#).

FICTION

Picture Books to Share

e Bathe the Cat by Alice B. McGinty

Grandma's almost here...it's time to clean up fast! Refrigerator magnets spell out the list of chores until the family cat - not wanting a bath - makes creative adjustments and the family is soon busy rocking the rug, vacuuming the lawn, and sweeping the dishes. Daddy restores order—but will the cat avoid getting his whiskers wet? **SFPL**

e Big Dreams Small Fish by Paula Cohen

In the new country, Shirley has great ideas about how to make the family store more modern. Prettier! More profitable! She even thinks she can sell the one specialty no one seems to want to try: Mama's homemade gefilte fish. Her parents think she's too young to help, but one day when everyone is away she seizes her chance. Oy vey! **SFPL**

e The Boring Book by Shinsuke Yoshitake

A child complains, "I'm bored." He wonders about why he is bored? What does boring actually mean? Pondering the concept of boringness, he discovers that the act of thinking is not boring at all, and it is up to him to make his own fun. This smart, laugh-out-loud picture book just might change your perspective on the state of boredom. **SFPL**

e Buddy and Earl: *Buddy and Earl, Buddy and Earl Go Exploring, and 3 more* by Maureen Fergus

Buddy the dog was bored and lonely before he met Earl, a prickly creature in a box who claims to be a pirate. These two mismatched animal friends enjoy grand adventures that are often based on their misunderstanding of the nature of everyday objects. Guaranteed to make readers of all ages laugh out loud! **LOS SFPL**

audio The Camping Trip by Jennifer K. Mann

Ernestine is beyond excited to go camping. She's followed the packing list so she knows she is ready when the weekend arrives. But she quickly realizes that nature has plenty of surprises in store. A fun reminder that opening your mind to new experiences, no matter how challenging, can lead to great memories. **SFPL**

e Duck! Rabbit! by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Two unseen characters argue about the shape on the page in this delightful picture book. Is it a duck or is it a rabbit? Well, it all depends on how you look at it! Adults and kids may find themselves on different sides of the great duck/rabbit optical illusion debate. There's only one way to decide: Go back and read it again...and again...and again. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Faraway Things by Dave Eggers

Lucian loves searching for faraway things that have drifted ashore near his home. One day, after a great storm has raged, Lucian happens upon a cutlass, and it is unlike anything he has found before. As its history comes to light, Lucian faces a choice: Cling to the sword he loves or accept a gift that shines farther, wider, and deeper than he could have ever dreamed.

e Gibberish by Young Vo

It's Dat's first day of school in a new country. Dat and his Mah made a long journey to get here, and Dat doesn't know the language. To Dat, everything everybody says – from the school bus driver to his new classmates – sounds like gibberish. How is Dat going to make new friends if they can't understand each other? [SFPL](#)

e audio Going Down Home with Daddy by Kelly Starling Lyons, illustrated by Daniel Minter
Down home is Granny's house, full of traditions and family. Every summer all the cousins have to decide on what tribute to share, but what will Lil Alan do? A visually stunning and moving celebration of history, culture, and the power of family traditions. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e A Hat for Mrs. Goldman by Michelle Edwards, illustrated by G. Brian Karas

Mrs. Goldman has knit hats for everyone in the neighborhood, but she doesn't have a hat of her own! Sophia tries to fix the problem, but she's no knitter, then she gets an idea that will make Mrs. Goldman's hat the most wonderful of all. [LOS](#)

e Home in the Woods written and illustrated by Eliza Wheeler

When six-year-old Marvel, her seven siblings, and their mother must move into an abandoned tar-paper shack deep in the woods, it "doesn't seem like much of a home." As the seasons pass, however, they discover the treasures their new life offers. By spring, Marvel realizes the shack now looks warm and bright and filled up with love. Based on a true story. [SFPL](#)

e Home is in Between by Mitali Perkins

Shanti misses the warm monsoon rains in India. Still, her family's apartment feels like a village: Mama cooking *luchi*, funny stories in Bangla, and Baba's big laugh. But outside, everything is different: trick-or-treating, ballet class, and English books. Shanti goes back and forth between her two worlds. She is Indian. She is also American. What is home? [SFPL](#)

e Ho'onani: Hula Warrior by Heather Gale, illustrated by Mika Song

Ho'onani feels in-between. She doesn't see herself as wahine (girl) OR kane (boy). She's happy to be in the middle. When Ho'onani finds out that there will be a school performance of a traditional kane hula chant, she wants to be part of it. But will she be accepted into the all-male troupe? [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

How to Apologize by David LaRochelle

Even though apologizing can be hard, it doesn't have to be complicated, whether you are just learning or need a reminder. This humorous book is full of practical tips about when, why, and how to say you're sorry. From a balloon popping porcupine to a snail who was moving so fast he stepped on a sloth's toes, hilarious examples and sweet illustrations abound.

e I Do Not Like Yolanda by Zoey Abbott

Bianca writes lots of letters to far-flung family and friends. She loves everything about corresponding: the drawings, the stamps, the walk to the post office. What she doesn't love is Yolanda, the scary post office clerk. Will it be courage or luck that saves the day, or something else entirely? [SFPL](#)

e Invasion of the Unicorns by David Biedrzycki

When an alien, secret agent, Bubble07, descends to Earth, it reports back that their species looks just like human's stuffed animal unicorns. Infiltrating a human family, Bubble07 updates Fearless Leader, hilariously commenting on people's strange habits and activities. However some human activities seem worth adopting. Is it enough to call off the alien invasion? [SFPL](#)

e John's Turn by Mac Barnett

It's John's big day at school today—a performance for Sharing Gifts time. His bag is carefully packed and prepared, his classmates are ready, and the curtain is waiting to open. John is nervous, looking out at all the other children staring back at him. But he takes a big breath and begins. He's sharing something he loves to do, but how will his classmates react? [SFPL](#)

e audio Julián is a Mermaid and Julián at the Wedding by Jessica Love

On a walk in the neighborhood with his abuela, Julian sees women dressed as mermaids and longs to be one. Spectacular watercolor illustrations capture both his fantasy of mermaids and the rich reality of Julian's neighborhood. At a wedding Julian makes a new friend, has an adventure, and solves a problem with creativity and love. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e Kafka and the Doll by Larissa Theule and Rebecca Green

In the fall of 1923, the writer Franz Kafka encountered a distraught little girl on a walk in the park. She'd lost her doll and was inconsolable. Kafka told her the doll wasn't lost, but instead, traveling the world and having grand adventures! To make her feel better, Kafka started writing and delivering letters from the doll to the girl. Inspired by a true story. [SFPL](#)

e Let Me Fix You a Plate: A Tale of Two Kitchens by Elizabeth Lilly

Whether you're settling in for a heaping plate of Mamaw's banana pudding or Abuela's arepas and tostones, a good meal always brings family together. This tale of a family road trip highlights the author's joy in both her American and Colombian heritage, capturing the warmth and love of her family's two distinct cultures. [SFPL](#)

e Listen by Gabi Snyder

Sometimes a noisy world overwhelms; that's when it's time to pause to hear each sound. As a young girl travels through her day in a busy city, we see how her listening builds understanding, awareness and empathy. A great reminder about how we can each control our environment and how important it is to learn to listen to others and to ourselves. [SFPL](#)

e Little Witch Hazel: A Year in the Forest Phoebe Wahl

Little Witch Hazel lives in the forest, helping creatures big and small. She's an explorer, a hard worker and a kind friend. In four stories that follow the seasons, Hazel rescues an orphaned egg, goes sailing, solves a mystery and makes house calls to fellow forest dwellers. But when Little Witch Hazel needs help herself, will she get it in time? [SFPL](#)

e The Little Wooden Robot and the Log Princess by Tom Gauld

The log princess and her robot brother are inseparable, until the sleeping princess is mistaken

for lumber and is accidentally carted off to parts unknown. Her brother sets off to find her, and the pair experience many adventures on their way home, including ones involving a Queen of Mushrooms, a magic pudding, a baby in a rosebush, and an old lady in a bottle. [SEPL](#)

Me and My Fear by Francesca Sanna

We all have fear, but how can we shrink it when it grows too big? Great illustrations and simple text show us how fear can be shifted from something that separates us, to something that can bring us together and encourages empathy.

e Milo Imagines the World by Matt de la Peña

On a long subway ride with his older sister, Milo pictures the lives of the people around him. The boy in the suit with the bright white sneakers? Milo imagines him arriving home to a castle. But when both boys reach a shared destination, Milo realizes that you can't know anyone from their outside, and there are millions of stories just waiting to be learned. [SEPL](#)

My Grandma and Me by Mina Javaherbin

Love, childhood adventures, religion, tolerance and tradition are the centerpieces of a story about a child growing up in pre-revolutionary Iran. Whether visiting friends, going to the mosque for midnight prayers, or taking an imaginary trip around the planets, Mina and her grandma are never far apart. Colorful illustrations reveal the mundane and the magic found in everyday life.

e Ohana Means Family by Ilima Loomis

Join the family, or 'ohana, as they farm taro for poi to prepare for a traditional luau. What makes this celebration so special? Golden light, home grown food, an ancient land, a loving family, and much more. Preparations for the event grow in complexity in a cumulative style similar to *The House that Jack Built*. A helpful glossary of Hawaiian terms is included. [SEPL](#)

e Outside, Inside by LeUyen Pham

"Something strange happened on an unremarkable day just before the season changed. Everybody who was outside ...went inside." Through words and pictures, the author provides an empowering and hopeful message by celebrating essential workers and the community who came together to face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. [SEPL](#)

e Private I: 7 Ate 9 and The Upper Case: Trouble in Capital City by Tara Lazar

6 has a problem; 7 is always after him. Word on the street is that 7 ate 9. If that's true, 6's days are numbered. Lucky for him, Private I is on the case, to solve the pun-filled, mathematical mystery. Will Private I put two and two together and solve the problem, or is 6 next in line to be subtracted? [LOS](#)

Road Trip! A Whisker's Hollow Adventure by Steve Light

When Bear's truck needs a headlight, there's just one thing to do: organize a road trip to Elephant's shop to find one. A road trip wouldn't be complete without friends! Bear brings along Rabbit, who wants assurances that there will be snacks; timid, cautious Mouse; and ever-positive Donkey. After a day of (mis)adventure, will the four friends find what they need?

Sandcastle by Einat Tsarfati

A young girl loves building sandcastles so grand and lovely that all the royals of the world come to visit. There are banquets and balls and tournaments, a staircase for skateboarding, and ice cream around the clock. Everyone is having fun, until they discover sand in the royal strudel.

Something, Someday by Amanda Gorman

As the youngest presidential inaugural poet, Amanda Gorman knows about the power of young people to change the world. In this lyrical book, Gorman encourages children to listen to the voice inside their head telling them to make a difference. It is the small acts of individuals that will come together to fix our world's largest problems. Beautifully illustrated by Christian Robinson, this is a must-read for young ChangeMakers!

e Something's Wrong! A Bear, a Hare, and Some Underwear by Jory John

Jeff the bear has definitely forgotten something. He ate his breakfast, he watered his plant, he combed his fur...what could it be? Why does he feel so oddly off? So he asks his friend Anders the rabbit what could possibly be wrong. It couldn't have anything to do with the fact that he's wearing underwear...over his fur...could it? LOL funny! [LOS](#)

e Stop That Yawn! by Caron Levis

Gabby has had enough of bedtime. Yawn, curl, snuggle, snore—what a bore! So instead of tucking in, she jets out—with poor Granny in tow—to a place where beds are for bouncing, hushes are shushed, and it's never too late for ice cream. But sometimes, even when you grit your teeth and seal your lips, it's impossible to stop that...YAWN! [SFPL](#)

e Sugar in Milk by Thrity Umrigar

A young girl has moved to America. Her Aunt and Uncle do everything to make her feel welcome, but nothing helps the homesickness until her Aunt tells her a long-ago story about Persian exiles and how they convinced a reluctant Indian king to let them stay. Exquisite illustrations and a sweet message of grace and acceptance. [SFPL](#)

e Sunrise Summer by Matthew Swanson

It's summer again and while some families pack swimsuits, this family packs potatoes, doorknobs, batteries and spark plugs. Last year the oldest child picked tundra berries and made forts in mole kingdom; this year she will join the fishing crew. Things are different in Alaska, where bears roam the beach, everyone pitches in and some rules don't apply. [SFPL](#)

e Swashby and the Sea by Beth Ferry

Captain Swashby loves his quiet life by the sea. The ocean is his best and only friend! But one day a rather noisy young girl and her granny move into the empty house next door. Swashby just wants them to go away! When he starts leaving his new neighbors unfriendly messages in the sand, the sea interferes in unexpected ways. [SFPL](#)

e Truman by Jean Reidy, illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins

Truman the tortoise lives on a windowsill overlooking the big, loud city. When one day he sees his favorite human Sarah depart for her first day of school, Truman sets off on a remarkable adventure to find her. [SFPL](#)

e Vamos!: Let's Go Eat, Let's Go to the Market and Let's Cross the Bridge by Raúl the Third
Follow Little Lobo and his dog as they deliver supplies to a variety of vendors, selling everything from sweets to sombreros, portraits to piñatas, carved masks to comic books! Next, Little Lobo takes readers on a tour of food trucks selling favorite foods. Peppered with Latin-American Spanish vocabulary, this book is a visual treat for all ages! [SFPL](#)

e Watercress by Andrea Wang, illustrations by Jason Chin

A young girl is embarrassed when her parents stop by the side of the road to pick wild watercress. Why can't they just go to the market? When her mother shares a story of growing

up in China, she learns to appreciate the fresh food they foraged. This autobiographical story of the child of immigrants includes lovely drawings inspired by Chinese painting techniques. [SFPL](#)

e We Became Jaguars by Dave Eggers

When Grandma comes to visit, the rules change: grandson and grandmother transform into jaguars! They journey into the world of nature -- experiencing true freedom and losing themselves in an exhilarating adventure. After a day in sumptuous landscapes, the ending will leave you wondering what's real and what's imagined. [SFPL](#)

e When Lola Visits by Michelle Sterling

It only really feels like summer when the narrator's grandmother, Lola, arrives. Once the mango jam is simmering on the stove family adventures can begin. Loaded with mouth-watering descriptions of fabulous Filipino foods, this is an inspiring primer to jump-start plans for all the summer activities, feasts and snacks your family might enjoy. [SFPL](#)

Where's Halmoni? by Julie Kim

A brother and sister can't find their Halmoni (the Korean word for grandmother). Where did she go? A portal leads them into a magical world where they encounter a variety of hungry creatures, including a wily fox. Drawn from Korean folklore, this exciting tale includes lavish illustrations, intriguing details, and a surprising twist.

e With Lots of Love by Jenny Torres Sanchez

Rocio has a new home far from her cousins and her grandmother's magical store. But there are so many wonderful things to miss from her old life, especially her Abuela. Can a birthday wish make a difference? In the morning a surprise arrives that shows a wish and love can bridge any distance. *Also available in Spanish.* [SFPL](#)

e Wonder Walkers by Micha Archer

When two curious kids embark on a "wonder walk," they let their imaginations soar as they look at the world in a whole new light. They have thought-provoking questions for everything they see: Is the sun the world's light bulb? Is dirt the world's skin? Are rivers the earth's veins? Is the wind the world breathing? A book to inspire you to get outside and ask questions! [SFPL](#)

The Year I Learned to Fly by Jacqueline Woodson

On a dreary, stuck-inside kind of day, a brother and sister heed their grandmother's advice to "use those beautiful and brilliant minds." And before they know it, their imaginations lift them up and out of their boredom. This precious skill, their grandmother explains, harkens back to days long ago, when their enslaved ancestors showed strength and resilience.

Fiction to Read Aloud

Alvin Ho: **e Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things and 5 more** by Lenore Look
Second grader Alvin Ho is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. While there, he never, ever, says a word. Can he channel his Chinese farmer-warrior ancestors, and his love of super-heroes, to overcome the fears that keep him from making friends? [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Gooseberry Park and **e Gooseberry Park and the Master Plan** by Cynthia Rylant

Stumpy Squirrel lives in a magnificent oak tree in Gooseberry Park with her babies. Her three good friends—a Labrador retriever, a wise hermit crab, and a bat who eats Chinese food—live nearby. But after a terrible storm destroys the oak, Stumpy disappears. It takes a special

combination of courage, humor, and tenacity to rescue her babies and bring her home again. [SFPL](#)

e audio **Harry Versus the First 100 Days of School** by Emily Jenkins

In just 100 days of first grade, Harry will overcome first-day jitters, discover why guinea pigs aren't scary after all, learn to count to 100 in tons of different ways, and much much more. He'll also make lots of great friends. . . In other words, he will become an expert first grader! Perfect for incoming firsties, as well as experienced firsties who want to reflect on their year. [SFPL](#)

e **Little Wolf's Book of Badness and 7 more** by Ian Whybrow

Little Wolf is sent away by his parents because he has not behaved badly enough. In woebegone and hilarious letters home, Little Wolf chronicles his journey to his Uncle Bigbad's Cunning College For Brute Beasts... where his education in badness takes an unexpected turn. [LOS](#)

e audio **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo

A china rabbit named Edward was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who adored him completely. And then, one day, he was lost. . . . Kate DiCamillo takes us on his extraordinary journey, from the depths of the ocean to the net of a fisherman, from the bedside of an ailing child to the bustling streets of Memphis. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e Nanny Piggins: **Nanny Piggins and 7 more** by R.A. Spratt

Nanny Piggins, the world's most glamorous flying pig, runs away from the circus and becomes a nanny. The Green's three children fall in love with her instantly. But then who wouldn't love a Nanny who can be fired out of a cannon and make an amazing chocolate cake, sometimes both at the same time? [SFPL](#)

audio video **Princess Cora and the Crocodile** by Laura Amy Schlitz

Princess Cora is sick of boring lessons, mindless exercise and excessive cleanliness. When her parents won't even let her have a dog, she reaches out to her fairy godmother, whose solution comes in the surprising and hilarious form of a crocodile. [SFPL](#)

e audio Ramona: **Ramona the Brave and 7 more** by Beverly Cleary

For a girl as brave as Ramona, starting the first grade should be easy. But with a teacher who doesn't understand her, a tattletale classmate, and a scary dog who follows her on the walk home from school, Ramona has a hard time acting as brave as she'd like. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e audio **Three Tales of my Father's Dragon** by Ruth Stiles Gannett

The classic story begins when Elmer Elevator runs away with an old alley cat to rescue a flying baby dragon held captive on a faraway island. With bravery, ingenuity and the carefully packed items in his backpack - two dozen pink lollipops, rubber bands, chewing gum, and a fine-toothed comb - can Elmer disarm the animals of Wild Island? [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Young Readers **33 (10 new)**

e The Adventures of Otto: **See Otto and many more** by David Milgrim

Meet Otto, an excitable robot who seeks adventure—and finds it—when he falls off his spaceship and lands on Earth, directly in front of a very cranky rhinoceros. Otto runs, but the rhino runs faster. With text suitable for beginning readers, and funny enough for their older brothers and sisters. [SFPL](#)

e Ape and Armadillo Take Over the World by James Sturm

Best friends Ape and Armadillo pretend to be evil cohorts, but even agents of evil must learn to compromise when a dastardly plan puts a friendship at stake. Witty dialog and lively cartoon illustrations contribute to a great story full of laughs and insights about friendship. *Graphic Novel*

[LOS](#)

e Bad Seed readers: Bad Seed Goes to the Library and The Good Egg and the Talent Show by John Jory

The bad seed is in a good mood...for once. That's because he's just checked out a really cool book from the library. The bad seed reads, and rereads, until he gets bad news: The book must be returned so another seed can enjoy it. Will the bad seed do the right thing or return to his baaaaaad ways? *Based on the wildly popular Bad Seed picture book series.* [SFPL](#) [Bad Seed](#)

[Good Egg](#)

Beak & Ally: Unlikely Friends, Bedtime Jitters, and The Big Storm by Norm Feuti

Ally the alligator is perfectly happy being alone . . . until one day a noisy bird named Beak lands on her snout. Beak thinks Ally is lonely and needs a friend. He has all sorts of ideas about fun things they can do together, like riding bikes, going to the movies, and even solving mysteries! But Ally has some important ideas of her own. *Graphic Novel*

Benjamin Bear: Bright Ideas!, Fuzzy Thinking, and Brain Storms by Philippe Coudray

Benjamin Bear's bright ideas result in adventures. The punch line of each humorous story relies on visual cues and minimal text. Full of gags, puzzles, and mini-physics lessons, these are stories that make any reader smile and think. (*Graphic Novel*)

e Big Cat, Little Cat by Elisha Cooper

There was a cat who lived alone. Until the day a new cat came . . . And so a story of friendship begins, following two cats through their days, months, and years until a change leads to the cycle beginning again. Delightful illustrations and deceptively simple text are sure to remind us why we love our pets so much. [SFPL](#)

e Bink and Gollie, Two for One, and Best Friends Forever, by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee

Meet Bink and Gollie, two irrepressible girls: one tiny, one tall. In their first book, setting out from their super-deluxe tree house and powered by plenty of peanut butter (for Bink) and pancakes (for Gollie), they share three comical adventures involving painfully bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Calpurnia Tate Girl Vet series: e Skunked, e Counting Sheep, Who Gives a Hoot, e A Prickly Problem, A Squirrely Situation by Jacqueline Kelly

Callie's desire to understand the natural world puts her at odds with most folks in turn-of-the-20th-century Texas. Readers first met this spunky, inquisitive, and often muddy heroine in the Newbery Honor book *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. Now, her story is told in early chapter format, just right for newly-minted readers who love animals. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Charlie & Mouse series: e Charlie & Mouse, e Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy, e Charlie & Mouse Even Better, e Charlie & Mouse Outdoors and Charlie & Mouse Lost and Found by Laurel Snyder

Short chapters follow the siblings throughout their day. Often things don't go exactly as planned, but with plenty of humor and good intentions, Charlie and Mouse prove that sometimes when things aren't perfect, they turn out to be even better. **LOS SFPL**

e Chick and Brain series: **Smell My Foot!** and **Egg or Eyeball?** by Cece Bell

Chick likes to follow the rules, but Brain takes Chick's repeat-after-me lessons a bit too literally. There are plenty of opportunities for kid readers to get the joke before the characters do, making this a home run of an early reader, full of winning oddball comedy that blends verbal and visual humor. **LOS SFPL**

Cornbread & Poppy by Matthew Cordell

Cornbread LOVES planning. Poppy does not. Cornbread IS ready for winter. Poppy...is not. But Cornbread and Poppy are the best of friends, so when Poppy is left without any food for the long winter, Cornbread volunteers to help her out. Their search leads them up to the top of a mountain where surprises await. *Cornbread & Poppy at the Carnival* comes out in June.

Doggo and Pupper: **Doggo and Pupper** and **Doggo and Pupper Save the World** by Kathleen Applegate

Doggo is happy having a set routine, even though Cat says he's boring. Then Pupper shows up! He is so playful and messy that the humans send him off to puppy school to learn to behave. When he comes back, he's well-behaved but unhappy. So Doggo steps in to help, and rediscovers what it means to have fun.

e El Toro & Friends: **Training Day** and **Tag Team** by Raúl the Third

Wrestling hero, El Toro, was first introduced to readers in *Vamos! Let's go to the Market!*. Now he is off on his own adventures in this early reader series filled with eye-popping illustrations and a comic book format. In *Training Day* El Toro's spirits are lifted with a little help from his community. *Tag Team* shows El Toro teaming up with his fighting partner, La Oink Oink. *Graphic Novel* **SFPL**

Elephant & Piggie Like Reading: **The Cookie Fiasco** and many more – **newest It's a Sign** by Mo Willems and various authors

Elephant & Piggie not only star in their own series, they also read, and introduce, other authors' stories. Whether the subject is love of cookies or fear of worms, growing, being itchy, pretending, or picking out shoes, read along with Elephant and Piggie and discover a whole new world of excellent adventures.

Fergus and Zeke: **Fergus and Zeke and the 100th Day of School**, **Fergus and Zeke and the Field Day Challenge**, and **Fergus and Zeke at the Science Fair** by Kate Messner

Fergus, the class pet, doesn't want to miss out when the kids go on a field trip, so he stows away. The little mouse finds the museum overwhelming until he makes a new friend. Together the two mice explore everything from moon rocks to a giant dinosaur skeleton. But when the bus is ready to leave, will Fergus make it in time to return to his beloved classroom?

Fox is Late, **Fox the Tiger**, **Fox Versus Winter**, and **Fox at Night** by Corey R. Tabor

In the latest installment, Fox is up late in the night with his binoculars. There are shadows and noises everywhere. Fox is sure the night is full of monsters! Then he meets the real creatures of the night and realizes they are not so scary after all. *Fox at Night* received the 2022 Geisel Award for the best young reader book of the year.

e Jo Jo Makoons: **The Used-to-Be Best Friend** and **Fancy Pants** by Dawn Quigley

Meet Jo Jo --a young Ojibwe girl. Jo Jo is having problems with her best friend Fern, who doesn't want to sit with her anymore. And then there's an accident involving her cat at school and a serious case of artistic jealousy. One thing is certain: Life is never dull with Jo Jo around! [SFPL](#)

Juneteenth by Sharon Dennis Wyeth

This early reader tells how on June 19, 1865, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, a group of enslaved men, women and children in Texas gathered and learned that they were now free. They danced, wept tears of joy, and began to plan their new lives. Learn all about this important federal holiday, celebrated with parades, bands, and family gatherings.

Layla and the Bots: **Happy Paws, Built for Speed, Cupcake Fix, and Making Waves** by Vicky Fang

Layla and the Bots meet animals at the Surfside Rescue Center, including a dolphin. But Splash won't eat unless there is music playing... but he likes to pick his own music! Can Layla and the Bots build a music machine that will do the job? They know a lot about coding, but it still might take a few tries. Each book in this STEM series includes a fun DIY activity.

e Lulu and the...: **Duck in the Park, Dog from the Sea, Cat in the Bag and 4 more** by Hilary McKay

Lulu and her passion for stray animals often leads to trouble, but quick thinking and creative problem solving save the day. In book 1, Lulu finds a duck egg that has rolled out of its nest and takes it to class to keep it safe. Lulu isn't allowed to bring pets to school. But she's not really breaking the rules because it's just an egg. Surely nothing bad will happen. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Mathemachicken: Hide and Go Beak by Nancy Krulik

In this early reader, Chirpy is tired of being stuck in the family coop. One morning, the little chick sneaks on a school bus and hides in a classroom, where she learns about math and simple machines. Back home, the other chickens think she is one kernel short of a cob until a hungry fox appears on the scene. Can Chirpy find the right equation to save the flock?

Mo Jackson: **e Don't Throw it to Mo, Get a Hit, Mo, e Pass the Ball, Mo, e Kick It, Mo, e Swim Mo, Swim, Run Mo, Run, & Spike it, Mo** by David Adler

Mo is the youngest kid on the Robins, his football team. His classmates don't mind, but the kids on their rival team tease him for having "butterfingers" and being too tiny to catch the ball. But Mo's coach has a plan to turn his little size into a big win! Each book in the series is about Mo and a different sport -- and in each Mo finds a way to overcome the odds.. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e audio Monkey & Cake: **Mr Monkey Bakes a Cake, What Is Inside THIS Box?, This Is My Fort!, and My Tooth Is LOST!** by Drew Daywalt

Cake has lots of questions. Monkey has lots of answers. They are silly. They are curious. Sometimes they fight. But Monkey and Cake are always best friends. In their first book, Monkey and Cake cannot agree what's inside Monkey's mysterious box. Is it a kitty? Is it a dinosaur? [SFPL](#)

Narwhal: **Unicorn of the Sea, Super Narwhal and Jelly Jolt, e Peanut Butter and Jelly, Narwhal's Otter Friend, Happy Narwhalidays & Narwhal's School of Awesomeness** by Ben Clanton

Narwhal and Jelly might not have a lot in common, but they do love waffles, parties and adventures. Join Narwhal and Jelly as they discover the whole wide ocean together. Dive into

the newest story when Narwhal and Jelly become substitute teachers to a school of fish!
Graphic Novel [SFPL](#)

Noodlehead: **e Noodlehead Nightmares, e Noodleheads See the Future, and five more** by Tedd Arnold

In need of a good laugh? Look no further than the brothers Mac, who walk through life pretty confused. These guys not only act noodle-headed, they are actually noodles! Their wacky approach to problem-solving is told in short chapters with simple text and comic-style illustrations. [SFPL](#)

e The Questioners: e Iggy Peck and the Mysterious Mansion, e Rosie Revere and the Raucous Riveters, e Ada Twist and the Perilous Pants, Sophia Valdez and the Vanishing Vote and Ada Twist and the Disappearing Dogs by Andrea Beaty

Follow The Questioners' further adventures in chapter books! Rosie's Aunt Rose and her friends, the Raucous Riveters, need help inventing something new, and Rosie is just the engineer for the job! When Rosie Revere's Uncle Ned gets a little carried away wearing his famous helium pants, it's up to Ada and friends to chase him down! [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog and See the Dog: Three Stories about a Cat by David LaRoche

Max is not a cat—Max is a dog. But the mixed up narrator keeps instructing readers to “see the cat!” An irritated Max threatens to leave the story! Zany illustrations and interesting characters add to the hilarity in this early reader that includes three stories about Max. In the companion book the dog is sick, but have no fear--the cat is happy to take his place! [LOS](#)

e Sofia Martinez: Sofia Martinez and 15 more by Jacqueline Jules

Meet Sofia, a 7-year-old with a big personality and plans to match. Between her sisters and cousins, her familia is the focus of many adventures. This is one girl who knows how to have fun and make every second count. Includes Spanish words and a glossary. [SFPL](#)

Sydney and Taylor: **Sydney & Taylor Explore the Whole Wide World, Sydney & Taylor Take a Flying Leap, and Sydney & Taylor and The Great Friend Expedition** by Jacqueline Davies
An unlikely pair, Sydney (a skunk) and Taylor (a hedgehog) have been best friends since before they can remember. Together, they chase their dreams, even through doubt and obstacles. In the latest installment, they set out on an expedition to find new friends, but what they seek might be closer to home than they expect.

e Tiger vs. Nightmare by Emily Tetri

Tiger is very lucky: she has a monster living under her bed. Of course, Monster would never try to scare Tiger—that's not what best friends do. While Tiger sleeps, Monster scares all Tiger's nightmares away. But waiting in the darkness is a nightmare so big Monster can't fight it alone. Will Tiger be able to help? *Graphic Novel* [SFPL](#)

e Wildflowers by Liniers

Three sisters, whose plane crash-lands on a mysterious island, have an extraordinary adventure. On the island there is a jungle, a pocket gorilla and a sign that indicates there must be a dragon. They meet giant flowers, one of which declares one sister the "strangest wildflower I have ever seen!" Discover how this imaginative story ends. *Graphic Novel* [LOS](#)

e Yasmin: Meet Yasmin, and many more - newest Yasmin the Librarian by Saadia Faruqi

Second grader Yasmin has a lot of energy and ideas and is always on the lookout for those "aha" moments to help her solve life's little problems. Inspired by her surroundings and her imagination, she boldly faces any situation, becoming a builder, an explorer, a fashionista and more! [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

e Zoey and Sassafras: Dragons and Marshmallows and 8 more - newest Wishypoofs and Hiccups by Asia Citro

When her scientist mother is away, Zoey discovers an amazing secret— injured magical animals come to their family for help! When a sick baby dragon appears, it's up to Zoey to figure out what's wrong. Each story features a new magical animal with a problem that must be solved using science or the process of deduction. [LOS](#) [SFPL](#)

Poetry

e One Minute Till Bedtime: 60-Second Poems to Send You Off to Sleep by Kenn Nesbitt

"Tuck the good into night" with a fantastic, illustrated collection of over 140 short poems by celebrated contemporary poets. Some explore the excitement that comes before the time to rest, while others explicitly induce sleep: offering instructions, granting keys to the moon, or observing all the different ways we hit the hay. [SFPL](#)

The Proper Way to Meet a Hedgehog and Other How-To Poems selected by Paul B. Janeczko

How do you meet a hedgehog, mix a pancake, or be a tree in winter? Find out in this charming collection of 25 'instructive' poems by classic and contemporary poets, ranging from Robert Louis Stevenson to Niki Grimes. A wonderful introduction to poetry, just right for reading aloud and sharing with others.

e When Green Becomes Tomatoes: Poems for All Seasons by Julie Folglano

Celebrate all things seasonal with beautifully illustrated poems that take you from the "tip of spring" through the "edge of winter." Each interconnected poem stands on its own. Rich images and sharp observation invite rereading and magnify an appreciation of day to day wonders.

[SFPL](#)

NONFICTION

Fascinating Facts and True Stories 32 (12 new!)

e ABCs of Black History by Rio Cortez

This rhyming book is the story of big ideas—P is for Power, S is for Science and Soul. It is the story of significant moments—G is for Great Migration. And it is the story of iconic figures—H is for Zora Neale Hurston, X is for Malcom X. Endnotes include more information about the events, places, and people mentioned in the poems. [SFPL](#)

Alice Waters Cooks Up a Food Revolution by Diane Stanley

Whenever young Alice tasted something delicious, she would remember it for the rest of her life. When she grew up, she opened a restaurant called Chez Panisse. To make the most delicious food, Alice sought out small, local farmers to provide the meat, dairy, and produce. The restaurant made her famous, but it did much more than that—it started a food revolution.

e Bedtime Math series: **A Fun Excuse to Stay Up Late, This Time It's Personal, e The Truth Comes Out** by Laura Overdeck

Make math a fun part of kids' everyday lives with mischief-making math problems to tackle--math that isn't just kid-friendly but actually kid-appealing. With over 100 math riddles per book, with three levels of challenge, on topics from jalapeños and submarines to roller coasters and flamingos. [LOS](#) [SEPL](#)

Bobcat Prowling by Maria Gianferrari

A bobcat yearling is driven away from its home by a mother ready to start a new family. Various, diverse children catch sight of the young animal as it fends for itself and finds its own home range. Beautiful illustrations reveal the resilience of native animals and how humans and wildlife can exist in proximity. *Hawk Rising* and *Coyote Moon* are companion books.

e Bone by Bone: Comparing Animal Skeletons, Tooth by Tooth: Comparing Fangs, Tusks, and Chompers, Fossil by Fossil: Comparing Dinosaur Bones, and Eye by Eye: Comparing How Animals See by Sara Levine

What animal would you be if your finger bones were long enough to reach your feet, or you had a bony ridge rising from the back of your skull and three horns poking up from the front? These picture books will keep you guessing as you read about how human skeletons are like and unlike those of other animals. [SFPL](#)

The Boy Whose Head Was Filled with Stars: A Life of Edwin Hubble by Isabelle Marinov

How many stars are in the sky? How did the universe begin? Where did it come from? Edwin Hubble was born into a down-to-earth farm family, but his questions and curiosity transformed our understanding of the universe. Gorgeous illustrations and clear text convey knowledge, reveal Hubble's personality, and open the reader's eyes to the wonder around us.

Claude: The True Story of a White Alligator by Emma Bland Smith

Claude's story started 25 years ago in Louisiana. He was the only one in his family who was albino. The other alligators avoided him, and his light color made him vulnerable to predators. For protection, Claude was moved to San Francisco, where he now reigns as a celebrity alligator and the mascot for SF's California Academy of Sciences.

e Clever Hans: The True Story of the Counting, Adding, and Time-Telling Horse by Kerri Kokias

Clever Hans was a horse who could do math problems, tell time, read, spell, and more - or could he? Scientists began to investigate. Eventually, one scientist had a groundbreaking "aha!" moment and realized Hans was clever in a way no one had even imagined. Turns out Hans was so smart, he changed science. [SFPL](#)

Crazy for Science by Carmelo Piazza and James Buckley

Dive into a collection of hands-on activities that introduce children to the fascinating world of science. Carefully crafted experiments that rely on household items teach fundamental concepts in exciting ways.

Cubs in the Tub: The True Story of the Bronx Zoo's First Woman Zookeeper by Candace Fleming

It was in the 940s, when a Bronx Zoo-keeper brought home a needy lion cub. His wife Helen named him McArthur, fed him a bottle, and cooed him to sleep. The couple continued to raise lion and tiger cubs at home, until the babies were old enough to return to zoos. Helen went on to establish the first zoo nursery and became the Bronx Zoo's first female zookeeper.

e Dinosaur Lady: The Daring Discoveries of Mary Anning, the First Paleontologist by Linda Skeers

Bones. Dinosaur Bones! Mary's discoveries in the early 1800s rocked the world of science and helped create a brand-new field: paleontology. But many people believed women couldn't be scientists, so Mary wasn't given the credit she deserved. Lots of fun facts about fossils and about a fascinating woman, who was also the subject of a recent adult novel and film. [SFPL](#)

Endangered Animals: **The Elephant, The Polar Bear, and The Blue Whale** by Jenni Desmond
An ode to both the power of reading and the majesty of amazing animals. Each book draws readers in with fascinating facts and keeps them there with illustrations so vibrant you can feel the sun of the savannah, shiver in the arctic chill, or wonder at the immensity of a whale.

e Facts vs. Opinions vs. Robots by Michael Rex

How do you tell the difference between facts and opinions? With robots of course! It's a fact that the blue robot has two arms while the gold robot has four. However, while they both like to dance, it's hard to prove "Which of them has the coolest moves?" The robots learn how to respect opinions and engage in compromise. [SEPL](#)

e Fur, Feather, Fin: All of Us Are Kin by Diane Lang

Playful verse describes the unique features of the animal kingdom, from mammals ("milk to drink and furry hide, mammals keep warm from inside") to detritivores ("...so oft forgotten, dine on things both dead and rotten"). Kids will learn cool new facts as they pore over the illustrations and memorize the rhymes. [SFPL](#)

e Honeybee: The Interesting Life of Apis Mellifera by Candace Fleming

A tiny honey bee emerges through the wax cap of her cell. Is she strong enough to fly and start making honey? Not yet! Find out how many changes and jobs the average bee cycles through before they can fly from flower to flower. Exquisitely detailed illustrations and poetic text will change the way you look at these wonderfully complex creatures! [LOS](#)

e How to Build an Insect by Roberta Gibson

"Let's build an insect. Where should we start?" Questions are asked and then memorably answered by an invisible narrator, who follows directions and uses art supplies to create a colorful creature. Readers learn fascinating facts and vocabulary, including that ears can be on knees and exactly where lungs belong in an inflexible exo-skeleton. [SFPL](#)

How to Find A Fox by Kate Gardener

Look for tracks. Listen for yips. Be as still as a pebble. Celebrate one of our most graceful and enchanting native creatures: the red fox. In an imagined trek through different landscapes and seasons, learn how to discover foxes. Amazing photographs will inspire you to get outside and make your own discoveries.

I Am an American: The Wong Kim Ark Story by Grace Lin and Martha Brockenbrough
When American-born Wong Kim Ark returned home to San Francisco in 1873, after a visit to China, he was told he couldn't enter because he wasn't American. So he took his case to the Supreme Court. What happened next, forever changed the national conversation on who is and isn't American.

I Am Smoke by Henry Herz

While Bay Area residents are all too familiar with smoke, this beautiful melding of science and

poetry opens readers' eyes to the vital, positive roles it plays. Smoke narrates its own story: telling us how, since prehistoric times, across continents and cultures, it has served both nature and humankind.

e Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved Reptiles by Patricia Valdez
Passionate about reptiles, Joan Procter broke barriers. Born at the turn of the 20th century, Joan kept unusual pets: lizards, crocodiles and eventually a Komodo Dragon. Lively text and striking illustrations vividly show her joy and expertise as she rose to be a noted scientist and curator of reptiles at the London Zoo. [LOS](#)

e Jumbo: The Making of the Boeing 747 by Chris Gall
Fifty years ago the biggest passenger jet the world had ever seen premiered. The giant plane was called the Boeing 747, but reporters named it “the Jumbo jet.” There was only one problem. It couldn’t fly. Learn how innovative design and ground-breaking engineering put the Jumbo jet in the air -- for the first time allowing middle class families to afford travel overseas. [SEPL](#)

More Than Just A Game: The Black Origins of Basketball by Madison Moore
Basketball, invented in 1891, swept the country. But African Americans weren't allowed to play on segregated courts, so Black players found their own spaces and developed their own, innovative style of play. Upbeat text and vibrant illustrations capture the joy of moving and bring to light how some amazing players and managers made the sport into what it is today.

e Otis and Will Discover the Deep by Barb Rosenstock
Both Otis and Will love adventure and discovery. Together, they team up to find out what lives in the unexplored deep ocean. Based on a true story, the dramatic text is complemented by fabulous illustrations that detail the action as the men descend lower and lower, going where no human had gone before. [LOS](#)

Over and Under the Canyon by Kate Messner
Over the canyon, the sun scalds the air and eagles circle. But under the shade of the cliffs hides another world. Discover the wonders concealed in the curves of the canyon, the magic of a desert wildflower bloom, and all the unexpected creatures that bring the desert to life. Set in southern California. Discover more in Messner’s four other **Over and Under** books

e Packs: Strength in Numbers by Hannah Salzer
Groups, packs, herds of millions, and more—our world teems with animals on land, air, and sea. Packs is an inspiring celebration of how togetherness helps many creatures thrive, in both nonhuman and human communities. Fascinating examples remind us that teamwork is universal, there is brilliance in biodiversity, and there is strength in numbers. [SEPL](#)

e Remembering Vera by Patricia Polacco
Decades ago on a Coast Guard base near San Francisco, a sailor adopted an abandoned puppy and named her Vera. Fearing their commander would give her away if she were discovered, the men in the unit kept her hidden. Until one day, a distress call, a horrific storm, and a daring gamble put Vera center stage. [LOS](#) [SEPL](#)

e RESPECT: Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul by Franklin Morrison
Aretha’s talent was clear from her earliest days in her father’s Detroit church where her soaring voice spanned more than three octaves. As an adult, she became known as the Queen of Soul. Aretha had a string of hit songs, but she didn’t just raise her voice in song, she also spoke out against injustice and fought for civil rights. [SEPL](#)

e A Sea Otter to the Rescue by Thea Feldman, illustrated by Rachel Sanson

In an aquarium in California, there was a sea otter who was a mother for rescued pups. She taught them how to look for crabs and open clam shells. She also inspired a state law to protect endangered species. A special section at the back of this book includes tips on how readers can help sea otters. [LOS](#)

Solitary Animals by Joshua David Stein

A group of fish is a school, a bunch of whales are a pod and several stingrays a fever, but what do you call a group of octopuses? You don't, because octopuses prefer to be alone. Some animals have evolved to be alone; their instincts prompt them to be independent and rely only on themselves. Learn about some amazing animals who stand apart from the herd.

Summertime Sleepers: Animals That Estivate by Melissa Stewart

Just as we are getting ready for warm-weather fun, animals from every corner of the animal kingdom are getting ready to slumber. A dozen animals from five different continents are shown - some go to ground, some climb high, and others cover themselves with slime or a cocoon. Discover the amazing ways some animals snooze through summer.

e Titanosaur: Discovering the World's Largest Dinosaur by Dr. José Luis Carballido and Dr. Diego Pol, illustrations by Florencia Gigena

Paleontology's most titanic discovery all began when an Argentine cowboy discovered a 7-foot, 10-inch fossil leg bone while riding his horse. A mix of photos and painted views accompany descriptions of field and lab work, culminating in a jaw-dropping portrait of the finished dino model - the biggest dinosaur ever found...for now. [LOS](#)

Try It! How Frieda Kaplan Changed the Way We Eat by Mara Rockliff

In 1956, Frieda Caplan began introducing fresh and unusual foods to her customers at an L.A. produce market—snap peas, seedless watermelon, mangos, and more! This groundbreaking woman brought a whole world of delicious foods to the USA, forever changing the way we eat. Frieda Caplan was always willing to try something new—are *you*?