

**Manhattan Beach Unified School District**  
**2021 Summer Pleasure Reading**  
Pleasure reading recommended by MBUSD Library Resource Specialists  
For Students Entering Grade 3

**Picture Books**

***On Account of the Gum***, by Adam Rex (2020)

Chaos and hilarity ensue when various remedies are employed to remove a wad of gum from a child's hair.

***Smug Seagull***, by Maddie Frost (2020)

A smug seagull who loves swiping beach-goers' snacks gets a taste of his own medicine from a patient crab.

***Federico and the Wolf***, by Rebecca J. Gomez (2020)

In this fresh and creative retelling of "Little Red Riding Hood," Federico is riding his bike to the market to buy Abuelo's groceries, and becomes the object of a hungry wolf's attention. Includes a recipe for pico de gallo.

**Chapter Books**

***Ways to Make Sunshine***, by Renée Watson (2020)

Ryan Hart is navigating the fourth grade and all its challenges with determination. She was given the name "Ryan" because it means king and her mom wanted her to feel powerful every time she heard her name. Although the family is facing a few setbacks, Ryan tries to bring a ray of sunshine to her loved ones, but it's not always easy.

***Henry Huggins***, by Beverly Cleary (1950)

Every child should pass a summer's day getting to know the wonderful world of Beverly Cleary, who passed away in April 2021, just shy of her 105th birthday. ***Henry Huggins*** is a great way to get acquainted with the folks who inhabit Klickitat Street. Third-grader Henry picks up a stray dog one day, names him Ribsy, and sets out on numerous adventures including breeding hundreds of fish and collecting over a thousand worms. Children may be amazed at the freedom to roam that Henry and friends enjoy, so different from the supervised play of today's youth.

***Skunk and Badger***, by Amy Timberlake (2020)

Badger enjoys a quiet life in a comfortable home owned by his aunt. One evening there's a knock at the door: it's Skunk, who has been invited by the same benefactor to live in the house as well. The roommates could not be more different, and their relationship is tense, even before dozens of chickens show up, seeking refuge. Will this be the last straw?

***The Secret Time Machine and the Gherkin Switcheroo***, by Lia Simone (2020)

In this follow-up to *They Didn't Teach THIS in Worm School!* (2018), a lie told in the heat of anger pitches Marcus the earthworm and his housemate Laurence the bird into a series of zany adventures involving a supposed time machine.

### **Chapter Books in a Series**

***Planet Omar***, by Zanib Mian

***Accidental Trouble Magnet, Book 1*** (2019)

Omar, a British Pakistani boy, has just moved to a new neighborhood and is starting at a new school. Luckily Omar's imagination, sense of humor, and family help him deal with the difficulties that arise. Islamic practices and values are woven into the chatty narration, and there are illustrations and creative typefaces throughout.

***Dyamond Daniel***, by Nikki Grimes

***Make Way for Dyamond Daniel, Book 1*** (2009)

This spunky third-grader isn't afraid to tackle the challenges many kids face.

### **Nonfiction**

***Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist***, by Julie Leung (2021)

From humble origins as a nine-year-old Chinese immigrant with false papers, Tyrus Wong faced discrimination and challenged adversity to become a professional artist. Celebrated as the man behind the design for Walt Disney's animated movie *Bambi*, Wong worked for other film studios as well.

***The Boy Who Became King: LeBron James***, by Anthony Curcio (2017)

This picture book biography includes more than LeBron James' basketball life. Learn about his tough beginnings and what he is doing for others.

***R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul***, by Carole Boston Weatherford (2020)

Get ready to rock, roll, and learn about one of our greatest singers.

***Anna and Samia: The True Story of Saving a Black Rhino***, by Paul Meisel (2019)

Imagine sharing your home with a 1,500-pound animal! An infant rhino is helped by conservationist Anna Merz, who protects her and helps her acquire the necessary skills for an independent life in the wild.