

Manhattan Beach Unified School District
2017 Summer Pleasure Reading
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Media Specialists
For Students Entering Grade 3

Picture Books

A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: A Story about Knitting and Love, by Michelle Edwards (2016)
Sophia is very worried because her dear friend Mrs. Goldman doesn't have a warm hat for the cold weather. The book includes knitting instructions that could be a fun summer project.

Du Iz Tak? by Carson Ellis (2016)

In this 2017 Caldecott Honor book, playful artwork combines with whimsical invented language in the story of friendly insects who build a tree fort together before a hungry predator swoops in to disrupt the fun.

Follow the Moon Home: A Tale of One Idea, Twenty Kids, and a Hundred Sea Turtles, by Philippe Cousteau and Deborah Hopkinson (2016)

The lights from beachside homes can confuse loggerhead turtle hatchlings, who need to swim toward the sea if they are to survive. This story about a student project to save the loggerheads shows how to create and carry out a successful community action campaign.

Chapter Books

The Infamous Ratsos, by Kara LaReau (2016)

Ralphie and Louie Ratso want to show how rough and tough they are, but every naughty move they make ultimately turns out to be something kind or helpful.

Chapter Books in a Series

Lulu, by Hilary McKay

Lulu and the Duck in the Park (2011), ***Lulu and the Rabbit Next Door*** (2012)

Lulu is a perfect choice for an animal-loving child. These beginning chapter books are full of believable characters in situations to which young readers can easily relate.

Super Happy Party Bears, by Marcie Colleen

Gnawing Around (2016). To the Super Happy Party Bears, everything is a good thing, and their attitude can be summed up in one word: YAY! Not so for the rest of the residents of Grumpy Wood. They find everything about the bears annoying.

Knock Knock on Wood (2016). The Grumpy Woods residents are annoyed by Wallace Woodpecker's pecking, but the bears think it's a perfect rhythm for early-morning dancercise. ***Going Nuts, Staying a Hive,*** and ***Bat to the Bone*** (all 2017) round out the series.

Lola Levine, by Monica Brown

Lola Levine Is Not Mean (2016), ***Lola Levine Drama Queen*** (2016), ***Lola Levine and the Ballet Scheme*** (2016), ***Lola Levine Meets Jelly and Bean*** (2017)

Lola Levine is a great series for any child looking for a multicultural chapter book.

Seven-year-old Lola takes on life in a variety of fun adventures. Suggested for anyone who enjoys the *Clementine* series.

Nonfiction

Trombone Shorty, by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews (2015)

A picture book autobiography about Trombone Shorty's childhood and how he came to be one of the youngest trombone performers. The back of the book has pictures of him playing as well as a more detailed autobiography. Great connection to modern jazz for music lovers.

Grand Canyon, by Jason Chin (2017)

This is an outstanding introduction to one of the world's greatest outdoor wonders. It progresses as a hike up the South Kaibab Trail, displaying the canyon's varied geologic features (including fossils), plant life, and animals. Notes and illustrations cover human settlement, history, and ecology. Especially recommended for travelers, as are Chin's other nonfiction picture books such as ***Redwoods*** (2009) and ***Coral Reefs*** (2011).

California Young Reader Medal (CYRM) Nominees

Ms. Rapscott's Girls, by Elise Primavera (2015)

At the Great Rapscott School for Daughters of Busy Parents, headmistress Ms. Rapscott teaches her trepidatious students about adventure, birthday cake, and their own bravery.

Dash, by Kirby Larson (2016)

As World War II rages and people of Japanese descent are forced into internment camps, Mitsi Kashino is separated from her home, her classmates, and her beloved dog. Will Mitsi's life ever return to normal?

Pax, by Sara Pennypacker (2016)

When Peter's father makes him return Pax, a tame fox, to the wild, Peter realizes right away that doing so was a terrible mistake. Peter sets out to find Pax, and Pax is likewise looking for Peter. Their journeys are challenging and transformative.