

## Thacher Montessori 2009 Summer Reading List Children's House

Please read as many books as possible with your child (at least seven). This is a list of books you and your child might find interesting.

The House in the Night by Susan Marie Swanson

A nighttime poem about the comforts of a young girl's home.  
(Caldecott Medal 2009)

My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann

Something always seems to go wrong when Rabbit is around, but mouse lets him play with his toy plane anyway because he is his good friend. (Caldecott Medal)

The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins by Barbara Kerley

The true story of Victorian artist Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins, who built life-sized models of dinosaurs, in hopes of educating the world about these awe-inspiring ancient animals. (Caldecott Honor)

Mr. Grumpy's Outing by John Burningham

Mr. Grumpy decides to take an outing in his boat, and is joined one by one by friends and animals until the boat tips! But this mild mariner takes everything in stride.

Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Briggs Martin

A biography of a self-taught scientist who photographed thousands of individual snowflakes in order to study their unique formation.  
(Caldecott Medal)

Pelle's New Suit by Elsa Beskow

Pelle's suit is too small for him. He shears his lamb, and Pelle has to help to get the wool carded, spun, dyed, woven, and made into a fine new suit.

The Dot and Ish by Peter J. Reynolds

These two tales of children venturing out on their journeys of artistic self-expression encourage each of us to make our mark without worrying about how "good" our art is.

The Hello, Goodbye Window by Norton Juster

The kitchen window at Nanna and Poppy's house is, for one little girl, a magic gateway. Told in her voice, her story is both a voyage of discovery and a celebration of the commonplace wonders that define childhood. It is also a love song devoted to that special relationship between grandparents and grandchild. (Caldecott Medal)

My Mother's Sari by Sandhya Rao

A playful and colorful look at the many uses a young girl finds for her mother's sari.

Song of the Waterboatman and Other Pond Poems by Joyce Sidman

From spring's first thaw to autumn's chill, the world of the pond is a dramatic place. A unique blend of whimsy, science, poetry, and hand-colored woodcuts, this collection invites us to take a closer look at our hidden ponds and wetlands. Here is celebration of their beauty and their mystery. (Caldecott Honor)

All the Colors of the Earth by Joyce Hamanaka

Lyrical text and extraordinary, light-filled paintings celebrate the earth, children, and the diversity of the world's heritages.

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert

Ehlert combines vivid collage artwork, beautiful colors, and an inventive design to create an eye-catching picture book. With a body made of fallen leaves and acorns for eyes, Leaf Man takes off from a backyard and flutters away on the breeze, meandering past animals, over fields of fall vegetables, above waterways and across prairie meadows.

Oscar's Half-Birthday by Bob Graham

Oscar is six months old—time for a half-birthday party. Mom, Dad and big sister Millie pack a picnic and set out to the city park. Everyone on the hillside joins the festivities in this joyous celebration of family and community.

Hue Boy by Rita Phillips Mitchell

Hue Boy may be the smallest boy in his village in Belize, but he's big news—everyone has suggestions for making him grow!

Edward in the Jungle by David McPhail

Armchair adventure turns all too real! While Edward reads about Tarzan and plays with a set of jungle animals in his backyard, the boy's hero suddenly swoops him up when an "enormous crocodile" threatens him.

Halibut Jackson by David Lucas

Halibut Jackson is shy, and wants to fade into the background. In fact, he makes his own clothes so that he will blend in wherever he is going. However, at a garden party at the palace, he inadvertently stands out, as everyone marvels at his creation. But among friends, blending in seems less important.

Dog and Bear: Two Friends, Three Stories by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

Three easy-to-read stories reveal the sweet friendship between Dog and Bear.

The Hungry Coat by Demi

How Turkish hero of legend, Nasrettin Hoca, teaches his friends a lesson about appearances is the heart of this hilarious and clever story.

Papa, Do You Love Me? By Barbara M. Joosse

Set in Africa and featuring the Masaai culture, beautiful watercolor illustrations and lyrical text capture the universal love between a father and a child.

**Other recommended authors:** Allan Say, Patricia McKissack, James Marshall, Jan Brett, Mary Pope Osborne, Virginia Lee Burton, Maurice Sendak, Tomie DePaola. Lois Ehlert, Demi, Peter H. Reynolds, Leo Lionni

## **For emerging readers**

There is a Bird On Your Head (2008 Theodore Seuss Geisel Award)  
by Mo Willems

An elephant and pig help each other through troubling situations, with hilarious results. The simple illustrations evoke humor and emotions masterfully. Great for reluctant early readers. Other titles in the Elephant and Piggie series include My Friend is Sad, I'm Invited to a Party, and Today I Will Fly.

Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel

Arnold Lobel's comfortable brown and green illustrations invite and delight every reader, setting the tone for warm, funny stories about friendship. If you need even more of Frog and Toad, don't miss Frog and Toad Together, Frog and Toad All Year, and Days with Frog and Toad.

Little Bear by Else Homelund Minarik

Minarik and Maurice Sendak teamed up to create these simple stories that are deeply comforting and lovingly playful. Follow up with A Kiss For Little Bear, Father Bear Comes Home, and Little Bear's Visit.

Henry and Mudge The First Book by Cynthia Rylant

This is the first book in the acclaimed easy-to-read series featuring Henry and his lovable 180-pound dog, Mudge. The deep friendship between Henry and his dog is evident throughout their amusing adventures. Many other titles are also available in this series.

Mr. Putter and Tabby by Cynthia Rylant

This series about the lovable Mr. Putter and his skittish cat, Tabby, is a terrific boon for early readers. Howard's detail-rich illustrations of these utterly charming characters perfectly complement Rylant's humorous, entertaining, and very readable stories.