

HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2008

Grades 1 and 2

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

**Beginning readers are marked with an asterisk.*

- Adler, David. ***President George Washington***. Holiday House, 2005. From Washington's youth to his death, this book gives enough details and background to make it an enjoyable biography for new readers.
- *Adler, David. ***Young Cam Jansen and the Lion's Lunch Mystery***. Penguin, 2007. On a trip to the zoo, Cam Jansen uses her photographic memory to help solve what happened to Danny's lunch. *Series*
- Arnold, Tedd. ***The Twin Princes***. Dial, 2007. Two chicken princes who are twins take part in a contest to determine which one will inherit the throne.
- Bailey, Linda. ***Stanley's Party***. Kids Can Press, 2003. Stanley is a good dog, but when his people go out at night, he begins to wonder what it would be like to taste the forbidden pleasure of sitting on the couch, and when he tries it, one thing leads to another.
- *Baker, Keith. ***More Mr. and Mrs. Green***. Harcourt, 2004. The two happy alligators have a wonderful day fishing with special bait, a day painting pictures, and a sunny play day in the park. *Series*
- *Bang-Campbell, Monika. ***Little Rat Rides***. Harcourt, 2004. Little Rat overcomes her fears and learns how to ride Pee Wee, the very big horse who doesn't always do what Little Rat expects. *Series*
- Barber, Tiki. ***Game Day***. Simon & Schuster, 2005. Brothers Tiki and Ronde Barber, two NFL superstars, tell their story and explain how loyalty, determination, and the power of teamwork help all succeed.
- Blackwood, Gary L. ***The Just-so Woman***. Harper Collins, 2006. "The Just-So Woman" who likes to have everything just right, learns an important lesson for her neighbor the Any-Way Man.
- Brennan-Nelson, Denise. ***My Teacher Likes to Say***. Sleeping Bear Press, 2004. Presents visual interpretations of what a child might be thinking when his teacher uses amusing, confusing expressions such as "Put on your thinking cap" or "Two heads are better than one."
- Brett, Jan. ***Hedgie Blasts Off!*** Putnam, 2006. When the spectacular, sparkling explosions at a popular tourist site slow down, Hedgie the hedgehog is the only one capable of flying to tiny planet Mikkop to see what is wrong.
- Chaconas, Dori. ***Cork & Fuzz: Short and Tall***. Viking, 2006. The friendship between Cork, a muskrat, and Fuzz, a possum, is in trouble when Cork decides that, since he is older, he has to be taller than Fuzz.
- Cronin, Doreen. ***Diary of a Spider***. Joanna Cotler Books, 2005. In this sequel to *Diary of a Worm*, worm's friend spider gives his view of the world. He discovers that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including spinning webs, avoiding vacuum cleaners and never falling asleep in a shoe.

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- Crummel, Susan Stevens. **City Dog, Country Dog**. Marshall Cavendish, 2004. Two French dogs, Henri and Vincent, meet at art school and become good friends despite their differences.
- Danneberg, Julie. **First Year Letters**. Whispering Coyote, 2003. Through a series of letters sent to Mrs. Hartwell in the classroom mailbox, we experience the sometimes hilariously funny pleasures and pains of a normal group of kids and an innovative first-year teacher.
- *Danziger, Paula. **Second Grade Rules, Amber Brown**. Putnam, 2004. Amber Brown loves the second grade but wonders if she will ever receive an award from Deskarina, the desk fairy, for keeping her desk clean. *Series*
- Davies, Nicola. **Surprising Sharks**. Candlewick Press, 2003. Sharks come in all shapes and sizes. Many species from the smallest to the scariest are described in this informative picture book.
- De Paola, Tomie. **Stagestruck**. Putnam, 2005. Tomie does not get the leading role of Peter Rabbit in the class play. He is so disappointed he decides to get the audience's attention by making his character, Mopsy, the star!
- Dicamillo, Kate. **Mercy Watson Princess in Disguise**. Candlewick, 2007. Persuaded by the "treating" to dress up as a princess for Halloween, Mercy the pig's trick-or-treat outing has some very unexpected results. *Series*
- Florian, Douglas. **Bow Wow Meow: It's Rhyming Cats and Dogs**. Harcourt, 2003. It's rhyming cats and dogs in Douglas Florian's furr-ocious collection of twenty-one original poems and paintings about our favorite animal friends.
- Fraee, Marla. **Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?** Dial, 2006. The pictures practically speak for themselves when fourteen contemporary children's book illustrators offer their unique answers to this age-old question.
- Gibbons, Gail. **The Vegetables We Eat**. Holiday House, 2007. A clear, informative introduction to eight groups of vegetables, categorized by the part of the plant that is eaten.
- *Guest, Elissa Haden. **Iris and Walter and the Field Trip**. Harcourt, 2005. When best friends Iris and Walter go on a field trip to an aquarium, Walter gets lost and a worried Iris helps Miss Cherry look for him. *Series*
- Hoberman, Mary Ann. **You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together**. Little, Brown, 2004. This title presents short retellings of familiar fairy tales, each told in two voices, designed especially for young children and adults to read together. *Series*
- *Hoff, Syd. **Danny and the Dinosaur Go To Camp**. HarperCollins, 1996. When Danny brings his favorite dinosaur to camp, the two friends enjoy boating, hiking, and roasting marshmallows. *Series*
- *Holub, Joan. **Why Do Birds Sing?** Dial, 2004. This colorful book explains why birds sing and presents important facts about bird behavior and characteristics.

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- Hort, Lenny. ***Did Dinosaurs Eat Pizza? Mysteries Science Hasn't Solved.*** Holt, 2006. While much is known about dinosaur anatomy, behavior, and habitat, the author points out the many mysteries that remain to be answered about these extinct creatures.
- *Howe, James. ***Houndsley and Catina.*** Candlewick, 2006. Friends Houndsley and Catina are sad because they do not know when their birthdays are, but they solve the problem in a thoughtful and creative way. *Series*
- Isadora, Rachel. ***Nick Plays Baseball.*** Putnam, 2001. The story of Nick and his teammates' championship baseball game provides an introduction to the aspects of the game of baseball including equipment, player positions, and rules.
- Karas, G. Brian. ***On Earth.*** Putnam, 2005. The earth and its cycles are simply and beautifully illustrated in this poetic text. Difficult concepts are explained through children's real life experiences.
- Katz, Alan. ***Are You Quite Polite? : Silly Dilly Manners Songs.*** McElderry, 2006. Presenting humorous lyrics to such familiar children's songs as "Pop Goes the Weasel," "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," and "Hey Diddle Diddle," Katz presents examples of behavior both good and bad.
- Kennedy, Senator Edward M. ***My Senator and Me: A Dog's Eye View of Washington D.C.,*** Scholastic, 2006. Illustrated by David Small and narrated by Splash, the Portuguese Water Dog, this is a clear and concise introduction to the American political process.
- Kimmel, Eric A. ***Anansi and the Magic Stick.*** Holiday House, 2001. Part trickster tale, part sorcerer's apprentice story, this cheerful picture book about Anansi the Spider is loosely based on the West African story "The Magic Hoe."
- Knudsen, Michelle. ***Library Lion.*** Candlewick, 2006. A lion starts visiting the local library, but runs into trouble as he tries to both obey the rules and help his librarian friend.
- Krensky, Stephen. ***Milo the Really Big Bunny.*** Simon & Schuster, 2006. A misfit bunny finds out that the characteristic that makes him different helps the Easter Bunny save the day.
- Kuskin, Karla. ***Toots the Cat.*** Holt, 2005. In this series of simple but vivid poems we meet Toots, the calico cat who has adopted the poet's family. Toots is charming, frustrating, quirky, and totally cat. This is for all cat lovers.
- *Labatt, Mary. ***Sam Gets Lost.*** Kids Can Press, 2004. Sam's fun trip downtown turns scary after he hops out of the car and gets lost in the city. *Series*
- Landry, Leo. ***Sea Surprise.*** Holt, 2005. Kate, a mermaid, and her best friend Dave, a shark, have planned a special surprise for their best friend Ed who has lost his zap. A funny story with silly illustrations makes this a delightful tale of friendship.
- Lester, Helen. ***Batter Up Wombat.*** Houghton Mifflin, 2006. An Australian wombat joins the Champs baseball team, and even though he is disastrously ignorant of the game, his innate talents save everyone when a tornado strikes.

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- *Lobel, Arnold. ***Frog and Toad Are Friends***. HarperCollins, 1970. Be entertained by the classic, short, delightful tales about best friends Frog and Toad. *Series*
- MacLachlan, Patricia and Emily MacLachlan Charest. ***Once I Ate a Pie***. Joanna Cotler, 2006. Fourteen free-verse poems and beautiful oil paintings capture the personality of each dog in these examples of a dog's life from the perspective of the animals.
- Markle, Sandra. ***Spiders: Biggest! Littlest!*** Boyds Mills, 2004. From the Goliath Bird Spider to the Crab Spider, amazing photographs show how spiders benefit from their size. Includes a map of where spiders live.
- *Marshall, James. ***Fox on the Job***. Puffin, 1988. Fox tries several different jobs to earn money. *Series*
- McBrier, Page. ***Beatrice's Goat***. Atheneum, 2001. A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of the Heifer Project.
- McCall, Francis. ***A Huge Hog is a Big Pig: A Rhyming Word Game***. Greenwillow, 2002. A variety of mostly farm animals are introduced with such phrases as a granny nanny, a soggy doggy, and a loose goose.
- McDermott, Gerald. ***Jabuti the Tortoise: A Trickster Tale from the Amazon***. Harcourt, 2001. All the birds enjoy the song-like flute music of Jabuti, the tortoise, except Vulture who is jealous because he cannot sing. He tricks Jabuti into riding on his back toward a festival planned by the King of Heaven.
- McDonald, Megan. ***Stink and the World's Worst Super-Stinky Sneakers***. Candlewick, 2007. A class visit to the Gross-Me-Out exhibit at the science museum inspires Stink Moody to create a variety of terrible smells to put on the sneakers he plans to enter in the World's Worst Super-Stinky Sneaker contest. *Series*
- McKissack, Patricia. ***Precious and the Boo Hag***. Atheneum, 2005. Home alone with a stomach ache while the family works in the fields, a young girl faces up to the horrifying Boo Hag that her brother warned her about.
- McNulty, Faith. ***If You Decide to Go to the Moon***. Scholastic, 2005. This book tells you how to get to the moon, what to do after you land, and most importantly, how to get back home.
- *Miller, Sara Swan. ***Three Stories You Can Read to Your Teddy Bear***. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. If your teddy bear seems quiet and just sits on your bed staring, maybe he is bored and needs to be entertained. This book has perfect stories for teddy bears to hear.
- Murphy, Stuart J. ***Lemonade for Sale***. Harper Collins, 1998. The Elm Street Kid's Club decides to sell lemonade to earn money to fix up their clubhouse and they use a graph to keep track of their sales. *MathStart series*
- Muth, Jon. ***Zen Shorts***. Scholastic, 2005. Stillwater, a talking panda, shares Zen stories with three children. Each story matches the mood and character of the child.

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- *Nixon, Joan Lowery. ***Gus and Gertie and the Lucky Charms***. SeaStar, 2002. Fine-feathered heroes Gus and Gertie return for another slapstick, easy-to-read mystery as they arrive at the Animals' Winter Olympics with dreams of winning gold as Antarctica's first synchronized swimming team. *Series*
- O Flatharta, Antoine. ***Hurry and the Monarch***. Knopf, 2005. On her way from Canada, a monarch butterfly lands on Hurry the tortoise in Wichita Falls, Texas. Through their friendship, Hurry witnesses the life cycle of a monarch. This story has strong Texas connections and the illustrations depict the beauty of the Monarch and Texas springtime.
- *Parish, Herman. ***Amelia Bedelia Under Construction***. Greenwillow, 2006. Anytime Amelia Bedelia baby-sits for the Hardy family, trouble is sure to follow, this time leading up to some unexpected remodeling of the Hardy's house. *Series*
- Polacco, Patricia. ***Thank You Mr. Faulker***. Philomel, 1998. At first, Trisha loves school, but her difficulty learning to read makes her feel dumb, until, in the fifth grade, a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problems.
- Recorvits, Helen. ***My Name is Yoon***. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.
- Reynolds, Peter. ***The Dot***. Candlewick, 2003. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." This sage advice, offered by her teacher, sets the young heroine on a journey of self-expression, artistic experimentation, and success.
- *Roberts, Bethany. ***Ogre Eats Everything***. Dutton, 2005. A sequel to Maybelle and Ogre, this humorous easy to read chapter book tells a story about friendship, especially when Maybelle tries to teach Ogre to read.
- Rodman, Mary Ann. ***My Best Friend***. Viking, 2005. At the local swimming pool six-year-old Lily is doing her best to impress seven-year-old Tamika because she wants Tamika to be her best friend. No matter how hard Lily tries, Tamika either ignores her or teases her. Could there be another best friend?
- Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. ***Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons***. HarperCollins, 2006. Cookies provide the framework for this clever book, but the focus is on life lessons to be learned about sharing, regret, cooperation, and patience, terms which are defined in simple, relevant text and made clear by sweet illustrations.
- Ryder, Joanne. ***Toad by the Road***. Holt, 2007. A poetic and illustrated description of the toad's life cycle through the course of a year.
- *Rylant, Cynthia. ***Annie & Snowball and the Dress-Up Birthday***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Annie and her bunny Snowball invite Henry & Mudge to a dress-up party. *Series*
- *Rylant, Cynthia. ***Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover***. Simon & Schuster, 2006. Henry and his dog Mudge are invited to a sleepover in Patrick's attic, where they watch monster movies, eat pizza, and enjoy a contest to determine whose dog is the best popcorn catcher. *Series*

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- *Rylant, Cynthia. ***The High-Rise Private Eyes: the Case of the Desperate Duck.*** Greenwillow, 2005. In their latest case, animal detectives Bunny and Jack help Mabel the duck find out who stole the sugar cubes from her tea room. *Series*
- Sayre, April Pulley. ***Army Ant Parade.*** Holt, 2002. The animals in the forest prepare for the army ants to swarm over the ground in a thick stream, searching for food.
- Schorter, Roni. ***The Boy Who Loved Words.*** Schwartz & Wade, 2006. Selig loves and collects words in this charming story of a boy who finds his life's purpose through his passion for words.
- Schwartz, David. ***If You Hopped Like a Frog.*** Scholastic, 1999. David Schwartz introduces the concept of ratio by comparing what humans would be able to do if they had bodies like different animals.
- *Sharmat, Marjorie. ***Nate the Great Talks Turkey.*** Delacorte, 2006. Nate the Great and his cousin Olivia are on the case of a runaway turkey, but unfortunately the clues appear to contradict each other. *Series*
- Silverman, Erica. ***Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Partners.*** Harcourt, 2006. Cocoa the horse herds the cows with Cowgirl Kate, helps her practice her roping skills, and wishes he could wear boots instead of horseshoes. *Series*
- Sis, Peter. ***Train of States.*** Greenwillow, 2004. An imaginative look at the fifty states using circus trains to display the information. State facts are presented in intricate detail.
- Smothers, Ethel Footman. ***Hard-Times Jar.*** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. Emma, the daughter of poor migrant workers, longs to own a real book. When she turns eight and must attend school for the first time, she is amazed to discover a whole library in her classroom.
- Stanley, Diane. ***Goldie and the Three Bears.*** HarperCollins, 2003. In this fractured Goldilocks tale, Goldie, who has yet to find a friend to love with all her heart, makes an unplanned visit to the house of some bears.
- Steig, William. ***The Amazing Bone.*** First published 1976. On her way home from school, Pearl finds an unusual bone that has unexpected powers.
- Stowell, Penelope. ***The Greatest Potatoes.*** Hyperion, 2005. George Crum, son of a former slave and a Native American was a chef in Saratoga, New York in 1853. As a practical joke, George created the worst fried potatoes in the world. The Saratoga flaky fried potatoes became an instant hit.
- Sturges, Philemon. ***She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain.*** Little, Brown, 2004. New words to the traditional tune describe a camper-driving, "hooting" and "shouting" guest and the party that will begin when she arrives.
- *Sutcliffe, Jane. ***Jesse Owens.*** Carolrhoda, 2001. This is a biography of track-and-field athlete Jesse Owens, from his childhood in Alabama to his athletic career which culminated in his winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany.

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- Swope, Sam. ***Gotta Go! Gotta Go!*** Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2000. Although she doesn't know how or why, a small creepy-crawly bug is certain that she must make her way to Mexico.
- Tavares, Matt. ***Mudball***. Candlewick, 2005. The year is 1903. Andy Oyler, the shortest player in his baseball league, is batting with two outs and rain is falling hard. Andy's bat connects with the ball, but will it be hard enough to bring in the runs and win the game?
- Teague, Mark. ***Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation***. Scholastic, 2004. While on vacation, Mrs. LaRue receives letters from her dog, Ike, who has been falsely accused of harming the neighbor's cats and is trying to clear his name.
- *Thomas, Shelley Moore. ***Take Care, Good Knight***. Dutton, 2006. The three little dragons have agreed to take care of the old wizard's cats while he is away, but their inability to read his instructions causes problems until their friend, the Good Knight, save the day. *Series*
- Uhlberg, Myron. ***Dad, Jackie and Me***. Peachtree, 2005. In 1947, Jackie Robinson is playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers, the first black man to play in major league baseball. The author and his deaf father become fans and share the thrill of Jackie's incredible season.
- *Van Leeuwen, Jean. ***Oliver the Mighty Pig***. Dial, 2004. Oliver feels like the superhero Mighty Pig when he wears his Mighty Pig cape, but he finds that being a superhero in the real world has some complications. *Series*
- Weatherby, Brenda. ***The Trucker***. Scholastic, 2004. Wesley dreams his toy semi-flatbed truck grows big enough for him to have a trucking adventure but wakes to find he is in the back of his father's truck.
- Whatley, Bruce. ***Wait! No Paint!*** HarperCollins, 2001. Full of surprises, interaction between the illustrator and the characters, and hilarious wordplay, this quirky retelling of "The Three Little Pigs" encourages readers to look at this favorite story in a whole new way.
- Whybrow, Ian. ***Badness for Beginners: A Little Wolf and Smellybreff Adventure***. Carolrhoda, 2005. Little Wolf and his brother Smellybreff get lessons in badness from their Mom and Dad. They just can't be naughty enough to suit their parents.
- Willems, Mo. ***Edwina the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct***. Hyperion, 2006. Edwina the friendly neighborhood dinosaur, friend to children and grown-ups alike, finds a foe in young Reginald Von Hoobie-Doobie, who insists that she is extinct.
- Winter, Jonah. ***Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates***. Atheneum, 2005. This is the story of Roberto Clemente, a young Puerto Rican who followed his baseball dream to the big leagues and went on to help the poor in his homeland.
- Wong, Janet. ***Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club***. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2004. Alex tries lots of different activities — swim team, football, piano lessons — but the Wednesday chess club is his favorite. At the tournament, he tries very hard to win but discovers having fun is more important.

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- Yolen, Jane. ***Count Me a Rhyme***. Wordsong, 2006. This handsome rhyming counting book is filled with full-color photographs of animals together with poems that tell stories about them.
- Yolen, Jane. ***Here's a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry***. Candlewick Press, 2007. A collection of poems for children with the various themes of self, family, going outside, and when it is time for bed.
- Zoehfeld, Kathleen Weidner. ***Did Dinosaurs Have Feathers?*** HarperCollins, 2004. This book discusses the discovery and analysis of Archaeopteryx, a feathered dinosaur, which may have been an ancestor of modern birds.
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