

May 23, 2011

Dear First Grade (soon to be Second Grade) Parents,

We look forward to seeing you and your children next year! We wanted to recommend a few things to work on this summer to prepare your child for second grade. Our summer is very long and skills can be lost if not continually practiced. The two most major skills that deteriorate are reading fluency and memorization of math facts. Below are a few recommendations and websites to help your child continue to grow and learn over the summer. Make it part of your family's daily routine. The kids really look forward to spending this special time with a parent.

### Reading

1. Visit the library and spend at least twenty minutes a day reading.
2. Have your child retell the story using the words First, Next, Then, and Finally.
3. Ask your child questions about the characters, setting, and main idea.
4. Play phonics games online.
  - [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)
  - [www.gamecurium.com](http://www.gamecurium.com)
  - [www.primarygames.com](http://www.primarygames.com)

### Summer Book Reports

1. Please read at least one book from the Frog and Toad series by Arnold Lobel and the Henry and Mudge series by Cynthia Rylant.
2. Attached are two book reports for those books. If your child would like to do more you can make copies of these.
3. Also attached is a book log for other books your child reads this summer, along with a list of suggested books for summer reading.
4. Please have your child return both the book reports and reading logs the first week of school.
5. A reward will be given to those who do their summer reading!

## Math

1. The most important skill to practice in math over the summer is memorizing addition and subtraction math facts.
2. The best way to memorize facts is 1 or 2 at a time. When these are memorized, add another. It only takes 5 minutes a day!
3. You could easily make flash cards, or buy some at one of the "dollar" stores. You can also go on [www.aplusplus.com](http://www.aplusplus.com) to print flashcards and play games.

## Writing

1. Give your child a notebook or diary to have them write a journal about summer events.
2. Have them correct an entry once a week for a Capital letter at the beginning and a period at the end of each sentence.
3. Encourage creative writing and poetry as well.
4. They can draw pictures, or cut pictures out of magazines. These can be great story starters! They could also write a pretend letter or postcard to a character in one of their books.

## Other Great Websites

[www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

[www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)

[www.factmonster.com](http://www.factmonster.com)

Have a great summer! We'll see you next year!

Sincerely,

Miss Sostarich and Mrs. Davis







# Book Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_ Number of pages \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the beginning, middle, and end of the book. Draw an illustration for each part.

## Beginning

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## Middle

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End


### Parts of the Book

Fill in the important parts of the book.

Main Character(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Setting (when and where the story takes place) \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite part of the book was \_\_\_\_\_



End


### Parts of the Book

Fill in the important parts of the book.

Main Character(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Setting (when and where the story takes place) \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite part of the book was \_\_\_\_\_

## Ways to Enjoy Reading

- ☆ Listen to a book being read aloud.
- ☆ Take turns reading to a friend or parent.
- ☆ Read the book by yourself and tell someone about your favorite parts.
- ☆ Record yourself reading the book or parts of the book a second time.  
Listen to the tape or audio file.
- ☆ Make a list of the books you have read. Use a code to indicate how you felt about each book.
- ☆ Visit the library and explore the section with information books. Select those that interest you.
- ☆ Check out a poetry book and make copies of your favorite poems.

## Summer Doings

- Some at beaches  
Are sand-casting;  
Some are silly ---  
Fighting, rasseling!
- Some are swimming,  
Camping, hiking;  
Some say stick-ball  
Is their liking.

- Some on bikes are  
Gaily speeding;  
Some are smarter ---

## SUMMER READING!

William Cole



## 2nd Grade Summer Reading Possibilities

This listing of books offers book titles that are popular with boys and girls who are entering second grade.

The list is a good place to start your summer reading, but it is only a beginning. Other titles by these authors or other authors offer enjoyable reading.


Knowing how to choose a good book is part of being a good reader. Have fun choosing and reading books this summer.

## 2nd GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

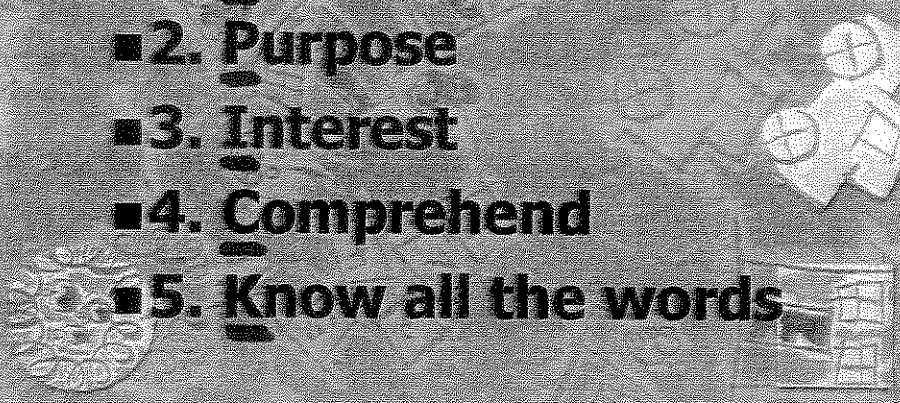
This list is designed to give your "to be" second grader lots of summer reading fun.

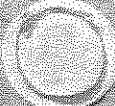
- (ADLER) "Young Cam Jansen" Series  
(ALTER) Disappearing Desmond  
(ARNOLD) Huggly's Pizza  
(ARNOSKY) All About Frogs  
(BARROWS) "Ivy + Bean" Series  
(BARTON) Shark vs. Train  
(BLUME) "The Pain and the Great One" Series  
(BRUEL) "Bad Kitty" Series  
(BUNTING) I Don't Want to Go to Camp  
(COHEN) See You in Second Grade  
(CRONIN) Thump, Quack, Moo  
(CRUM) Thunder Boomer  
(DANZIGER) Get Ready for Second Grade Amber Brown  
(DEEDY) Martina the Beautiful Cockroach  
(DEREGNIERS) May I Bring a Friend?  
(DiCamillo) "Mercy Watson" Series  
(DOBKIN) The Great Bug Hunt  
(ELYA) No More, Por Favor  
(FOX) Possum Magic  
(FRAZEE) A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever  
(GALDONE) The Monkey and the Crocodile  
(GRAVES) Chicken Big  
(GREY) Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon  
(HOBBY) Toot and Puddle  
(HOPKINS) Our Texas  
(HOWE) "Pinky and Rex" Series  
(HUTCHINS) Don't Forget the Bacon  
(ISADORA) Say Hello  
(JACOBSON) "Andy Shane" Series  
(JENKINS) How Many Ways Can you Catch a Fly?  
(JONES) Rah-Rah Ruby  
(KASZA) Badger's Fancy Meal  
(KELLOGG) Penguin Pup for Pinkerton  
(KERBY) Little Pink Pup  
(KERRIN) "Martin Bridge" Series  
(KETTEMAN) The Three Little Gators  
(KHAN) Big Red Lollipop  
(KIMMEL) Anansi & the Moss-Covered Rock  
(KLINE) "Horrible Harry" Series  
(LAROCHELLE) 1+1=5: and other Unlikely Additions  
(LARSON) Two Bobbies: True Story of Hurricane Katrina  
(LERCH) Swim Swim  
(LESTER) "Tacky the Penguin" Series  
(LIN) Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same!  
(LOBEL) Frogs and Toads All Sang  
(MASSIE) The Baby Beebee Bird  
(MCNAUGHTON) Don't Step on a Crack  
(MCPHAIL) Edward and the Pirates  
(MEDDAUGH) Martha Speaks  
(MEISTER) Kickball Kids  
(MICHALAK) Joe and Sparky Get New Wheels  
(MILTON) Wild, Wild Wolves  
(MUNTEAN) Do Not Open This Book  
(NOLAN) Smarter than Squirrels  
(O'CONNOR) Fancy Nancy: Poet Extraordinaire!  
(O'NEILL) The Recess Queen  
(OSBORNE) "Magic Tree House" Series  
(PALATINI) Bad Boys Get Cookie  
(PARK) "Junie B. Jones" Series  
(PARRISH) "Amelia Bedelia" Series  
(PFISTER) "Rainbow Fish" Series  
(PILKEY) Dog Breath  
(ROY) "A to Z Mysteries" Series  
(RYAN) Mice and Beans  
(RYLANT) "Henry and Mudge" Series  
(SAYRE) Rah, Rah, Radishes!  
(SCANLON) All the World  
(SCHOENBERG) One and only Stuey Lewis  
(SCOTTON) "Splat the Cat" Series  
(SHANNON) Alice the Fairy  
(STADLER) Some Smug Slug  
(STEVENS) Tops and Bottoms  
(SWINBURNE) Whose Shoes?: A Shoe for Every Job  
(TEAGUE) How I Spent My Summer Vacation  
(TOWNSEND) Monkey & Elephants worst fight ever  
(UNDERWOOD) A Balloon for Isabel  
(VAN LEEUWEN) "Amanda Pig" Series  
(WISEMAN) Morris Goes to School  
(YOLEN) "Commander Toad" Series  
(ZION) "Harry the Dirty Dog" Series

# How To Choose The Right Book

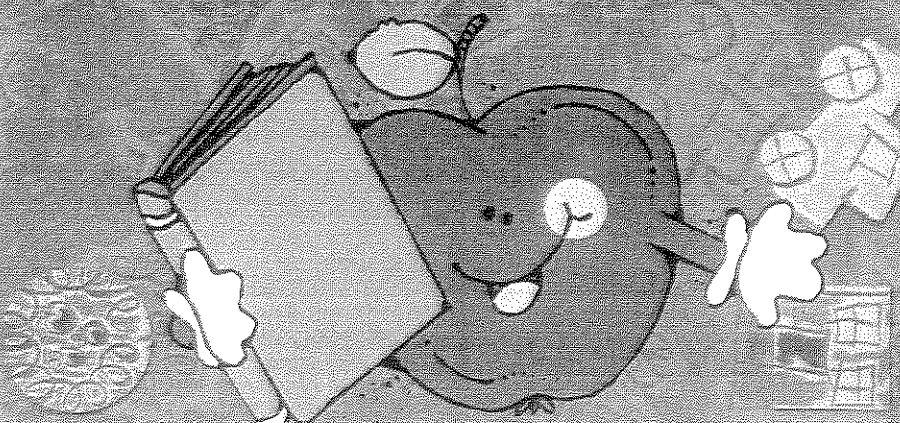
 **I PICK Strategy**

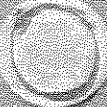
- **1. I look at a book**
- **2. Purpose**
- **3. Interest**
- **4. Comprehend**
- **5. Know all the words**



 **I Look at a book**

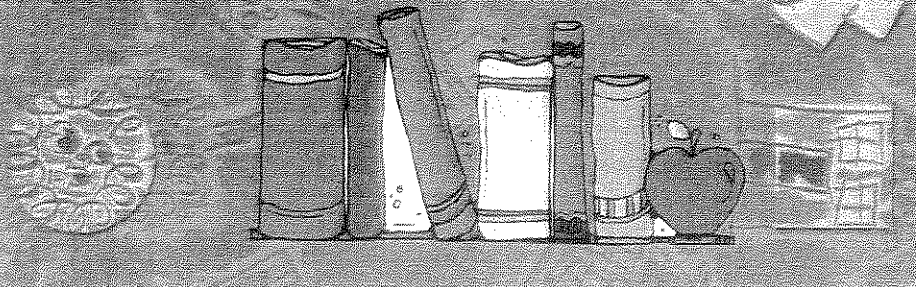
- Simply choose a book from the shelf.






## Purpose

- Why do I want to read it?
- Do I want to learn about the topic?
- Do I want to read it for fun?

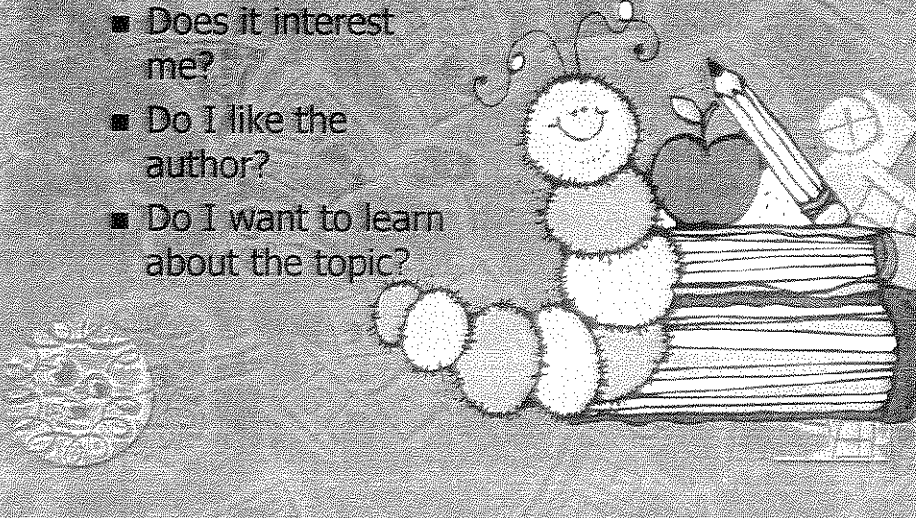


The illustration shows a desk with several books of varying sizes, a pencil, an apple, and some papers. The background is a textured, light-colored surface.

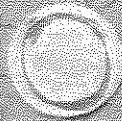


## Interest

- Does it interest me?
- Do I like the author?
- Do I want to learn about the topic?

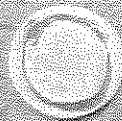
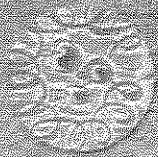
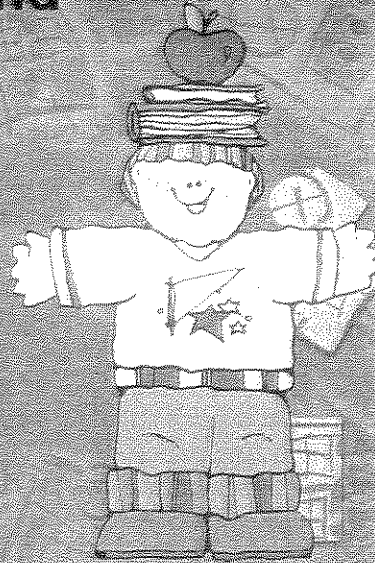


The illustration shows a smiling caterpillar with antennae sitting on a stack of books. There is also an apple and a pencil nearby. The background is a textured, light-colored surface.



## Comprehend

- Am I understanding what I'm reading?
- Does it make sense to me?
- Can I retell what I'm reading?



## Know

- Do I know most of the words?
- It passed the five finger test.

