

**Manhattan Beach Unified School District**  
**2019 Summer Pleasure Reading**  
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Resource Specialists  
For Students Entering Grades 1 and 2

**Picture Books**

***The Donkey Egg***, by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel (2019)

Bear does not want to work on his farm. He just wants to sleep all day. Good thing Fox knows exactly what Bear needs--a donkey! And Fox just happens to have a donkey egg that is almost ready to hatch.

***7 Ate 9***, by Tara Lazar (2017)

Who says math can't be fun? Follow along as a Private I solves a math mystery.

***Interrupting Chicken and the Elephant of Surprise***, by David Ezra Stein (2018)

Little Chicken learned something new at school: every story has an "elephant" of surprise! Papa Chicken is determined to show her that there are no elephants in *The Ugly Duckling*, *Rapunzel*, or *The Little Mermaid*, and Little Chicken is just as determined to find them.

***The Curious Garden***, by Peter Brown (2009)

An innovative story about how one boy can make a big difference. Liam is a curious boy who finds a garden that has been forgotten, but with his care and attention, he brings it back to life. Other people in the town are inspired by Liam's devotion to join in.

***Potato Pants***, by Laurie Keller (2018)

Pants for potatoes are on sale, one day only! Hey, what's that eggplant doing in the pants store?

**Chapter Books in a Series**

***Stella Batts Needs a New Name***, by Courtney Sheinmel (2012)

Each of these easy-to-read chapter books is themed on a topic to which elementary students can easily relate--such as a disappointing birthday, a case of the meanies, and wanting to have a different name. Also ***Who's in Charge?*** (2013), ***Superstar*** (2015), and seven additional titles.

***Rosie Revere and the Raucous Riveters***, by Andrea Beaty (2018)

An aspiring young engineer who is wise enough to realize that her occasional failures are valuable learning experiences, Rosie Revere is enlisted by her aunt's team of talented World War II airplane engineers to design a painting contraption that will help them win a mural competition. Also ***Ada Twist and the Perilous Pants*** (2019).

***Fergus and Zeke***, by Kate Messner (2017)

Fergus, a classroom pet mouse, gets tucked away in a backpack and ends up on a field trip to the museum. A new friend, Zeke, shows him around, but then Fergus wonders how to get back to school. Also ***Fergus and Zeke at the Science Fair*** (2018).

***Dory Fantasmagory***, by Abby Hanlon (2014)

Dory is the youngest of her siblings, and even though they never want to play with her, she still manages to have confidence in who she is and what she can do. Also ***The Real True Friend*** (2015), ***Dory Dory Black Sheep*** (2016), ***Head in the Clouds*** (2018), and ***Tiny Tough*** (coming October 2019).

## Poetry

***Imagine***, by Juan Felipe Herrera (2018)

Every child wonders who she or he might become. The son of migrant farm workers, Juan Felipe Herrera grew up to be a poet--the U.S. Poet Laureate from 2015 to 2017. This lyrical, autobiographical poem says to each reader, "Imagine what you could do."

## Nonfiction

***P Is for Pterodactyl, the Worst Alphabet Book Ever: All the Letters that Misbehave and Make Words Nearly Impossible to Pronounce***, by Raj Haldar (2018)

This is a sophisticated alphabet book of "mischievous words" that do not follow phonetic rules. It is also a terrific vocabulary builder.

***Dreamers***, by Yuyi Morales (2018)

"What if you dreamed of a new life, and it came to you?" An immigrant mother and child find a world of possibilities at the library. This book celebrates all that immigrants bring with them when they make a new home.

***Hawk Rising***, by Maria Gianferrari (2018)

A red-tailed hawk hunts to feed his family. Full of facts about how hawks hunt, nest, raise their young, and more.