

**Incoming Third Grade Reading List 2023**  
**Guided Reading Level Noted in Parentheses**

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**(L) *Marvin Redpost Is He a Girl?* By, Louis Sachar:** After Casey Happleton tells him that if he kisses his elbow he will turn into a 9-year-old girl, Marvin experiments and finds himself confused about his identity.

**(L) *Home on the Range* by, Nancy Nolan:** Dogs named Down Girl and Sit accompany their masters to a dude ranch where they encounter stampedes, “scary squirrels” that live in holes in the ground and even worse, their nemesis, the cat who lives next door.

**(L) *Jake Drake Know-It-All* by, Andrew Clements:** Jake is determined to win the third grade science fair not only for the grand prize, but to beat the annoying class know-it-all, as well!

**(L) *The Missing Fossil* by, Emily Herman:** When Liza asks to borrow a precious trilobite fossil from her 5<sup>th</sup> grade brother, he refuses. Then she thinks of a way to have it for only a day without his permission and life gets complicated!

**(L) *In Aunt Lucy’s Kitchen* by, Cynthia Rylant:** While staying with their aunt for a year, three cousins keep busy with all kinds of antics to encourage a romance between their aunt and one of their former customers.

**(M) *Cody and the Fountain of Happiness* by, Tricia Springstubb:** Nothing is as beautiful as the first day of summer vacation, and Cody doesn't want to waste one minute of it. Things aren't going her way until Cody bumps into a neighborhood boy named Spencer who is looking for a runaway cat. With a new friend and a soon-to-be-found cat, Cody is on her way to the fountain of happiness.

**(M) *Chicken Squad* by, Doreen Cronin** When the squirrel Tail comes barreling into the chicken coop ranting about a round, shiny, green, big, scary thing in the yard, Dirt, Sweetie, Poppy, and Sugar investigate this strange object.

**(M) *Leroy Ninker Saddles Up* by, Kate DiCamillo:** Saddle up for this first volume in a spin-off series starring favorite characters from DiCamillo's "New York Times"-bestselling Mercy Watson books. Leroy Ninker has a hat, a lasso, and boots. What he doesn't have is a horse--until he meets Maybelline, and then it's love at first sight. Read more in this series.

**(M) *Mokie & Bik Go to Sea* by, Wendy Orr:** With their father home from the sea, the rambunctious twins Mokie and Bik make the Bullfrog shipshape for a voyage out to sea, where they make friends with a scaredy-seal, save a runaway boat, and keep track of Waggles.

**(M) *The Chalkbox Kid* by, Robert Clyde Bulla:** Gregory’s house does not have room for a garden, so he creates a surprising and very different garden in an unusual place.

**(M) *Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club* by, J Wong:** Alex is in the Chess Club and finds himself face-to-face against his little cousin in the big tournament.

**(N) *The Vanishing Coin* by, Kate Egan:** Mike reluctantly bonds with good-girl neighbor Nora while learning fun skills at The White Rabbit magic shop, the owner of which believes Mike could become a great magician.

**(N) *Piper Green and the Fairy Tree* by, Ellen Potter:** There are three things you should know about Piper Green: 1) She always says what’s on her mind (even when she probably shouldn’t). 2) She rides a lobster boat to school. 3) There is a Fairy Tree in her front yard.

**(N) *My Heart is Laughing* by, Rose Lagercrantz:** Dani's been trying her best to stay happy ever since her best friend Ella moved away. But when some girls in Dani's class start being cruel to her, it starts a chain of rather unhappy events ... It would all be okay if only Ella would move back.

**(N) *The Circus Goes To Sea* by, Kate Klise:** Many surprises are in store when Miss Flora Endora Eliza LaBuena LaPasta invites Sir Sidney's Circus to travel and perform aboard her elegant ship, the SS Spaghetti.

**(N) *The Ball Hogs* by, Rich Wallace:** Nine-year-old Ben, a natural athlete and member of the Bobcats co-ed soccer team, wants to overcome his inexperience and prove himself on the field, but his obnoxious teammate, Mark, keeps hogging the ball.

**(N) *The Trouble with Chickens* by, Doreen Cronin:** JJ Tully, a former search and rescue dog becomes a detective in his retirement, motivated to solve cases by the promise of a cheeseburger.

**(N) *A Carnival of Animals* by, Sid Fleischman:** Six short stories about the odd happenings at Barefoot Mountain after a "no-account little tornado" passes through.

**(N) *Fire in the Sky* by, Candice Ransom:** Nine-year-old Stenny Green is focused on getting to see the Hindenburg when it lands near his home in 1937.

**(N) *The Magician's Boy* by, Susan Cooper:** One terrible day the apprentice to a magician cannot find the famous puppet, St. George. The magician points a finger at the boy and suddenly he is transported to strange land where he must find St. George.

**(N) *Just a Few Words, Mr. Lincoln* by, Jena Fritz:** When it came time to honor the soldiers who had died at the great battle at Gettysburg, President Lincoln took the time to say a few words - 271 to be exact. Here is a true story about his famous speech.

**(N) *The Lighthouse Family: The Storm* by, Cynthia Rylant:** Pandora the cat becomes a lighthouse keeper and saves the life of Seabold the dog. Together the two of them create a family with three young mice rescued from the sea. Read more in the series.

**(O) *The Year of the Book* by, Andrea Cheng:** Follows a young Chinese American girl, as she navigates relationships with family, friends, and her fourth-grade classroom, and finds a true best friend. Read more in this acclaimed new series for middle readers!

**(O) *Dory Fantasmargory* by, Abby Hanlon:** Dory, the youngest in her family, is a girl with a very active imagination, and she spends the summer playing with her imaginary friend, pretending to be a dog, battling monsters, and generally driving her family nuts.

**(O) *Kenny and the Dragon* by, Tony DeTrierlizzi:** Book-loving Kenny the rabbit has few friends in his farming community, so when one, bookstore owner George, is sent to kill another, gentle dragon Grahame, Kenny must find a way to prevent their battle while satisfying the dragon-crazed townspeople.

**(O) *Tornado* by, Betsy Byars:** As they wait out a tornado in their storm cellar, a family listens to their farmhand tell stories about the dog that was blown into his life by another tornado when he was a boy.

**(O) *The Magical Ms. Plum* by, Bonny Becker:** The students in Ms Plum's third grade class soon learn that there is something very special about their teacher and her classroom's mysterious supply closet.

**(O) *Calvin Coconut: Hero of Hawaii* by, Graham Salisbury:** When a hurricane causes the river near his Hawaiian home to flood, Calvin Coconut makes a daring rescue. Read more Calvin stories!

**(O) *Flight of the Phoenix* by, RL LaFevers:** In 1928, when timid ten-year-old Nate learns that his parents have been lost at sea, he joins his father's cousin on a flight to Arabia where they must oversee the death and rebirth of the phoenix, thus beginning his training as a "beastologist."

**(P) *Counting Sheep: Calpurnia Tate, Girl Vet* by, Jacqueline Kelly:** In rural Texas in 1901, thirteen-year-old Callie nurses a butterfly with a broken wing and delivers a baby lamb, despite her mother's disapproval of Callie's "unladylike behavior."

**(P) *Sam the Man and the Chicken Plan* by Frances O’Roark Dowell:** When Sam Graham, eager for some spending money, volunteers to look after a neighbor's chickens, the experience inspires him to get his own chicken--a special bird named Helga. Try *Sam the Man & the Rutabaga Plan* too!

**(P) *Around the World* by, Matt Phelan:** Challenged with circling the world at the end of the nineteenth century, three very different adventurers--avid bicyclist Thomas Stevens, fearless reporter Nellie Bly, and retired sea captain Joshua Slocum--embark on epic journeys.

**(P) *Lemonade Wars* by, Jacqueline Davies:** Evan and his younger sister react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade. As the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn \$100 dollars.

**(P) *Ottoline and the Yellow Cat* by, Chris Riddell:** A young girl, Ottoline Brown and her friend Mr. Munroe try to solve the string of burglaries as well as the missing dogs in her neighborhood. Read all the Ottoline stories!

**(P) *Tumtum & Nutmeg* by, Emily Bearn:** Mice Tumtum and Nutmeg find adventure when they secretly try to help two human siblings who live in a tumbledown cottage with their absent-minded inventor father.

**(P) *A Lion to Guard Us* by, Robert Clyde Bulla:** Amanda’s father left Ireland years ago for the new colony of Jamestown. But now that her mother has died, Amanda is left to take care of her younger brother and sister all alone back in England. Amanda decides to take her brother and sister to America to find their father.

**(P) *All Stations! Distress! April 15, 1912, the Day the Titanic Sank* by, Don Brown:** Provides the captivating story of this amazing vessel, the people who built it, and its tragic demise during its maiden voyage across the Atlantic as told through first-hand accounts and detailed illustrations of the events as they happened.

**(S) *The Reluctant Dragon* by, Kenneth Grahame:** The boy who finds the dragon in the cave knows it is a kindly, harmless one, but how can he convince the frightened villagers and especially St. George the dragon killer that there is no cause for concern?

**(S) *Annika Riz, Math Whiz* by, Claudia Mills:** Annika hopes to change her best friends' hatred of math by winning a Sudoku contest, but she does not realize how important their lack of mathematical ability is until they make a mistake at the school carnival. Read more in this series.