



# WEST MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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***“Success Starts Here”***

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June 2023

Dear Families and Incoming First Grade Students,

Welcome to First Grade! As you begin to enjoy summer, we encourage you to continue to make reading an important part of your family's activities. While reading instruction will be emphasized by your child's teacher throughout the school year, children need to continue to read during the summer months, not only for enjoyment, but also to sustain and strengthen skills they have already developed. We have provided a list of *suggested* titles appropriate for First Grade-aged children to get you started with ideas, but **please feel free to read beyond** them! If needed, you can reach out to your child's teacher for additional guidance about appropriate book choices.

Upon request, a Chromebook can be made available to your incoming First Grade student for reading digital texts if needed. Please reach out to the elementary school at which your child is registered to make arrangements.

To support families on their annual Summer Reading journeys, we partner with the [West Milford Township Public Library](http://www.wmtl.org). You can access Summer Reading information on their website at [wmtl.org](http://wmtl.org)

Reading over summer vacation may not be a priority for children, but parents and teachers should make it one. Why? Summer reading is critical to a child's ability to not only retain information learned the previous year, but also to grow in knowledge and [critical thinking skills](#) for the coming year. Literacy expert Julie Wood believes that it is necessary for children to [read on a daily basis](#) in order to maintain literacy skills learned in the previous school year.

All of this information can be accessed on the District's website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Have a wonderful, word-filled summer!

*Daniel R. Novak*

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Director of Education

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SUMMER READING *SUGGESTED* TITLES LIST  
BOOKS TO SHARE WITH INCOMING FIRST GRADE STUDENTS  
SUMMER 2023

**Students Entering Grade 1**

Alexander, Lloyd. *How the Cat Swallowed Thunder*

Allard, Harry. *Miss Nelson is Missing*

Andreae, Giles. *Giraffes Can't Dance*

Bang-Campbell, Monika. *Little Rat Makes Music*

Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Chodos-Irvine. *Ella Sarah Gets Dressed*

Cousins, Lucy. *Maisie Series*

Feldman, Eve. *Billy and Milly Short and Silly*

Fleming, Candace. *Muncha, Muncha, Muncha*

Fox, Mem. *The Magic Hat, Sophie*

Freeman, Don. *Dandelion*

Guarino, Deborah. *Is Your Mama a Llama?*

Haseley, Dennis. *A Story for Bear*

Henkes, Kevin. *Kitten's First Full Moon*

Hutchins, Pat. *Rosie's Walk*

Jenkins, S. *What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?*

Johnson, Crockett. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

Keller, Holly. *Pearl's New Skates*

Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer*

Knudsen, Michelle. *Library Lion*

Lionni, Leo. *Swimmy*

Long, Melinda. *How I Became a Pirate*

MacLachlan, Patricia. *The Sick Day*

Marshall, James. *George and Martha* Martin, Bill Jr. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*

Mayer, Mercer. *Little Critter Series*

McCloskey, Robert. *Make Way for Ducklings*

Munch, Robert. *Love You Forever*

Numeroff, Laura Joffe. *If You Give Series*

Penn, Audrey. *The Kissing Hand*

Piper, Wally. *The Little Engine That Could*

Polacco, Patricia. *G is for Goat*

Potter, Beatrix. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. *Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons, Duck, Rabbit*

Schaefer, Lola M. *An Island Grows*

**Also consider reading:**

- Books of personal interest
- Other books by the same authors
- Fairy tales & Nursery rhymes
- Old favorites over and over!

Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are*  
Seuss, Dr. *The Cat in the Hat*  
Silverstein, Shel. *A Giraffe and a Half*  
Steig, William. *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*  
Stevens, Janet. *Tops and Bottoms*  
Taback, Simms. *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*  
Viorst, Judith. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*  
Willems, Mo. *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus; Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale; Today I Will Fly*  
Williams, Margery. *The Velveteen Rabbit*  
Wing, Natasha. *The Night Before Series*  
Yolen, Jane. *How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight; My Father Knows the Names of Things*

### **Students Entering Grade 2**

Adler, David. *Young Cam Jansen Series I/J*  
Becker, Bonny. *A Birthday for Bear L/M*  
Bemelmans, Ludwig. *Madeline K/L*  
Berenstain, Stan and Jan. *The Berenstain Bears Series*  
Brett, Jan. *The Gingerbread Baby L/M; Daisy Comes Home K/L*  
Bridwell, Norman. *Clifford Series*  
Broach, Elise. *When Dinosaurs Came with Everything*  
Brown, Marc. *Arthur Series*  
Bruel, Nick. *Bad Kitty Series*  
Chaconas, Dori. *Cork & Fuzz Series*  
Cronin, Doreen. *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type J/K; Giggle, Giggle, Quack D; Diary of a Worm K; Duck for President K*  
Danziger, Paula. *Amber Brown Series*  
Davies, Nicola. *One Tiny Turtle K*  
de Paolo, Tomie. *Strega Nona M*  
Gerstein, M. *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers L*  
Henkes, Kevin. *My Garden*  
Hill, Eric. *Spot Series*  
Hoban, Russell. *Bedtime for Frances J/K*  
Hoberman, Mary Ann. *You Read to Me Series*  
- *Very Short Fairy Tales K*  
- *Very Short Mother Goose*  
- *Very Short Scary Tales*  
- *Very Short Stories J*  
Hoff, Syd. *Danny and the Dinosaur J*  
Holm, Jennifer. *Babymouse Series*  
Juster, Norton. *The Hello Goodbye Window K*  
Katz, Alan. *I'm Still Here in the Bathtub: Brand New Silly Dilly Songs*  
Kirk, David. *Miss Spider's Tea Party*  
Kline, Suzy. *Horrible Harry Series*  
Kraus, Robert. *Leo the Late Bloomer I*  
Lester, Helen. *Tacky Penguin L*  
Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad Series*  
McCully, Emily Arnold. *Mirette on the High Wire O/P*  
Mills, Claudia. *Gus and Grandpa Series*

Milne, A. A. *Winnie the Pooh*  
Murphy, Stuart J. *Math Start Series*  
Nolen, Jerdine. *Harvey Potter's Balloon Farm L*  
O'Connor, Jane. *Fancy Nancy Series*  
Park, Barbara. *Junie B. Jones Series*  
Pilkey, Dav. *Dragon's Fat Cat I*  
Ryder, Joanne. *The Waterfall's Gift M*  
Rylant, Cynthia. *Henry and Mudge Series*  
Silverman, Erica. *Cowgirl Kate & Cocoa J*  
Simon, Seymour. *Let's Try It Out Series (Science)*  
- *in the water L*  
- *in the air L*  
- *with towers and bridges*  
*Rookie Biographies*  
Wiesner, David. *The Three Pigs*  
Woodson, Jacqueline. *Coming Home Soon L*  
Zion, Gene. *Harry the Dirty Dog*

**Finding a book that is right for you:**

- Select a book you would like to read.
- Look through the book and read a page.
- Every time you come to a word you don't know, count it on your finger.
- If you use up five or more fingers by the end of the page, the book is too difficult for you to read independently, but read it with your parent.
- Select another book to read independently.
- A great resource to help you find books is:  
[www.readkiddoread.com](http://www.readkiddoread.com)