

2026 Summer Reading, Entering Second Grade

During early childhood, the emphasis is on reading with your child and sharing the joy of stories. These titles are suggestions; feel free to pick and choose based on your child's interests. Share with your child as you make memories that will prepare them for life!

RESOURCE LISTS AND WEBSITES

- Notable Children's Books 2026: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb>
- Texas 2x2 Books 2026: <https://txla.org/tools-resources/reading-lists/2x2/current-list>
- Lee and Low Books: <https://www.leeandlow.com>
- Library Mom: <https://librarymom.com>
- Geisel Award: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/geiselaward>
- Branches Books: <http://www.scholastic.com/branches>
- Reading Beyond: <https://www.cbcbooks.org/readers/reader-resources/reading-beyond>

FICTION

We are Definitely Human, X Fang
Don't Trust Fish, Neil Sharpson
If You Make a Call on a Banana Phone, Gideon Sterer
Mistaco! A Tale of Tragedy y Tortillas, Eliza Kinkz
**Recess*, Lane Smith
Shark Girl, Kate Beaton
The First Week of School, Drew Beckmeyer
The Last Stand, Antwan Eady
The Sleeper Train, Mick Jackson
To Activate Space Portal, Lift Here, Antoinette Portis
When Alexander Graced the Table, Alexander Smalls
Monster Hands, Karen Kane

CHAPTER BOOK SERIES

**Farah Rocks*, Susan Muaddi Darraj
**Zoey and Sassafras* series, Asia Citro
**DATA set* series, Ada Hopper
**Jake Maddox sports* series, Jake Maddox
Amina Banana, Shifa Safadi
Time Twisters series, Steve Sheinkin
Miles Lewis, Kelly Starling Lions
**Mango and Bambang*, Polly Faber
**Hot Dog or Weirdo* series, Anh Do
Notebook of Doom, Troy Cummings
**Unicorn or Owl Diaries*, Rebecca Elliott
**Press Start*, Thomas Flintham
**Who Was?* nonfiction series, various authors

NONFICTION

Life After Whale: The Amazing Ecosystem of a Whale Fall, Lynn Brunelle
The Escape Artist: A True Story of Octopus Adventure, Thor Hanson
Cassini's Mission, Katie Venit
A Forest Song, Kirsten Hall
My Pollinator Garden: How I Plant For Bees, Butterflies, Beetles and More, Jordan Zwetchkenbaum
Whales in the City, Nancy F. Castaldo
Weird World of Animals series, Mary Griffin
And She Was Loved: Toni Morrison's Life in Stories, Andrea Davis Pinkney
Mighty Scared: The Amazing Ways Animals Defend Themselves, Erin Silver
What Makes a Bird?, Nadeem Perera
Cactus Queen: Minera Hoyt Establishes Joshua Tree National Park, Lori Alexander
Daughter of the Light-Footed People, Belen Medina
How to Write a Poem, Kwame Alexander

MINDFULNESS

This is My Brain! A Book on Neurodiversity, Elise Gravel
Behavior Matters series, Sue Graves
Out of a Jar, Deborah Marcero
All the Ways to Be Smart, Davina Bell
Hidden Gem, Linda Liu
I Am a Tornado, Drew Beckmeyer

* Available as an ebook on www.mackinvia.com