



# Summer Reading 2011

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Bedwell  
School

## The Importance of Summer Reading

Hello at Home,

Summer vacation is just around the corner! Everyone is ready for some sun, surf, and sand, but just because school is out, it doesn't mean that reading and learning should stop! Young students who don't continue to read over the summer (especially those who are reluctant or at-risk) are likely to lose crucial ground. One summer off can sometimes mean a whole school year of struggling academic performance.

Regardless of other activities, the best predictor of summer loss or gain is whether or not a child

reads during the summer. Studies suggest that children who read as few as six books over the summer maintain the level of reading skills they achieved during the preceding school year. Reading more books leads to even greater success!

The lesson? Read, read, read this summer! Here are some tips to make reading fun and motivating for students, even during the summer months:

- Schedule weekly trips to the public library to pick out books your kids want to read.
- Going on a long car or plane trip? Try listening to audio books!

- Set aside time for family read alouds. Kids benefit greatly from hearing adults model fluent, expressive reading.
- Purchase a notebook and have your child create a journal of summer experiences - including photos would be fun, too!
- See a movie and read the book by which it was inspired! Discuss the similarities and differences.
- Complete the Bedwell Summer Reading Log and return it to school in September for special recognition!

S. Crowley, S. Horowitz, and L. Smith

## New This Summer! Bedwell Lending Library

This summer, Bedwell will host a lending library program, made possible through a generous HSA grant. Children who are reading on levels A/1 through G/11 will receive letters inviting them to visit Bedwell Wednesdays from 9-10 A.M. to borrow books to read and practice at home. The lending library currently focuses on providing books at the earlier levels because these materials can be difficult to find at libraries and book stores. We hope to see families take advantage of this new and exciting opportunity!



## Bedwell Staff Picks

Bedwell staff members were asked to share their favorite childhood books or current favorite kid read alouds!

I loved *Little Bear's Visit* by Else Holmelund Minarik, *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett, and *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl. -Ms. Phelan

I cannot give just one favorite book. For younger readers, I love Mo Willems! His impact will rival Dr. Seuss! For older independent readers, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* tops my list. I also love the *Clementine* books for a laugh out loud family read! -Ms. Crowley

My class really enjoys a book I read aloud: *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles* by Julie Andrews-Edwards. -Mrs. Seelig

I love all of the picture books by Kevin Henkes. (*Owen* is my personal favorite!) -Mrs. Smith

I loved *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder. I actually loved the whole series! -Miss Schessler

My all time favorite book as a child was *Charlotte's Web* (I still cry when Charlotte dies) and my current read aloud favorites are *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* and *Clementine*. -Ms. King

The books I remember reading and loving were the *Little House on the Prairie* series. I especially remember loving the one, *On the Banks of Plum Creek*. One of my favorite books to read to my students is *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge*. -Mrs. S. Fischer

My favorite author for the summer months when I was a 2nd-3rd grader was Beverly Cleary. -Mrs. Fulton

### Other Favorites Include:

*Madeline* -Mrs. Butler  
*Mr. Popper's Penguins* -Mrs. Horowitz  
*Harry the Dirty Dog* and *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* -Mrs. Dempsey  
*Blueberries for Sal* -Miss Brooten  
*Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle* -Mrs. Maddaluna  
*Ramona* -Mrs. Sombers  
*Alice in Wonderland* -Mrs. Lemberg  
*The Little Engine That Could* and *Are You My Mother?* -Mrs. Rokosky  
*Dandelion* -Mrs. Leavenworth  
*Oh the Places You'll Go!* -Mrs. Craver  
*Hide and Seek Fog* -Mrs. Windisch  
*The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* -Mrs. Mariani  
*Verdi* -Mrs. Kirschner  
*Doll People* series -Mrs. Och

# Suggested Summer Reading

## Top Books for Younger Readers Circulated at Bedwell Library in the '10-'11 School Year

*There's a Bird on Your Head*  
by Mo Willems

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*  
by Laura Numeroff

*Yertle the Turtle*  
by Dr. Seuss

*Fancy Nancy*  
by Jane O'Connor

*The Cat in the Hat*  
by Dr. Seuss

*I am Going!*  
by Mo Willems

*Beatrice Doesn't Want To*  
by Laura Numeroff

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*  
by Mo Willems

## Favorite Characters for Younger Readers

*The following characters are featured in  
multiple titles by the same author*

*Elephant and Piggie*  
by Mo Willems

*Frog and Toad*  
by Arnold Lobel

*Fly Guy!*  
by Tedd Arnold

*Gossie & Gertie*  
by Olivier Dunrea

*Henry and Mudge*  
by Cynthia Rylant

*Bones*  
by David Adler

*Amelia Bedelia*  
by Peggy Parish

*George and Martha*  
by James Marshall

*Slippers*  
by Andrew Clements

## Other Favorite Authors for Younger Readers

Doreen Cronin  
Nick Bruel  
Kevin Henkes  
Laura Numeroff  
David Shannon  
Crosby Bonsall  
Grace Lin  
Jonelle Cannon  
Jan Brett  
Alyssa Capucilli  
Lauren Child  
David Elliott  
Rosemary Wells  
Emily Gravett

## Favorite Chapter Books for Younger Readers

*Judy Moody*  
by Megan McDonald

*I, Freddy*  
by Dietlof Reiche

*Babymouse*  
by Jennifer Holm

*Franny K. Stein*  
by Jim Benton

*Horrible Harry*  
by Suzy Kline

*Weird School*  
by Dan Gutman

*Horrid Henry*  
by Francesca Simon

*Clementine*  
by Sara Pennypacker

*Ivy and Bean*  
by Annie Barrows

## Favorite Chapter Books for Older Readers

*The Lightning Thief*  
by Rick Riordan

*The Doll People*  
by Ann M. Martin

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid*  
by Jeff Kinney

*The Invention of Hugo Cabret*  
by Brian Selznick

*Into the Wild*  
by Erin Hunter

*The Lemonade War*  
by Jacqueline Davies

*11 Birthdays*  
by Wendy Mass

*Big Nate*  
by Lincoln Peirce

*Zigzag Kids*  
by Patricia Reilly Giff

## Classics for the Whole Family to Enjoy

*The Lion, the Witch, and  
the Wardrobe*  
by C.S. Lewis

*Pippi Longstocking*  
by Astrid Lindgren

*Anne of Green Gables*  
by L.M. Montgomery

*How to Eat Fried Worms*  
by Thomas Rockwell

*Harry Potter*  
by J.K. Rowling

*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs.  
Basil E. Frankweiler*  
by E.L. Konigsburg

*The Cricket in Times Square*  
by George Selden

## Internet Resources

There are numerous resources on the Internet that promote reading. Check these out!

<http://www.scholastic.com/summer>  
<http://www.kidsreads.com/>  
<http://www.readkiddoread.com>  
<http://www.starfall.com>  
<http://www.dogonews.com/>

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_



### Directions

- Before returning the calendar to school, write your child's name and homeroom for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Optimally your child should read or be read to **every day**.
- **Color the square** or **mark the days** during the summer that your child reads.
- Sign the form and **return to school by Friday, September 9.**
- Any child who reads at least **twice a week** will be recognized.

### July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

### August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

My favorite summer read was:

List some other books that you enjoyed this summer on the back!



Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by September 9, 2011.

