Fair Lawn Public Library
Summer Reading List for Elementary Students

Non-Fiction

Please pick a non-fiction title that corresponds with your independent reading level. This list offers some suggestions, feel free to select from a book that is not on the list. Try other books in the series (if applicable) or other books by the same author. Please be aware that other books in a series or by an author may have a slightly different guided reading level. The Fair Lawn Public Library Children’s Department has an extensive list of more titles organized by guided reading level, as does the library website www.fairlawnlibrary.org. You can check the Scholastic Book Wizard at www.scholastic.com/bookwizard for other guided reading suggestions. Check the library shelves under the listed call numbers for other books on the same topic.

Levels C & D

_Caring for Your Teeth_ by Smith (Acorn Readers series)
Learn proper dental health in this installment of the “Take Care of Yourself” series from the Acorn Readers.

_Monster Musical Chairs_ by Murphy (MathStart series)
As six monsters play a wild game of musical chairs, readers learn to subtract—one chair at a time.

_Safari!_ by Tuchman (National Geographic Readers series)
Meet the elephants, lions, giraffes, zebras, hippos, and the laughing hyenas of the wilderness and find out who’s friends with whom and why!

Levels E & F

_The Big Dipper_ by Branley (Let’s-Read-and-Find-Out-About-Science series)
Explains basic facts about the Big Dipper, including which stars make up the constellation, how its position changes in the sky, and how it points to the North Star.

_Let’s Go to a Park_ by Hill (Welcome Books series)
Part of the “Weekend Fun” series from Welcome books. Families can get great ideas about fun family outings, such as going to a park.

_Seasons_ by Feldman (Kingfisher Readers series)
Describes what people do, what animals do, and what the weather is like during all four seasons.
Levels G & H

*Fire Trucks* by Lindeen (Pebble Plus series)
Text and photographs introduce fire trucks and their parts such as flashing lights, sirens, hoses, and ladders.

*I am a Caterpillar* by Marzollo (Hello Science Reader)
Provides a simple explanation of what happens as a caterpillar changes into a butterfly—from the caterpillar’s point of view.

*What Happens at a Crayon Factory* by Guidone (Weekly Reader Where People Work series)
Go behind the scenes at a crayon factory. Other destinations in the series include a vet’s office, a supermarket, and a dairy farm.

Levels I & J

*Seed to Plant* by Herrington (Rookie Read about Science series)
Describes the development of a seed into a plant by means of pollination, fertilization, and seed dispersal.

*Move!* by Jenkins (try other nature books by Jenkins including *What do You do with a Tail Like This?*)
Animals move! Follow them as they swing, dance, float, leap, and slide from page to page, then learn why these animals move the way they do.

*Walt Disney* by Mattern (Rookie Biographies series)
Delve into the life of America’s most beloved animators. Other lives explored in this series include Helen Keller and Steve Jobs.

Levels K & L

*Grapes of Math* by Tang (try also *Math for All Seasons* and *Math-terpieces* by the same author)
Illustrated riddles introduce strategies for solving a variety of math problems in using visual clues.
My Baseball Book by Gibbons (try other great non-fiction titles by Gibbons, whose topics vary from tornadoes to ladybugs)
An introduction to baseball, describing the equipment, playing field, rules, players, and process of the game.

Rockets and Spaceships by Wallace (DK Readers series)
Describes how space shuttles, probes, satellites, the Hubble space telescope, and space stations allow astronauts to explore the moon and planets.

Levels M & N

Danger! Earthquakes by Simon (SeeMore Readers series)
Discusses the nature, causes, and destructive capabilities of earthquakes and describes some notable examples.

The Day the Dinosaurs Died by Brown (I Can Read! series)
Dinosaur enthusiasts are invited to explore the burning question “what happened to the Dinosaurs?”

Pandas and Other Endangered Species by Osborne (Magic Tree House Fact Tracker series)
Fans of the Magic Tree House series can find the truth behind the fiction. Presents facts about Pandas, as well as other endangered species.

Levels O & P

One Eyed Giant by Osborne (Tales from the Odyssey series)
Calling all mythology lovers! This first offering in the series retells a part of the Odyssey in which King Odysseus fights the Cyclops.

Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein (try other poetry collections by Silverstein such as The Light in the Attic or Falling Up)
A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.
**Who was Dr. Seuss?** By Pascal (Who Was/What Was series)
Highlights the life and accomplishments of the children's author and illustrator Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss.

**Levels Q & R**

**The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math** by Connolly (try also The Book of Potentially Catastrophic Science by the same author)
Math and fantasy blend to create an exciting adventure in problem solving. These word problems are perilous, do-or-die scenarios. Math has never been so much fun!

**Marley, a Dog like no Other** by Grogan (for another great animal story try *Dewey the Library Cat* by Myron)
Journalist Grogan offers an account for young people of his family’s adventures with trouble-making, yet lovable Lab, Marley.

**Outside and Inside Sharks** by Markle (Outside Inside series)
Describes the inner and outer workings of sharks, including their diet, anatomy, and life-cycle.

**Levels S & T**

**Albert Einstein and Relativity for Kids: His Life and Ideas with 21 Activities and Thought Experiments** by Pohlen (For Kids-Chicago Review Press series)
Albert Einstein had a lasting impact on the world of science, the extent of which is illuminated—along with his fascinating life and unique personality—in this lively history.

**Frogs** by Bishop (try also *Lizards, Snakes*, and *Spiders* all by the same author)
See tiny poison dart frogs and mammoth bullfrogs, as Nic Bishop's amazing images show the beauty and diversity of frogs from around the globe.

**Rocks and Minerals** by Green (Basher series)
Introduces rocks and minerals, including how rocks are formed, what causes meteorites to crash to Earth, and how plants and animals are fossilized.

**Levels U & V**

**Dinosaurs in Your Backyard: The Coolest, Scariest Creatures Ever Found in the USA** by Brewster (try also *Inside the Titanic* and *Anastasia’s Album* by the same author)
Did you know that the first dinosaur fossil ever found in the United States was discovered in New Jersey? Readers can imagine what was in their own backyards seventy million years ago.

**Ocean and Sea** by Parker (Scholastic Discover More series)
Readers are introduced to the science behind ocean water, geology, tides, waves, and coastlines, moving on to a stunning catalogue of ocean life. Photographs and modern graphics are combined with knowledge from marine biologists, conservationists, and explorers.

**We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball** by Nelson (try also *Heart and Soul* and *Nelson Mandela* by the same author)
Using an "Everyman" player as his narrator, Nelson tells the story of Negro League baseball from its beginnings in the 1920s through the decline after Jackie Robinson crossed over to the majors in 1947.

**Levels W & X**

**Amelia Lost** by Fleming (try also *The Great and Only Barnum* or *Ben Franklin’s Almanac* by the same author)
Highlights the life and disappearance of female pilot, Amelia Earhart, while generously enhanced by maps and photographs.

**Leonardo da Vinci** by Krull (Giants of Science series)
Krull presents a vivid and highly accessible portrait of a true renaissance man—an artist, scientist, and inventor of unparalleled genius.

**Tarantula Scientist** by Montgomery (Scientists in the Field series)
Describes the research that Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas, including the largest spider on earth, the Goliath bird eating tarantula.

**Levels Y & Z**

**Good Brother, Bad Brother** by Giblin (try also *The Mystery of the Mammoth Bones* and *When Plague Strikes* by the same author)
Traces the parallel, yet opposite lives of beloved American actor, Edwin Booth and his notorious brother, John Wilkes, assassin of Abraham Lincoln.

**This is Rocket Science True Stories of the Risk-Taking Scientists Who Figure out Ways to Explore beyond Earth** by Skurzynski (try also *Are We Alone? Or Waves: The Electromagnetic Universe* by the same author)
Explore the past, present and future of space travel in this compelling work.

**Titanic: Voices from the Disaster** by Hopkinson (try also *Shutting out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York* or *A Boy Called Dickens* by the same author)
Critically acclaimed nonfiction author pieces together the story of the Titanic and that fateful April night, drawing on the voices of survivors and archival photographs.