

**WEST ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2017

Suggested Reading List

Grades 3-5

Title	Description
<i>Flora & Ulysses</i> by Kate DiCamillo	Winner of the 2014 Newbery Medal. Holy unanticipated occurrences! A cynic meets an unlikely superhero in a genre-breaking new novel by master storyteller Kate DiCamillo. It begins, as the best superhero stories do, with a tragic accident that has unexpected consequences. The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book <i>Terrible Things Can Happen to You!</i> , is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry — and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart. From #1 <i>New York Times</i> best-selling author Kate DiCamillo comes a laugh-out-loud story filled with eccentric, endearing characters and featuring an exciting new format — a novel interspersed with comic-style graphic sequences and full-page illustrations, all rendered in black-and-white by up-and-coming artist K. G. Campbell.
<i>Gone Fishing: A Novel in Verse</i> by Tamera Wissinger	Nine-year-old Sam loves fishing with his dad. So when his pesky little sister, Lucy, horns in on their fishing trip, he's none too pleased: "Where's my stringer? / Something's wrong! / The princess doll does not belong!" All ends well in this winsome book of poems—each labeled with its proper poetic form, from quatrain to tercet. Together the poems build a dawn-to-dusk story of a father-son bond, of sibling harmony lost and found—and most of all, of delicious anticipation. Charming line drawings animate the poetry with humor and drama, and the extensive Poet's Tackle Box at the end makes this the perfect primer to hook aspiring poets of all ages.
<i>The Empty Pot</i> by Demi	A long time ago in China there was a boy named Ping who loved flowers. Anything he planted burst into bloom. The Emperor loved flowers too. When it was time to choose an heir, he gave a flower seed to each child in the kingdom. "Whoever can show me their best in a year's time," he proclaimed, "shall succeed me to the throne!" Ping plants his seed and tends it every day. But month after month passes and nothing grows. When spring comes, Ping must go to the Emperor with nothing but an empty pot.
<i>All the Colors of the Earth</i> by Sheila Hamonaka	This book reveals in verse that despite outward differences, children everywhere are lovable and essentially the same.
<i>The Rag Coat</i> by Lauren Mills	Before Minna can go to school, she needs a winter coat. The Quilting Mothers offer to make her a coat from scraps of quilting cloth, and Minna carefully chooses the pieces that have the best stories behind them. Minna proudly wears it to school, only to be faced with her classmates' jeers of "Rag-Coat! Rag-Coat!" Minna's coat with its stories and memories, and Minna's own thoughtful part in its creation, that allow her to bring friendship to Sharing Day, making her coat the warmest one of all.
<i>Kate Shelley: Bound for Legend</i> by Robert San Souci	A biography of the fifteen-year-old Iowa teenager who helped avert a train disaster in 1881 and became a national heroine.
<i>Seven Brave Women</i> by Betsy Hearne	A young girl recounts the brave exploits of her female ancestors, including her great-great-grandmother who came to America in a wooden sailboat.
<i>A Long Way to Go</i> by Zibby Oneal	Ten-year-old Lila becomes sympathetic to the women's suffrage movement after her society grandmother is arrested for picketing the White House in support of the cause.

<p><i>Catch that Pass</i> by Matt Christopher</p>	<p>Everyone knows Jim will be the star linebacker on the team if can only conquer his fear of being tackled, but it takes a boy in a wheelchair to teach him that kind of courage.</p>
<p><i>Teammates</i> by Peter Golenbock</p>	<p>The moving story of how Jackie Robinson became the first black player on a major league baseball team and how on a fateful day in Cincinnati, Pee Wee Reese took a stand and declared Jackie his teammate.</p>
<p><i>The Invention of Hugo Cabret</i> by Brian Selznick</p>	<p>ORPHAN, CLOCK KEEPER, AND THIEF, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery. Winner of the 2008 Caldecott Medal</p>
<p><i>No Talking</i> by Andrew Clements</p>	<p>It's boys vs. girls when the noisiest, most talkative, and most competitive fifth graders in history challenge one another to see who can go longer without talking. Teachers and school administrators are in an uproar, until an innovative teacher sees how the kids' experiment can provide a terrific and unique lesson in communication. In <i>No Talking</i>, Andrew Clements portrays a battle of wills between some spunky kids and a creative teacher with the perfect pitch for elementary school life that made <i>Frindle</i> an instant classic.</p>
<p><i>Savvy</i> by Ingrid Law</p>	<p>Thirteen is when a Beaumont's savvy hits—and with one brother who causes hurricanes and another who creates electricity, Mibs Beaumont is eager to see what she gets. But just before the big day, Poppa is in a terrible accident. And now all Mibs wants is a savvy that will save him. In fact, Mibs is so sure she'll get a powerful savvy that she sneaks a ride to the hospital on a rickety bus with her sibling and the preacher's kids in tow. After this extraordinary adventure—full of talking tattoos and a kidnapping—not a soul on board will ever be the same.</p>
<p><i>Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters</i> by John Steptoe</p>	<p>Mufaro has two daughters, the bad-tempered Manyara and the loving Nyasha, who must pass a series of tests in order for one of them to be considered a beautiful and worthy wife for the Great King. Fiercely competitive, Manyara taunts Nyasha with threats of becoming a servant once Manyara is made Queen. Nyasha doesn't complain to her father about her sister's ill will, but merely tends to her garden where she befriends a little garden snake, Nyoka. As Manyara and Nyasha journey to meet with the Great King, they are each tested by Nyoka in his various disguises.</p>
<p><i>The One and Only Ivan</i> by Katherine Applegate</p>	<p>Inspired by the true story of a captive gorilla known as Ivan, this illustrated book is told from the point of view of Ivan himself. This paperback edition includes an author's note highlighting the differences between the fictional story and true events, a version of the author's Newbery Medal acceptance speech, Ivan's "signature," discussion questions, and more.</p> <p>Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes. www.amazon.com.</p>

<p><i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> by Kate DiCamillo</p>	<p>Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane. The rabbit was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who adored him completely. And then, one day, he was lost. . . . Kate DiCamillo takes us on an extraordinary journey, from the depths of the ocean to the net of a fisherman, from the bedside of an ailing child to the bustling streets of Memphis. Along the way, we are shown a miracle – that even a heart of the most breakable kind can learn to love, to lose, and to love again. www.amazon.com</p>
<p><i>Danny the Champion of the World</i> by Roald Dahl</p>	<p>Danny has a life any boy would love—his home is a gypsy caravan, he's the youngest master car mechanic around, and his best friend is his dad, who never runs out of wonderful stories to tell. But one night Danny discovers a shocking secret that his father has kept hidden for years. Soon Danny finds himself the mastermind behind the most incredible plot ever attempted against nasty Victor Hazell, a wealthy landowner with a bad attitude. Can they pull it off? If so, Danny will truly be the champion of the world. www.bn.com</p>

A great way to keep children engaged in reading is to introduce them to books that are part of a series. The following series are popular with students in grades 3-5.

Name of Series	Author(s)
<i>The 39 Clues</i>	Various authors
<i>The Baby-Sitters Club</i>	Ann M. Martin
<i>Big Nate</i>	Lincoln Peirce
<i>Bunnicular</i>	Deborah Howe & James Howe
<i>Captain Underpants</i>	Dav Pilkey
<i>Dear America</i>	Various authors
<i>Dog Whisperer</i>	Nicholas Edwards
<i>Encyclopedia Brown</i>	Donald J. Sobol
<i>Fudge</i>	Judy Blume
<i>Ghost Buddy</i>	Henry Winkler & Lin Oliver
<i>Goddess Girls</i>	Joan Holub & Suzanne Williams
<i>Goosebumps</i>	R.L. Stine
<i>Henry Huggins</i>	Beverly Cleary
<i>Ivy and Bean</i>	Annie Barrows & Sophia Blackall
<i>Judy Moody</i>	Megan McDonald