

Attila the Hun: Leader of the Barbarian Hordes

by Sean Price (JB At84p)

Describes the life of Attila, leader of the Huns, and his attempt to conquer the Roman Empire. A wicked history!

Bad News for Outlaws by Vaunda Nelson (JfB R2594n)

This biography profiles the life of Bass Reeves, a former slave who was recruited as a deputy United States Marshal in the area that was to become Oklahoma.

Cars on Mars: Roving the Red Planet by Alexandra Siy (J523.43 Si99c)

Follow the course of NASA's Mars Exploration Rovers Mission. Learn how scientists determined that there was once water on Mars and how they resolved problems with the rovers in order to prolong the mission.

The Day-Glo Brothers by Chris Barton (JB Sw68b)

Describes the discovery of fluorescent paint by Bob and Joe Switzer, who experimented for years before finding the right formula.

Dinosaurs in Your Backyard by Hugh Brewster (J567.9 B758d)

Discusses species of dinosaurs found on the continent of North America 70 million years ago.



Evolution Revolution by Robert Winston (Jf576.8 W733e)

Explores the history of evolution and the evolution of the future.

Independent Dames: What You Never Knew About the Women and Girls of the American Revolution by Laurie Halse Anderson (J973.3 An239i)

Combines historical facts and humor to pay homage to the ladies who played important roles in the founding of our nation.

Just the Right Size: Why Big Animals are Big and Little Animals are Little by Nicola Davies (J591.4 D288j)

This book uses cartoon-style art and geometry to explain the relationship between an animal's size and its abilities.

Mammoths and Mastodons by Cheryl BarDOE

(J569.67 B236m) Presents an introduction to the prehistoric elephantine species, describing their physical appearance, behavior, and theories about their extinction.

Sharing the Seasons: A Book of Poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins (J811 H775sh)

A collection of 48 poems, 12 for each of the seasons.



The Story Behind Chocolate by Sean Price (J641.337 P931s)

Presents the making and history of chocolate from the past to the very yummy present.

Where Else in the Wild?: More Camouflaged Creatures Concealed ~ and Revealed by David Schwartz (J590 Sch953w2)

Presents poems and brief facts about eleven animals that rely on the ability to camouflage with nature to survive in the wilderness.

Summer 2010 list

compiled by Burlingame Public Library librarians.



Burlingame Public Library

SUMMER READING

Recommendations 2010

FOURTH & FIFTH GRADE



Fiction

Bronte's Book Club by Kristiana Gregory (J)

When twelve-year-old Bronte Bella moves to a small California beach town, her idea to form a book club to make friends turns out to be a good one, after a rocky start.

Cabin on Trouble Creek by Jean Van Leeuwen (J)

In 1803 in Ohio, two young brothers are left to finish the log cabin and guard the land while their father goes back to Pennsylvania to fetch their mother and younger siblings.

The Case of the Case of Mistaken Identity

by Mac Barnett (J)

When twelve-year-old Steve Brixton, a fan of Bailey Brothers detective novels, is mistaken for a real detective, he must elude librarians, police, and the mysterious Mr. E. as he seeks a missing quilt containing coded information.



Closed for the Season by Mary Downing Hahn (J)

When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move into a run-down old house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there and becomes involved with his neighbor Arthur in a dangerous investigation to try to uncover the killer.

A Crooked Kind of Perfect by Linda Urban (J)

Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her social life.

The Death-Defying Pepper Roux

by Geraldine McCaughrean (J)

Having been raised believing he will die before he turns fourteen, Pepper runs away on his fourteenth birthday in an attempt to elude his fate.



Do the Math: The Writing on the Wall

by Wendy Lichtman (J)

Math-loving 8th grader Tess learns that sometimes life, like algebra, has no solutions and that she must take risks and find her own answers.

Dying to Meet You by Kate Klise (J)

In this story told mostly through letters, children's book author, I.B. Grumply, gets more than he bargained for when he rents a quiet place to write for the summer.



Flight of the Phoenix by R.L. LaFevers (J)

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 and thus eventually become a beastologist.

The Frog Princess by E.D. Baker (J)

After reluctantly kissing a frog, an awkward, fourteen-year-old princess suddenly finds herself a frog, too, and sets off with the prince to seek the means to become human again.

Heart of a Shepherd by Rosanne Parry (J)

Ignatius "Brother" Alderman, nearly twelve, promises to help his grandparents keep the family's Oregon ranch the same while his brothers are away and his father is deployed to Iraq, but as he comes to accept the inevitability of change, he also sees the man he is meant to be.

Hurry Home Candy by Meindert De Jong (J)

The dog was lost. He had no name, and no one to love him. He had only himself, and he was afraid. Along the way, the little dog found a few friends, people who gave him shelter for a while, but always he moved on ~ until he found a place he could call home forever.

Lone Wolf by Kathryn Lasky (J)

Abandoned by his pack, a baby wolf with a mysterious mark on his deformed paw survives and embarks on a journey that will change the world of the wolves of the Beyond.

Magyk by Angie Sage (J)

After his son is kidnapped by the midwife, Silas Heap finds an abandoned newborn in the snow and takes her home but mysteries surround this adopted daughter.



Masterpiece by Elise Broach (J)

After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Million-Dollar Throw by Mike Lupica (J)

Eighth-grade quarterback Nate Brodie's family feels the stress of the troubled economy, and Nate's best friend Abby is going blind, so when he gets a chance to win a million dollars if he completes a pass at a New England Patriot's game, he is overwhelmed by the pressure to succeed.

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick (J)

Twelve-year-old Homer, a poor but clever orphan, has extraordinary adventures after running away from his evil uncle to rescue his brother, who has been sold into service in the Civil War.

The Mystery of the Martello Tower by Jennifer Lanthier (J)

In trying to solve their father's disappearance, Hazel and her brother, Ned, find themselves involved with art thieves and uncover some disturbing family secrets.



Newsgirl by Liza Ketchum (J)

In spring 1851 San Francisco is booming when 12-year-old Amelia Forrester arrives with her family eager to make a new life. The mostly male town is not hospitable to females so Amelia decides she can earn more money as a boy. Cutting her hair, she joins newsboys, selling Eastern newspapers for a fortune.

Nick of Time by Ted Bell (J)

With Lord Hawke, whose children have been taken by the evil pirate Captain Billy Blood, young Nick McIver uses a time machine to rescue the two children as well as change the course of events in two time periods, the Napoleonic Wars and World War II.



Nightmare at the Book Fair by Dan Gutman (J)

When fifth-grader Trip Kindleman, who does not like to read, is hit on the head by a heavy box and becomes a character in different books—from sports to science fiction to adventure —his view of reading is changed forever.

The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits and a Very Interesting Boy by Jeanne Birdsall (J)

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

Powerless by Matthew Cody (J)

Superhero kids meet comic book mystery in this action-filled story about the true meaning of a hero.

Project Mulberry: A Novel by Linda Sue Park (J)

While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship and more.

Revolution Is Not a Dinner Party: A Novel by Ying Chang Compestine (J)

Starting in 1972 when she is nine years old, Ling, the daughter of two doctors, struggles to make sense of the communists' Cultural Revolution, which empties stores of food, homes of appliances deemed "bourgeois," and people of laughter.



★ (Meet this author when she visits the **Burlingame Public Library on September 26th.**)

Shadows on the Sea by Joan Hiatt Harlow (J)

In 1942, fourteen-year-old Jill goes to stay with her grandmother on the coast of Maine, where she is introduced to the gossipy nature of small-town life, and discovers that the war is closer than she thought.

Tales of Beedle the Bard by J.K. Rowling (J)

Featuring commentary by Albus Dumbledore, a collection of tales from the world of Harry Potter includes "The Wizard and the Hopping Pot," "Babbitty Rabbitty and her Cackling Stump," and "The Tale of the Three Brothers."

Wild River by P.J. Petersen (J)

Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.

Non-Fiction



Animals in the House: A History of Pets and People by Sheila Keenan (J636.0887 K25a)

Tells the story of pets through the ages and the people who kept them, including famous pets and their owners.