

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Adler, David A. ***Young Cam Jansen and the Speedy Car Mystery***. Viking, 2010. At her school's Green Fair, Cam and her friends are learning how to keep the earth green when a student's remote controlled car goes missing! Was it stolen? It is up to Cam and her amazing photographic memory to find it. *Series*
- Applegate, Katherine. ***Never Race a Runaway Pumpkin***. HarperCollins, 2009. Roscoe is determined to guess the weight of a giant pumpkin in order to win books for his school library and candy for himself, but he is overwhelmed by superstitions, especially about a certain black kitten. *Series*
- Archer, Peggy. ***Name That Dog! Puppy Poems from A to Z***. Dial Books, 2010. A collection of humorously illustrated poems about dogs, their names and their unique personalities.
- Arnold, Tedd. ***The Twin Princes***. Dial Books, 2007. Twin chicken princes take part in a contest to determine which one will inherit the throne.
- Barrows, Annie. ***Ivy + Bean***. Chronicle Books, 2006. When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected. *Series*
- Beard, Alex. ***The Jungle Grapevine***. Abrams Books, 2009. Reminiscent of *Chicken Little*, this cleverly illustrated book demonstrates how rumors get started and quickly get out of hand.
- Becker, Bonny. ***A Visitor for Bear***. Candlewick, 2008. Bear's efforts to keep out visitors to his house are undermined by a very persistent mouse.
- Bishop, Nic. ***Nic Bishop Spiders***. Scholastic, 2007. Includes foldout pages, photographs, and text providing basic information about various kinds of spiders.
- Blume, Judy. ***The One in the Middle is the Green Kangaroo***. Yearling, 1981. Second-grader Freddy hates being the middle one in the family until he gets a part in the school play.
- Brendler, Carol. ***Winnie Finn, Worm Farmer***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009. Zany and whimsical drawings bring this story about Winnie, the worm farmer, to life. Winnie needs a new wagon, so she looks for ways to win first prize at the county fair; however, there are no prizes for worm farmers.
- Brett, Jan. ***Hedgie Blasts Off!*** Putnam's, 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.
- Browne, Anthony. ***Little Beauty***. Candlewick, 2008. This beautifully illustrated, simple story describes a gorilla with the ability to communicate in sign language who asks for a new friend and is not disappointed.
- Burleigh, Robert. ***One Giant Leap***. Philomel, 2009. An illustrated retelling of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's lunar landing in 1969.

HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Byars, Betsy. ***Boo's Dinosaur***. Holt, 2006. When young Boo is followed home by a dinosaur that only she can see, it causes a bit of trouble for her older brother, Sammy.
- Chaconas, Dori. ***Cork & Fuzz: Finders Keepers***. Viking, 2009. Although Cork the muskrat is short and likes to find things and Fuzz the possum is tall and likes to keep things, the pair remain best friends even after Fuzz finds Cork's lost stone and decides to keep it. *Series*
- Cocca-Leffler, Maryann. ***Princess K.I.M. and the Lie That Grew***. Whitman, 2009. In an attempt to impress her new classmates, Kim lies about her name and claims that she comes from a royal family, but she gets herself into real trouble after her classmates beg to meet Kim's grandmother--the Queen.
- Collins, Ross. ***Dear Vampa***. Katherine Tegen, 2009. A young vampire writes a letter to his grandfather bemoaning his new neighbors.
- Cronin, Doreen. ***Diary of a Fly***. Joanna Cotler, 2007. A young fly discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being an insect, including the dangers of flyswatters and that heroes come in all shapes and sizes.
- Davis, Jill. ***Orangutans Are Ticklish: Fun Facts From an Animal Photographer***. Schwartz & Wade, 2010. Provides interesting facts about animals and explores what it takes to photograph them, with animal photographer Steve Grubman sharing some of his favorite, and scariest, encounters.
- De Paola, Tomie. ***26 Fairmount Avenue***. Putnam's, 1999. Children's author and illustrator Tomie De Paola describes his experiences at home and in school when he was a boy. Newbery Honor 2000. *Series*
- Deans, Karen. ***Playing to Win: The Story of Althea Gibson***. Holiday House, 2007. An illustrated biography of the life and achievements of African American tennis player Althea Gibson.
- DiCamillo, Kate. ***Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig***. Candlewick, 2008. Two sisters move in next door to where Mercy the pig lives and, frustrated when Mercy continues to eat their flowers, they decide to call for the help of an Animal Control Officer, Francine Poulet, to handle the case. *Series*
- DiPucchio, Kelly S. ***Grace for President***. Hyperion, 2008. After finding out there has never been a female U.S. president, Grace decides to run in her school's mock election where she learns about the American electoral system and sets out to be the best person for the job even though her opponent, Thomas, seems to be winning all the boys' votes.
- Ernst, Lisa Campbell. ***The Gingerbread Girl***. Dutton, 2006. After their first gingerbread disaster, the lonely old couple decides to bake again and create a gingerbread girl who proves herself to be one smart cookie.
- Florian, Douglas. ***Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars***. Harcourt, 2007. A collection of twenty whimsical poems about comets, the stars, moon, and the planets.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Fucile, Tony. ***Let's Do Nothing!*** Candlewick, 2009. Young friends Frankie and Sal, believing they have “done it all,” decide to do nothing for a while; but Frankie has a little trouble with the concept and it is not long before the boys realize there is no way to do nothing.
- Geras, Adele. ***Little Ballet Star***. Dial Books, 2007. Every little girl dreams of becoming a ballet star and Tilly is no exception. In this story, Tilly visits her Aunt Gina behind-the-scenes of a real ballet. It is Tilly’s birthday, and she unexpectedly finds herself performing in front of a live audience.
- 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.
- Grogan, John. ***Bad Dog, Marley!*** HarperCollins, 2007. Marley, a rambunctious puppy, causes lots of trouble in his new home and feels very sad about it. He then proves beyond a doubt that he is a valuable member of the household.
- Harper, Jessica. ***Uh-Oh, Cleo***. Putnam’s, 2008. What starts out as a perfectly ordinary day in the Small house turns into Stitches Saturday when Cleo gets a cut on the head after her twin brother, Jack, accidentally pulls down their toy house. *Series*
- Hicks, Betty. ***Goof-Off Goalie***. Roaring Brook, 2008. Ten-year-old Goose is best at goofing off; but when he decides to become the goalie for their soccer team, his friend Henry sets up a practice schedule and enlists their other friends to help Goose improve his skills. *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 and designed especially for young children and adults to read together. *Series*
- 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: Plink and Plunk***. Candlewick, 2009. Houndsley likes canoeing and his friend Catina likes bicycling, but each has to help the other learn to enjoy these activities in order to do them together. *Series*
- Jeffers, Susan. ***My Chincoteague Pony***. Hyperion, 2008. Julie, having worked year-round to save money to buy her first Chincoteague pony, realizes she does not have enough; but when Pony Penning Day arrives, strangers help her make her purchase.
- Kaczman, James. ***Lucky Monkey, Unlucky Monkey***. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. While Ed the monkey has the most wonderful day imaginable, Ted the monkey faces everything from bad weather to being chased by wild animals and an angry troll.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Katz, Alan. ***Are You Quite Polite? Silly Dilly Manners Songs.*** McElderry Books, 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.
- Keating, Frank. ***Theodore.*** Simon & Schuster, 2006. A biography of Theodore Roosevelt that imagines the president looking back on his life, describing his childhood, his youthful journeys throughout the world, his experiences as a leader, and the value he placed on knowledge, adventure, originality, and integrity.
- Keller, Laurie. ***Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners.*** Holt, 2007. Mr. Rabbit is worried that he might not get along with his new neighbors. A wise owl gives him the advice "Do unto otters as you would have otters do unto you" and proceeds to explain what this means.
- Kennedy, 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's Party Time.*** Holiday House, 2008. When Anansi the spider invites Turtle to a party just to play a trick on him, Turtle gets revenge at a party of his own.
- Kimmel, Eric A. ***Stormy's Hat: Just Right for a Railroad Man.*** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. As Stormy, a railroad engineer, searches for the perfect hat--one that will not blow off, get too hot, or shade his eyes too much--his wife, Ida, becomes increasingly annoyed that he will not let her help. Includes a historical note about the real Stormy and Ida Kromer.
- Krebs, Laurie. ***Off We Go To Mexico! An Adventure in the Sun.*** Barefoot Books, 2006. Colorful text with an introduction to Spanish words describes a family's trip to Mexico where they swim in turquoise seas, admire grey whales and monarch butterflies, hike to native villages, and sing and dance to the music of Mariachi bands.
- 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.
- 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*
- LaMarche, Jim. ***Lost and Found: Three Dog Stories.*** Chronicle Books, 2009. A compilation of three short stories that indeed prove there is a powerful connection between dogs and children.
- Larson, Kirby and Mary Nethery. ***Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival.*** Walker, 2008. Bobbi the dog and Bob Cat show us how friendship and perseverance kept them together through the rough times of Hurricane Katrina.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Lasky, Kathryn. ***Poodle and Hound***. Charlesbridge, 2009. This book contains three stories which follow the adventures of Hound and Poodle as they discover how much they enjoy each other's company in spite of--or possibly because of--their differences. *Series*
- Lechner, Jack. ***Mary Had a Little Lamp***. Bloomsbury, 2008. Mary takes her "bendy" gooseneck lamp wherever she goes, much to the dismay of her parents and classmates; but after leaving it at home during summer camp, Mary finds that she has outgrown her need for her odd companion.
- Leedy, Loreen. ***Missing Math: A Number Mystery***. Marshall Cavendish, 2008. A numerical mystery ensues when the numbers all over town suddenly disappear, bringing a halt to everyday activities.
- Lester, Helen. ***Tacky Goes to Camp***. Houghton Mifflin, 2009. Tacky the penguin and his friends go to Camp Whoopihaha where they scare each other by telling ghost stories around the campfire, never expecting that one of the frightening stories will come true. *Series*
- Lies, Brian. ***Bats at the Ballgame***. Houghton Mifflin, 2010. Two teams of bats enjoy a nighttime game of baseball. Cheering the home team are the bat fans enjoying the snacks of "mothdogs" and the like.
- Lin, Grace. ***Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same!*** Little, Brown, 2010. Ling and Ting are identical twins who people think are exactly the same, but time and again they prove to be different.
- Lobel, Arnold. ***Frog and Toad Are Friends***. First published 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.
- Marshall, James. ***Fox On the Job***. Puffin, 1988. Fox tries several different jobs to earn money. *Series*
- 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, jealous because he cannot sing, tricks Jabuti into riding on his back toward a festival planned by the King of Heaven.
- McDonald, Megan. ***Daisy Jane, Best-Ever Flower-Girl!*** Random House, 2007. Daisy Jane, who is thrilled to be the flower girl at her babysitter's wedding, helps save the day when a storm threatens the festivities.
- McDonald, Megan. ***Stink and the Great Guinea Pig Express***. Candlewick, 2008. Stink Moody, his friends Webster and Sophie, and Mrs. Birdwistle visit tourist attractions in Virginia as they try to give away one hundred and one guinea pigs rescued from a laboratory, although Stink is very reluctant to relinquish his favorite, Astro. *Series*

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- McElligott, Matthew. ***The Lion's Share***. Walker, 2009. Ant is honored to receive an invitation to lion's annual dinner party, but she is shocked when the other guests behave rudely and then accuse her of thinking only of herself.
- McKissack, Patricia and Onawumi Jean Moss. ***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.
- Negron, Ray. ***The Greatest Story Never Told: The Babe and Jackie***. HarperCollins, 2008. Two young boys who are sick in the hospital decide they do not want to be roommates because of their differences; but when they travel back in time and meet Babe Ruth and Jackie Robinson, they change their minds.
- Nevius, Carol. ***Baseball Hour***. Marshall Cavendish, 2008. All baseball players will enjoy the rhythmic rhyming of this story and photo-like illustrations of children practicing baseball in an effort to build a winning team and, ultimately, a circle of friends.
- Numeroff, Laura and Nate Evans. ***The Jellybeans and the Big Camp Kickoff***. Abrams Books, 2011. When four friends with different talents and abilities go to summer camp together, they use their strengths to make camp fun for all. *Series*
- Ó Flatharta, Antoine. ***Hurry and the Monarch***. Alfred A. 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's First Day of School***. Greenwillow, 2009. Amelia Bedelia, a literal-minded first-grader, finds her first day of school filled with confusing adventures--much to her delight. *Series*
- Recorvits, Helen. ***Yoon and the Jade Bracelet***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. Although she really would have liked a jump rope for her birthday, Yoon is happy to receive a Korean picture book and a jade bracelet passed down from her grandmother; and when she wears the bracelet to school it seems as if her wish for a jump rope and a friend is about to come true.
- 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.
- Rylant, Cynthia. ***Annie and Snowball and the Dress-Up Birthday***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Annie and her bunny Snowball invite Henry and Mudge to a dress-up party. *Series*

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- 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*
- Rylant, Cynthia. ***The High-Rise Private Eyes: The Case of the Desperate Duck***. Greenwillow, 2005. In this case, animal detectives Bunny and Jack help Mabel the duck find out who stole the sugar cubes from her tea room. *Series*
- Sauer, Tammi. ***Chicken Dance***. Sterling, 2009. Marge and Lola set out to get tickets to the Elvis Poultry concert by winning a farmyard talent contest. What transpires is hilarious!
- 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.
- Schachner, Judy. ***Skippyjon Jones Lost in Spice***. Dutton, 2009. Skippyjon Jones, the Siamese cat that thinks he is a Chihuahua dog, has an adventure on Mars. *Series*
- Schulman, Janet. ***Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. Recounts the true story of Pale Male, a red-tailed hawk living in New York City, who has become one of the city's most-watched celebrities as bird watchers, tourists, and residents admire the bird and his nest which is built on a Fifth Avenue apartment building.
- Scieszka, Jon. ***Robot Zot!*** Simon & Schuster, 2009. Big and bright robots advance and defeat their way through a wonderful yet familiar place.
- Scotton, Rob. ***Splat the Cat***. HarperCollins, 2008. Splat the Cat is nervous about his first day at cat school, but once he arrives he realizes he had nothing to worry about.
- Shannon, David. ***Too Many Toys***. Blue Sky Press, 2008. After he finally concedes that he has far too many toys, Spencer agrees to give many of them away; but he realizes that there is one special toy that he absolutely cannot part with.
- Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman and Mitchell Sharmat. ***Nate the Great and the Hungry Book Club***. Delacorte, 2009. Rosamond, who starts a book club, claims there is a monster on the loose that is ruining pages of her cookbook, which leads Nate the Great and his dog Sludge to investigate as undercover detectives. *Series*
- Silverman, Erica. ***Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Spring Babies***. Harcourt, 2010. Cowgirl Kate and her horse Cocoa watch over the new calves, a puppy, and some baby barn owls. *Series*
- Spinelli, Eileen. ***The Best Story***. Dial Books, 2008. When a contest at the local library offers a prize for the best story, a girl tries to write one using her family's suggestions, but her story does not seem right until she listens to her heart.
- Steig, William. ***Sylvester and Magic Pebble***. First published 1969. In a moment of fright, Sylvester the donkey asks his magic pebble to turn him into a rock, but then he cannot hold the pebble to wish himself back to normal again! Caldecott Medal 1970

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2011

Grade 1 and Grade 2

- Talbott, Hudson. ***United Tweets of America***. Putnam's, 2008. A collection of detailed illustrations of state birds from all fifty United States.
- Tavares, Matt. ***Mudball***. Candlewick, 2005. During a rainy Minneapolis Millers baseball game in 1903, Little Andy Oyler has the chance to become a hero by hitting the shortest and muddiest home run in history.
- Thomas, Shelley Moore. ***A Cold Winter's Good Knight***. Dutton, 2008. The Good Knight must remind three little dragons to mind their manners when they arrive at the castle on the night of a fancy ball. *Series*
- Van Leeuwen, Jean. ***Amanda Pig and the Wiggly Tooth***. Dial Books, 2008. When Amanda Pig has her first loose tooth, she is reluctant to pull it. *Series*
- 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.
- Yolen, Jane. ***Here's a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry***. Candlewick, 2007. A collection of poems for children with the various themes of self, family, going outside, and bedtime.
- Yee, Wong Herbert. ***Mouse and Mole: Fine Feathered Friends***. Houghton Mifflin, 2009. When spring arrives, Mole and Mouse find that compromising and sharing is the way to bird watch with a good friend. *Series*
- 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.
-

Compiled by:

Elizabeth Holloway (Chair), *Kinkaid School – Lower School*

Brenda McManus, *Second Baptist School*

Jeanine Carthey, *Cypress Christian School*

Marilyn Arlen, *Shlenker School*

Copyright ©2011 Houston Area Independent Schools Library Network