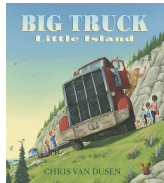
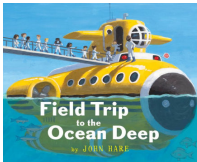
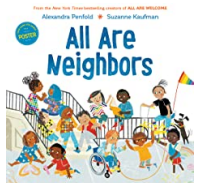
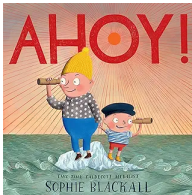
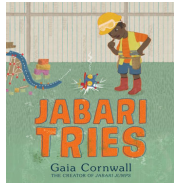
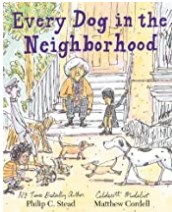
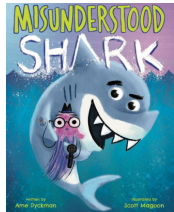
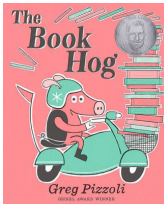
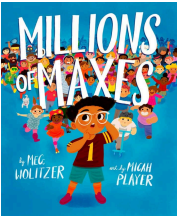
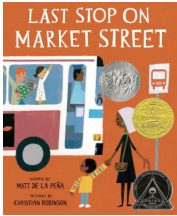
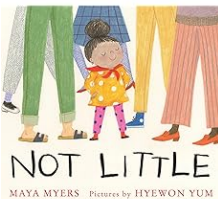
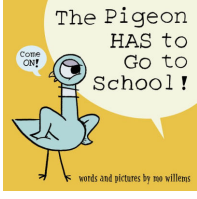
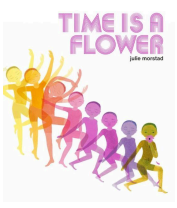
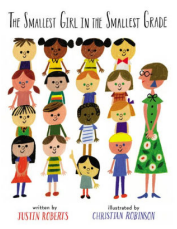
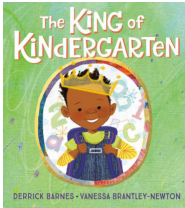
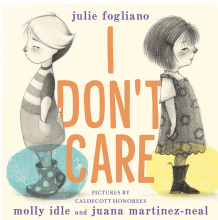
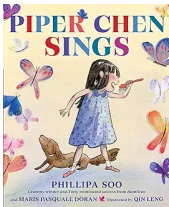
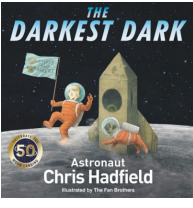
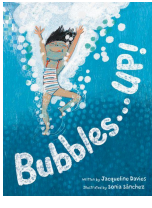
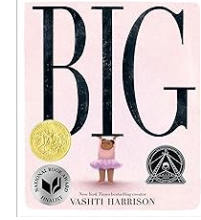




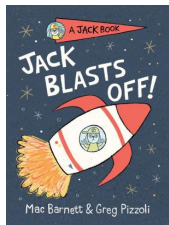
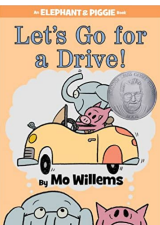
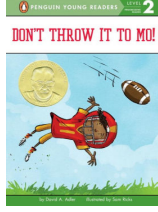
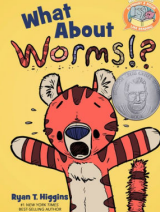
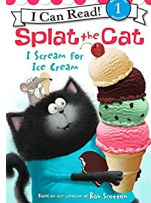
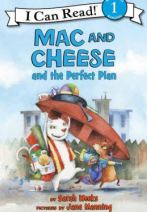
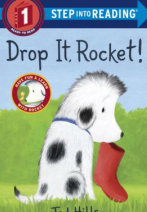
Entering Kindergarten 2025-26 Summer Reading Suggestions

Picture Books: New & Notable

	<u>Just a Story</u> by Jeff Mack. A boy finds a book that turns a library into a series of near misses with pirates, Elephants on scooters, a blue whale, and is that an alien in an Elvis wig? But surprise, he escapes without a scratch, because it's just a story...		<u>Knight Owl</u> by Christopher Denise. Owl has always wanted to be a real knight. He may not be the biggest or strongest, but his nocturnal instincts help protect the castle in this sweet and beautifully illustrated story. (A 2023 Caldecott Honor Book)
	<u>Big Truck Little Island</u> by Chris Van Dusen. When a big rig carrying a surprise slips off an island's only road, it takes everyone's cooperation to work around the stuck truck! Rhyming fun!		<u>Field Trip to the Ocean Deep</u> by John Hare. This wordless picture book invites all children to imagine themselves in the story—a tale full of mysteries, surprises, and adorable aquatic friends.
	<u>All Are Neighbors</u> by Alexandra Penfold. When a new family moves in, the whole neighborhood comes together to celebrate their diverse community in this uplifting new book.		<u>AHOY!</u> By Sophie Blackall Sea? What sea? The parent is only trying to vacuum the rug. But the child is adamant. It's not a rug--it's the ocean. And that broom? It's the ship's mast. Soon enough, the child and parent are <i>both</i> off on an imaginary nautical adventure!
	<u>Jabari Tries</u> by Gaia Cornwall. Jabari is inventing a machine that will fly all the way across the yard! But making it go from CRASH to WHOOSH will take grit, patience, and maybe even a little help from his sister.		<u>Every Dog in the Neighborhood</u> by Philip C. Stead. Louis wants a dog, but his grandmother claims there are already enough dogs in the neighborhood. His survey leads to many surprises. Humorous animated illustrations.
	<u>Misunderstood Shark</u> by Ame Dyckman. Sharks are scary! But this shark is just misunderstood, or is he? Poor Shark, he wasn't trying to scare them, he's just misunderstood! Fun silliness that your child will love.		<u>The Book Hog</u> by Greg Pizzoli. The Book Hog <i>loves</i> books. There's only one problem: he can't read! But when a kind librarian invites him to join for storytime, this literature-loving pig discovers the treasure that books really are.

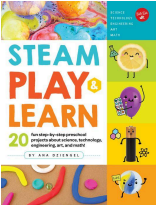
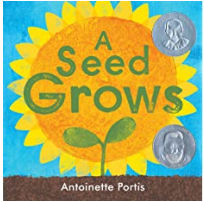
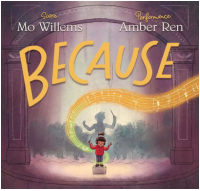
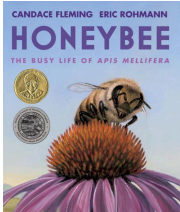
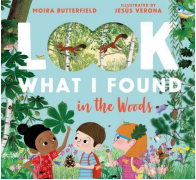
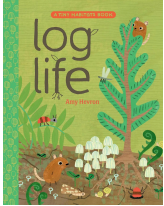
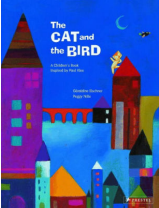
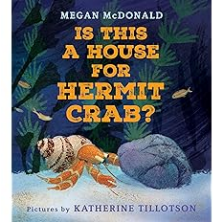
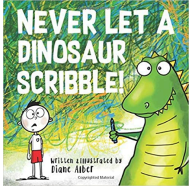
	<u>Millions of Maxes</u> by Meg Wolitzer. Max goes to the park and befriends another Max, then even meets a dog named Max. Learning he's not the only Max turns out to be ok with Max, because each "Max" is unique in their own way.		<u>Last Stop on Market Street</u> by Matt de la Peña. CJ questions why certain things are the way they are ... grandma helps him see the beauty—and fun—in their routine and the world around them. Winner of 2017 Newbery Medal.
	<u>Not Little</u> by Maya Myers. Dot is the smallest person in her family and at school; When a new boy named Sam joins Dot's class, she wonders if he's even smaller than she is. But when she sees him getting bullied by a mean kid twice his size, she knows she has to do the big thing and stand up for him.		<u>The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!</u> by Mo Willems. Why does the Pigeon have to go to school? He already knows everything! And what if he doesn't like it? What if he learns TOO MUCH!?!
	<u>John's Turn</u> by Mac Barnett. Every Friday during assembly, one student performs a talent. When it's John's turn, everyone can tell he's nervous, but his ability to dance ballet surprises and delights his classmates.		<u>Time is a Flower</u> by Julie Morstad. What is time? Time is a seed waiting to grow, a flower blooming, a sunbeam moving across a room. The author shines a joyful light on a difficult-to-grasp concept for young readers.
	<u>The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade</u> by Justin Roberts. Sally is tired of being overlooked because of her size, and when she takes a chance and stands up to the bullies, she finds that one small girl can make a big difference.		<u>The King of Kindergarten</u> by Derrick Barnes. Starting kindergarten is a big milestone—and the hero of this story is ready to make his mark! An empowering story that will give new kindergarteners a reassuring confidence boost
	<u>I Don't Care</u> by Julie Fogliano. Rhyming text and gentle pictures portray a developing friendship between two children who “don't care” about their differences and embrace their similarities.		<u>Piper Chen Sings</u> by Phiippa Soo. Piper loves to sing, but when asked to sing a solo on the school stage, Piper loses her confidence. Leave it to her beloved NaiNai to encourage Piper to let her inner light shine!
	<u>The Darkest Dark</u> by Chris Hatfield. Chris loves rockets and planets and pretends he's a brave astronaut, exploring the universe. Only one problem—at night, Chris doesn't feel so brave. He's afraid of the dark.		<u>Bubbles Up!</u> by Jaqueline Davies. Taking place at a public pool and mostly underwater, there's friendship, diversity and creativity. A celebration of summer fun and community.
	<u>BIG</u> by Vashti Harrison. Winner of the Caldecott Medal! A Coretta Scott King Award Author and Illustrator Honor book, a National Book Award finalist, and a <i>New York Times</i> bestseller! This deeply moving story shares valuable lessons about fitting in, standing out, and the beauty of joyful acceptance.		<u>Goodbye, Friend! Hello, Friend!</u> by Cori Doerrfeld. Change and transitions are hard, but two best friends demonstrate how, when one experience ends, it opens the door for another to begin.

Series for Beginning Readers

	<u>Jack Blasts Off!</u> (A Jack Book series) by Mac Barnett & Greg Pizzoli. an uproarious early reader series about a mischievous rabbit, a cranky old lady, and a lovable dog.		<u>Let's Go For a Drive</u> (Elephant & Piggie series #18) by Mo Willems. Piggie and Gerald are good friends who have silly and fun adventures together. Each of the titles in this series will have your child chuckling out loud and begging to keep reading.
	<u>Go, Otto, Go!: The Adventure of Otto</u> (Ready-to-Read series) by David Milgrim. Join Otto in his adventures on Earth and his attempts to get back home! One of many excellent titles in the Ready-to-Read series of books.		<u>Fox the Tiger</u> (My First I Can Read series) by Corey R. Tabor. 2019 Theodor Seuss Geisel Award. Fox wishes he were a tiger. Tigers are big and fast and sneaky. So he decides to become one! Each Fox book is funnier and quirkier than the next.
	<u>Don't Throw it Mo!</u> (Mo Jackson series) by David Adler. Mo is the youngest kid on his football team, but the opposing team thinks he is too small to catch the ball. Watch as Mo uses his skills to surprise his opponents.		<u>What About Worms!?</u> (Elephant & Piggie Like Reading series) by Ryan Higgins & Mo Willems. Tiger is BIG. Tiger is BRAVE. And Tiger is NOT afraid of anything ... except WORMS! Are Tiger's worm worries worse than worms?
	<u>Splat the Cat: I Scream for Ice Cream</u> (I Can Read! series) by Rob Scotton. Splat and his classmates save the day on a chaotic trip to the ice cream parlor!		<u>Mac and Cheese and the Perfect Plan</u> (I Can Read! series) by Sarah Weeks. Mac wants to spend a day at the beach, but Cheese would rather stay in bed. Can they agree to disagree?
	<u>Pandas</u> by Anne Schreiber (National Geographic Readers series). This series is perfect for those who love nonfiction, and are just beginning to read independently.		<u>Drop It, Rocket!</u> by Tad Hills (Step Into Reading Series). Rocket is ready to find new words for his word tree with his teacher, the little yellow bird. Children quickly fall in love with these two sweet friends.

STEAM Books: Recommended by Specials Teachers

	<u>The Sun is Kind of a Big Deal</u> by N Seluk. The Sun never stops working to keep things on Earth running smoothly. So why does the Sun get to be the center of attention? Because it's our solar system's very own star!		<u>Hello Puddle!</u> by Anita Sanchez. A nonfiction picture book exploring an unexpectedly crucial resource for wildlife: puddles! This lyrical, gorgeously illustrated nonfiction picture book is perfect for young science learners and nature lovers.
--	---	--	---

	<u>STEAM Play & Learn</u> by Ana Dziengel. For the youngest students, this book presents children with open-ended STEAM projects that allow them to problem-solve, make mistakes, get creative, and most of all, have fun.		<u>A Seed Grows</u> by Antoinette Portis. The lifecycle of a sunflower from seed to flower and back to seed is presented in richly textured images and lyrical text of the plant at each stage of development. (A 2023 Geisel and Sibert Honor Book)
	<u>Because</u> by Mo Willems. Life can be a powerful symphony of chance, discovery, persistence, and magic in this moving tale of a young girl's journey to center stage.* Recommended by Mrs. Hayes, LS music teacher.		<u>Honeybee</u> by Candace Fleming. Robert F. Sibert Medal Winner. Take to the sky with Apis, one honeybee, as she embarks on her journey through life! Award-winning author Candace Fleming describes the life cycle of the honeybee in accessible, beautiful language and illustrations.
	<u>Look What I found in the Woods</u> by Moira Butterfield. Learn about plants, trees, bark, leaves, nuts, pinecones, and bugs. You'll appreciate that the last page reminds children to only collect things that they find on the ground.		<u>Log Life: A tiny habitats book</u>. By Amy Hevron. When old trees fall to the forest floor, they can take centuries to decompose, becoming home to all sorts of organisms along the way. With snappy text and lush illustrations, this book invites curious readers to step into a tiny ecosystem that's truly like no other.
	<u>The Cat and the Bird: A Children's Book Inspired by Paul Klee</u> A treasured painting by Paul Klee is the basis for this whimsical tale about a cat and a bird, and about the themes of freedom and friendship.* Recommended by Ms. Gallion, Art teacher.		<u>National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Why</u> by Amy Shields. This brings all of the fun questions and answers of an almanac to a younger audience. Kids can spend hours ruminating over the pictures and tidbits of information this book presents.
	<u>Is This a House for Hermit Crab</u> by Megan McDonald. Katherine Tillotson's immersive artwork breathes new life into this classic text by Megan McDonald, beloved author of the Judy Moody series. Brand-new backmatter provides further learning about all things hermit crab		<u>Never Let a Dinosaur Scribble!</u> by Diane Alber. This story is about a little boy who keeps hearing, "Never let a dinosaur scribble!" But in his heart he believes that people just don't understand how beautiful scribbling can be.* Recommended by Ms. Gallion, Art teacher.