

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

**2011 Summer Pleasure Reading
Recommended by MBUSD Library Media Specialists**

For Students Entering Grades 3

Picture Books

Awful Ogre Running Wild by Jack Prelutsky (2008)

The ogre from *Awful Ogre's Awful Day* (2001) is back with more first-person poems, this time about his summer vacation.

Ish by Peter Reynold (2004).

A charming story about appreciating your talents.

Players in Pigtails by Shana Corey (2003).

An interesting look at the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League that was formed during WWII.

Chapter Books

The Adventures of Nanny Piggins by R. A. Spratt (2010)

When Mr. Green needs to hire a nanny for his three children, he sees no reason not to economize by hiring a pig to do the job. Nanny Piggins surpasses the children's highest hopes: she is against school and chores, but very much in favor of amusement parks and chocolate cake. This comical adventure, like Nanny Piggins herself, is pure fun.

Justin Case: School, Drool, and Other Daily Disasters by Rachel Vail (2010)

Justin K. is nicknamed Justin Case because of his tendency to worry. Starting third grade is giving him plenty to worry about, especially since he isn't placed in the class he wanted and his favorite stuffed animal has gone missing. Fortunately Justin draws on his considerable strengths and learns to be braver, which yields pretty good results.

The Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis by Barbara O'Connor (2009)

Popeye thinks nothing ever happens in Fayette, South Carolina. But things start to look up when the Jewells' Holiday Rambler makes a wrong turn and gets stuck in the mud, trapping Elvis and his five rowdy siblings in Fayette. Then things get even better when something curious comes floating down the creek and Popeye and Elvis set out on a small adventure.

2011-2012 California Young Reader Medal nominee

Violet Raines Almost Got Struck by Lightning by Danette Haworth (2008)

Spunky, headstrong Violet Raines is happy with things just the way they are in her sleepy backwoods Florida town. But her world is turned upside down when Melissa moves to town from big city Detroit. It'll take the help of Violet's friends, her Momma, and *maybe* even Melissa, for Violet to realize that growing up doesn't have to mean changing who you are.
2011-2012 California Young Reader Medal nominee

Series Chapter Books

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School and Other Scary Things by Lenore Look (2008-ongoing)

Alvin is a second grader who is afraid of *everything*—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. But at home he's a very loud superhero named Firecracker Man and a gentleman-in-training, so he can be just like his dad.
2011-2012 California Young Reader Medal nominee

George Brown, Class Clown by Nancy Krulik (2010-ongoing).

This series answers the burning question, how much trouble can a burp get you into. Plenty if the burp is a magic one.

Geronimo Stilton (2004-ongoing) and ***Thea Stilton*** (2009-ongoing)

Follow the adventures of Mouse Island's Geronimo Stilton and his sister Thea.

Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist by R. L. LaFevers (2009-ongoing)

The series chronicles the adventures of young Nathaniel "Nate" Fludd, a beastologist-in-training who travels the world in search of mythical beasts with his mentor Aunt Phil and pet gremlin Grease.

Non-Fiction

Shooting for the Moon: The Amazing Life and Times of Annie Oakley by Stephen Krensky and Bernie Fuchs (2001)

A picture book biography that tells the story of a uniquely American personality, Annie Oakley.