

**Manhattan Beach Unified School District**  
**2016 Summer Pleasure Reading**  
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Media Specialists  
**For Students Entering Grade 3**

**PICTURE BOOKS**

*Madame Martine*, by Sarah S. Brannen (2014)

A long-time resident of Paris chases her newly adopted dog one day and finds herself in a place she has never been before. Sometimes friends (or pets!) can help us in surprising ways.

*Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook*, by Anne Vittur Kennedy (2015)

Readers will love being in on the joke as Ragweed breaks all his own farm dog rules, collecting biscuits as he goes.

*Snapsy the Alligator Did Not Ask to Be in This Book*, by Julie Falatko (2016)

Fans of Mo Willems will get a chuckle out of how Snapsy's ordinary day is interrupted by a meddling narrator.

**NONFICTION**

*A Passion for Elephants: The Real Life Adventure of Field Scientist Cynthia Moss*, by Toni Buzzeo (2015)

Cynthia Moss devoted her life to the study of the largest land animal, the African elephant, living among them on the wide-open savannah.

*The Original Cowgirl: The Wild Adventures of Lucille Mulhall*, by Heather Lang (2015)

Lucille Mulhall wasn't like most girls in the 1890s. At a time when most women couldn't vote or own property, Lucille never let society's expectations—or the dangers of roping and riding—stop her from pursuing her passion.

*Green City: How One Community Survived a Tornado and Rebuilt for a Sustainable Future*, by Allan Drummond (2016)

When a tornado destroyed Greensburg, Kansas, in 2007 the residents decided to rebuild a town that would not only survive another storm but would also support sustainable living.

**CHAPTER BOOKS**

*The Story of Diva and Flea*, by Mo Willems (2015)

Sweet little Diva is a dog with a loving home, while Flea is an adventurous alley cat. The two friends explore Paris, learning about bravery and friendship.

*The Year of the Dog*, by Grace Lin (2007)

The Year of the Dog is said to be lucky for finding a friend and for “finding oneself,” and it turns out that way for Taiwanese-American Pacy “Grace” Lin. Based loosely on the author's childhood. More of Pacy's story can be found in *The Year of the Rat* (2009) and *Dumpling Days* (2012).

***The Turtle of Oman***, by Naomi Shihab Nye (2014)

Aref Al-Amri has lived his whole life in Muscat, Oman, but now he and his parents are moving to Ann Arbor, Michigan. In the week before they leave, Aref and his beloved grandfather visit all their favorite places. This is a quiet book about family, moving to a new home, and making memories.

***When Mischief Came to Town***, by Katrina Nannestad (2015)

In 1911, when orphaned ten-year-old Inge comes to live with her stern grandmother in a village on a remote Danish island, she brings joy, laughter, and a renewed sense of family.

## **BOOKS IN A SERIES**

***Here's Hank***, by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver

Eight books including ***Bookmarks Are People Too!*** (2014) and ***The Soggy, Foggy Campout*** (2016) Hank from the *Hank Zipzer* books stars, but here Hank is in second grade. Somehow Hank always makes his classmates laugh—without meaning to! He tries hard in school, but his brain always seems to freeze into a popsicle. (*Here's Hank* books are in Dyslexie font, designed to help young readers distinguish letters and words.)

***Andrew Lost***, by J. C. Greenburg

Eighteen books including ***On the Dog*** (2002) and ***With the Frogs*** (2008)

Andrew and his friend Judy shrink down to microscopic level and navigate all kinds of adventures—from being lost on the dog to lost in a pond full of hungry frogs.

***Hamster Princess***, by Ursula Vernon

***Harriet the Invincible*** (2015) is a spunky graphic novel retelling of Sleeping Beauty in which Harriet, a hamster princess, embarks on many wild adventures until the curse on her puts her parents at risk. In ***Of Mice and Magic*** (2016) Harriet tries to free twelve mice princesses who are under a curse that makes them dance all night long.

***Dog Diaries***, various authors

Each volume is written as if a real dog from history were telling the story. The series includes ***Buddy*** (2013), one of the first guide dogs for the blind; ***Togo*** (2014), who along with Balto delivered serum to Nome, Alaska; and ***Stubby*** (2015), the World War I mascot of American troops in Europe.

## **CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL (CYRM) NOMINEES, 2016-2017**

***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library***, by Chris Grabenstein (2013)

After an overnight party in the spectacular new library created by gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello, twelve boys and girls are challenged to find a way out. Being good at puzzles helps, as does being a reader.

***The Real Boy***, by Anne Ursu (2013)

Something sinister has come to the forest of Barrow, and children of the nearby town are mysteriously falling ill. To confront this evil, Oscar, shop boy to a powerful magician, must discover his own power.

***Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin***, by Liesl Shurtliff (2013)

In this clever retelling, Rump is delighted to find he has a knack for spinning straw into gold, but this practice snares him ever deeper in a curse. Rump sets off, accompanied by Red Riding Hood, through a fairy-tale world of pixies and trolls to find out his real name and change his destiny.