Bath Elementary School
Chris Renner, Principal

The 2019–2020
BUILDING READERS®

Book List

Recommended Books for Elementary School Children

We Are Family by Patricia Hegarty (Tiger Tales). This detailed picture book with short rhyming text introduces young readers to different kinds of families who have one big thing in common: unconditional love. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Paper Wishes by Lois Sepahban (Farrar, Straus and Giroux). A young Japanese-American girl and her family are forced into an internment camp after the attack on Pearl Harbor. An engaging story about survival and love offers a personal perspective on American history. *(historical fiction, upper elementary)*

Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved Reptiles by Patricia Valdez (Knopf Books for Young Readers). Dynamic illustrations and text tell the story of a pioneering female scientist and how she turned her passion for reptiles into a career. *(biography, lower elementary)*

The Book of Boy by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (Greenwillow Books). Winner of multiple awards, this thrilling tale takes readers on a suspenseful medieval adventure, where nothing is quite what it seems. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

The Fox on the Swing by Evelina Daciutè (Thames & Hudson, Inc). Readers will encounter unexpected details and a satisfying surprise in an award-winning tale about happiness and friendship. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina (Candlewick). Winner of the 2019 Newbery Medal, this story follows a young girl as she enters sixth grade and experiences difficult challenges with her friends and family. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

All that Trash: The Story of the 1987 Garbage Barge and Our Problem with Stuff by Meghan McCarthy (Simon & Schuster). Filled with comical illustrations and facts about recycling, this is the true story of a ship full of trash that traveled over 6,000 miles. *(nonfiction, lower elementary)*

Camp Panda: Helping Cubs Return to the Wild by Catherine Thimmesh (HMH Books for Young Readers). In this award-winning book with stunning photos, readers get an up-close view of pandas and wildlife conservation. *(nonfiction, upper elementary)*

The Adventures of Otto: See Pip Flap by David Milgrim (Simon Spotlight). With simple vocabulary and illustrations, this silly story about a robot who tries to teach his friend how to fly will entertain young readers. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson (Arthur A. Levine Books). A mystery takes readers on a journey through time and explores issues of race, bullying and identity. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

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Mommy's Khimar by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow (Salaam Reads). An award-winning book with colorful illustrations and lyrical text introduces readers to a young American Muslim girl who loves her mother's beautiful headscarves. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Elvis Is King! by Jonah Winter (Schwartz & Wade). In this illustrated biography, readers will learn about music legend Elvis Presley's rise to fame. *(biography, upper elementary)*

Feel the Beat: Dance Poems that Zing from Salsa to Swing by Marilyn Singer (Dial Books). Celebrate music and styles of dance with this engaging picture book poetry collection. *(poetry, lower elementary)*

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems by Bob Raczka (Roaring Brook Press). This collection of clever poems gives readers a new and exciting way to experience poetry. Through arrangement and form, each poem becomes a "word painting." *(poetry, upper elementary)*

Say Something! by Peter H. Reynolds (Orchard Books). This powerful picture book encourages children to speak up and speak out. Everyone can make a difference in the world—just by making their voice heard. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Front Desk by Kelly Yang (Arthur A. Levine Books). Follow Mia and her parents as they work together in a motel. This award-winning book, loosely based on the author's childhood, examines issues of immigration and social justice. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

Benji, the Bad Day, and Me by Sally J. Pla (Lee & Low Books). When Sammy has a horrible day, his autistic brother knows just how to make him feel better. This is a beautifully illustrated, sweet story about feelings and family. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed (Nancy Paulsen Books). A young Pakistani girl dreams of continuing her education, but is forced into indentured servitude. Find out how she overcomes her circumstances with strength and dignity. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

From the Heart of Africa: A Book of Wisdom by Eric Walters (Tundra Books). A collection of wise African sayings and bold full-page illustrations will inspire readers of all ages. *(fiction, lower elementary)*

Road Trip with Max and His Mom by Linda Urban (HMH Books for Young Readers). Max goes on an exciting adventure with his mom after returning from a weekend at his dad's house. This chapter book offers a loving look at family life after a divorce. *(fiction, upper elementary)*

Flow, Spin, Grow: Looking for Patterns in Nature by Patchen Barss (Owlkids). Clear illustrations and rhyming text introduce young readers to the world of patterns. *(nonfiction, lower elementary)*

National Parks of the USA by Kate Siber (Wide Eyed Editions). An award-winning science book, filled with fascinating facts and breathtaking illustrations, takes readers on a tour of America's national parks. *(nonfiction, upper elementary)*

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