

# Lafayette Elementary School

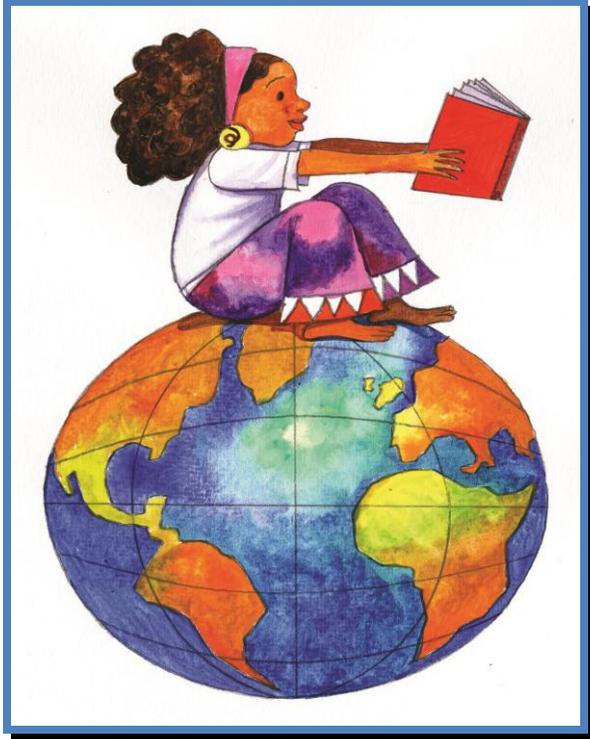


Summer Reading Guide

2017

Early Childhood—5<sup>th</sup> grade





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Dear Lafayette Students and Families,

Last year, a great group of Lafayette teachers curated a new summer reading guide. We are thrilled to present it to you again this year! Rising grades one through five will pair their reading with a project meant to nurture creativity and writing skills.

Lafayette has partnered with DC Public Library to ensure that the reading list is filled with books available, for free, from your neighborhood library. They will also be available for purchase at many bookstores.

Hopefully, your student will have time this summer to read beyond this reading list. They have access to our school's e-books and audiobooks during the summer, perfect resources for travelling! They may also use their DC Public Library card or DC One card to access DC Public Library's large print and online collections.

Summer is the perfect time to nurture your student's love of story and reading. Continuing to read over the summer is vital to the academic success of your student, and hopefully the books they read from this list will bring them joy! The work you, Lafayette's families, do to encourage your students to read regularly has a massive impact on the success of our community. Thank you for your support in this endeavor!

Thanks to the current and former Lafayette staff who worked so hard on this reading list last year: Annie Campbell, Kathy Echave, Judy Fratto, Alycia Hallock, Nancy Nickel, Judith Perlin, Cheryl Phillips and Blake Yedwab.

## Early Childhood—Pre-K and Kindergarten

A reading list for children who are learning to read and may need some support.

Barton, Byron. *My Bike*. 2015. Tom describes all the parts of his bicycle and then shares his journey as a circus performer.

Bruel, Nick. *A Wonderful Year*. 2015. This picture book comically follows one girl through each of the four seasons.

Beaty, Andrea. *Rosie Revere, Engineer*. 2013. A young, aspiring engineer must conquer her first fear of failure. (Also by this author is *Iggy Peck, Architect* and *Ada Twist, Scientist*.)

Floca, Brian. *Five Trucks*. 2014. Five trucks do different jobs to get an airplane ready for takeoff.

Griswell, Kim. *Rufus Goes to School*. 2013. Rufus Leroy Williams III wants to go to school to learn to read but the principal repeatedly says no, just because Rufus is a pig. (This endearing story continues with the author's *Rufus Goes to Sea*.)

Houblon, Marie. *A World of Colors: Seeing Colors in a New Way*. 2009. Photographs and simple text explore the relationship between colors and objects with images from around the world.

Isadora, Rachel. *I Hear a Pickle: (And Smell, See, Touch and Taste It, Too)*. 2016. Humorous trip through the five senses.

Mantchev, Lisa. *Strictly No Elephants*. 2015. A boy is excluded from a pet club because of his unusual pet.

Oldland, Nicholas. *Walk on the Wild Side*. 2015. One day, three friends, a bear, a beaver and a moose who love adventure set off to climb a mountain. They turn it into a race and face a series of mishaps and learn much about competition.

Other authors to explore:

- Arnosky, Jim.
- Crews, Donald.
- Ehlert, Lois.
- Henkes, Kevin.
- Lionni, Leo.
- Lobel, Arnold.
- Stead, Phillip and Erin.
- Van Dusen, Chris.



### First Grade Reading List and Assignment

Incoming first graders should bring in **one item** that reminds them of something they did during summer along with a prepared written sentence about the item/vacation. **It can be a souvenir, a postcard or one picture.** Students will be writing more about and sharing their vacation activities during the first weeks of school.

Discuss with your children the characters, plots, settings, problems and resolutions in the books you choose to read together. Studies show and we know that this builds better reading comprehension.

#### Fiction

Barnett, Mac. *Leo: A Ghost Story*. 2015. Leo is a friendly house-ghost—but when a family moves into his house and tries to get rid of him, he leaves and roams the city looking for a friend.

Beck, W.H. *Glow*. 2016. Text and illustrations introduce animals that glow, exploring what make them “light up,” their habitat and the adaptations they have made, how they communicate and more.

Brown, Lisa. *The Airport Book*. 2016. All about airports in a cool way.

Carle, Eric. *What’s Your Favorite Animal?* 2014. With beautiful illustrations and charming personal stories, 14 artists share their favorite animals and tell the reader why they love them.

DiCamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*. 2009. After Mercy the pig spends the night in the Watson’s bed, all three awaken with the bed teetering on the edge of a big hole in the floor, and it is up to Mercy to save them. This is a series.

Egan, Tim. *Dodsworth* series.

Marino, Gianna. *Night Animals*. 2015. Possum is hiding from the sounds in the night, and his fear sets off a chain reaction in the other night animals.

Reynolds, Aaron. *Nerdy Birdy*. 2015. A picture book about a nerdy birdy who just wants to hang out with the cool birds.

Ruzzier, Sergio. *This is Not a Picture Book!* 2016.

Stevens Crummel, Janet. *The Great Fuzz Frenzy*. 2006. When a tennis ball falls into an underground prairie dog town, the residents find that their newfound frenzy for fuzz creates crazy fun and a fiasco.

Stark, Ulf. *When Dad Showed Me the Universe*. (Translated from Swedish). 2015. Tonight, Dad wants to show his son something very special: the universe. On the way, they learn that that sometimes the most important things are right under your nose.

Stein, David Ezra. *Tad and Dad*. 2015. Caldecott winner David Ezra Stein's endearing story about a growing tadpole who never gives his dad a moment's peace.

#### **Classic books and authors not to be missed**

Allard, Harry G. *Miss Nelson is Missing*. 1985.

Base, Graeme.

Brown, Marc. *Arthur* series.

Cronin, Doreen.

dePaola, Tomie.

Minarick, Else Holmelund. *Little Bear* series.





## Second Grade Reading List

### The Summer Project

Choose **EITHER** the animal or the plant project.

1. At your home, observe some animals. Find out about your favorite backyard animal: what is its habitat, what does it eat, how does it build its nest or make its home, what is its life cycle, how does it protect itself and does it adapt to the environment?
  - Draw pictures or take photos of this backyard animal and label its parts.
  - Research this animal at the library and on the computer.
  - Write a description of the animal.
2. At your home, observe some plants in your yard. Find out about your favorite flower, vegetable or tree. What's its life cycle? What are its parts? How does it look in different seasons? What is it used for? Is it a native plant or an import, and where did it come from originally?
  - Draw pictures or take photos of this plant. Label its parts.
  - Research this plant at the library and on the computer.
  - Write a description of this plant.

Bruel, Nick. *Bad Kitty* series.

Cameron, Ann. *The Stories Julian Tells*. 2006. This is a collection of short stories from Julian, an adventurous 7-year-old.

Chin, Jason. *Gravity*. 2014. Minimal text and amazing illustrations provide an introduction to the concept of gravity and what would happen without it. (*Redwoods*, another book by this author, is equally well done.)

Cronin, Doreen. *Chicken Squad*. 2015. An investigative team of chickens along with a retired police dog fight crime and solve mysteries.

Dicamillo, Kate and Alison McGhee. *Bink and Gollie*. 2014. Great little series about the odd-couple friendship of two girls and their adventurous antics.

DiCamillo, Kate. *Leroy Ninker Saddles Up*. 2014. In this collaboration, Kate DiCamillo and Chris Van Dusen have created an excellent early chapter book, with characters who are immensely likable and with plot twists and humor.

Henkes, Kevin. *The Year of Billy Miller*. 2014. Newbery Medal winner. An awesome book about a second grader.

Jenkins, Emily. *Toys Go Out*. 2009. There are six stories in this book that relate the adventures of Lumphy, a stuffed buffalo; Sting Ray, a stuffed stingray; and Plastic, a toy who happens to be in the middle of an identity crisis.

Jenkins, Steve. Any book by this extraordinary author and illustrator will delight the reader.

Medina, Juana. *Juana & Lucas*. Juana loves many things in life — her dog, Brussel sprouts, drawing, and her hometown, Bogotá, Colombia — but she doesn't enjoy learning English, until her abuelo offers her a bribe: a visit to Spaceland in the U.S., where she will need to use English.

Warner, Sally. *EllRay Jakes is Not a Chicken*. 2012. Eight-year-old EllRay attempts to defend himself against the class bully always ends up getting him in trouble, but he promises to do his best when his dad offers to take him to Disneyland if he can be good for an entire week — which may be a few days too long.

### **Classic series to read**

Adler, David. *Cam Jansen*.

Kline, Suzy. *Horrible Harry*.

Paula, Danziger. *Amber Brown*. (As a second grader)

Roy, Ron. *A to Z Mysteries* and *Capital Mysteries*.

Sobol, Donald J. *Encyclopedia Brown*.





### Third Grade Reading List

Rising third graders are expected to read the required book and complete the activity for the required book, as well as read one other book from the list below, for a total of two books.

**Required book:** *Dory Fantasmagory* by Abby Hanlon.

#### Activity for required book:

**Create a new book cover for *Dory Fantasmagory*.** Take a sheet of paper, 8 1/2" x 11" and fold it in half. On the "front cover," draw your own illustration for the story. Include the title, author and your name. On the back, answer the question below using complete sentences. Your answer should be in the form of a paragraph, 4 to 6 sentences in length. Don't forget to indent.

**Question:** Did you like this book? Why or why not? Use specific examples from the book to support your thinking.

#### Suggested Fiction

*American Girl* series.

Atinuke. *Anna Hibiscus*. 2011. This is a wonderful series about a delightful African girl from a close knit family.

Carman, Patrick. *Floors*. 2011. Leo is the son of a building maintenance man. He finds secret boxes that open up hidden floors and the adventure begins. This is an excellent series of three books and each one of them is captivating and well written.

Cleary, Beverly. Anything by this author.

Dahl, Roald.

English, Karen. *Nikki & Deja*. The first book in a wonderful series about friendship.

Estes, Eleanor. *The Moffats*.

Harper, Charise Mericle. *Just Grace*. 2010. Grace is the quintessential 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, just a little bit...different. This is a series.

Huges, Ted. *Iron Giant*.

Horvath, Polly. *Mr. and Mrs. Bunny: Detectives Extraordinaire*. 2014. This is a hilarious chapter book about a girl whose parents are kidnapped and the bunny detectives who are on the case. Challenging book.

King-Smith, Dick. *Babe: The Gallant Pig*.

McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody* or *Stink* series.

Pennypacker, Sara. *Clementine*. 2007. While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

Sachar, Louis. *Marvin Redpost* series.

Silverstein, Shel. Humorous, delightful poetry.

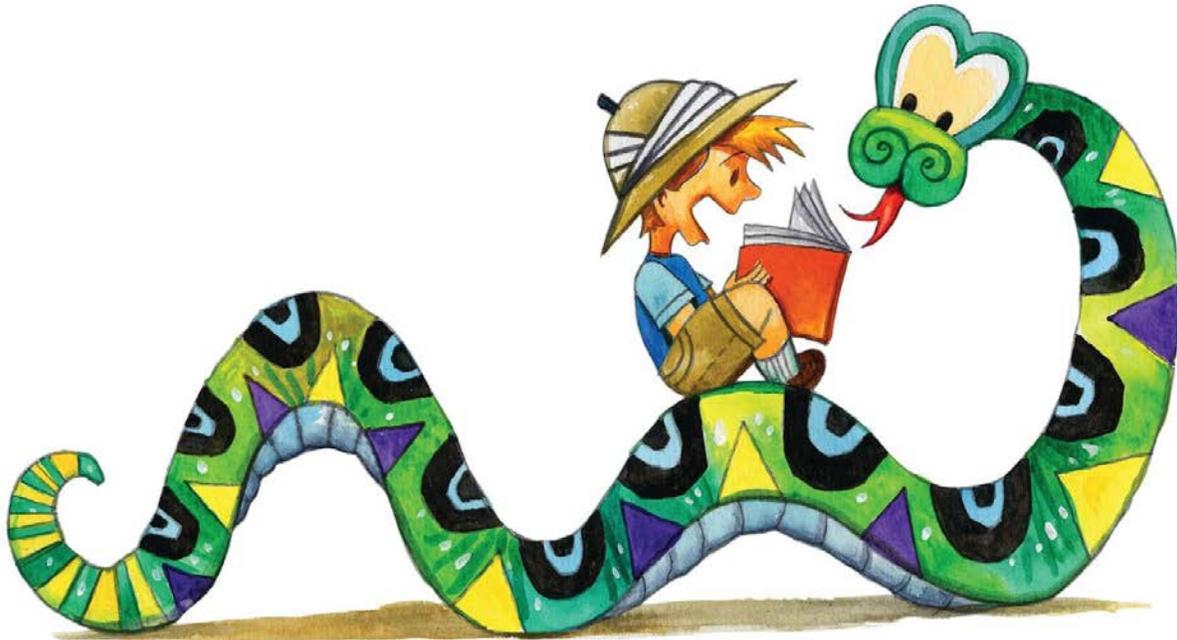
Vernon, Ursula. *Harriet the Invincible*. 2015. Princess Harriet was cursed at birth: someday, she will prick her paw on a hamster wheel and fall into a deep sleep. Rather than mope around, Harriet reasons that her date with the curse makes her invincible, so she becomes a fearless knight with a passion for fractions! First of a series filled with fun and derring-do.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. *Boxcar Children* series.

## **Nonfiction**

Dorling-Kindersley (DK) nonfiction books, levels 2, 3, and 4.

*Who Is/ Who Was* series. This is a high interest, well written biography series.



#### Fourth Grade Reading List

Students are expected to read **one** of the required books and complete the assignment.

**Assignment:** Write a friendly letter to your teacher about a main character's problem in the book that you read. Describe the problem and include how you would solve it. Make sure your letter has a date, greeting, body, closing and your signature. Write it neatly on lined paper.

#### Required books (read one)

Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits and a Very Interesting Boy*. 2010. Something light and really quite wonderful for boys and girls. This has become a series. A family of girls along with their widowed father spend the summer in a cottage at the Berkshires where lively adventures are had and new friends made.

Chilton, Andrew L. *The Goblin's Puzzle: Being the Adventures of a Boy with No Name and Two Girls Called Alice*. 2016. A boy, a goblin, a scholar and a princess join forces to defeat a dragon, outwit a scheming duke and solve a logic puzzle. Fantasy, humor and adventure and more.

Cody, Matthew. *Powerless*. 2009. Moving, mystery, detective story, family and the supernatural; this one has it all. Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers (they save his life) that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them.

Foxlee, Karen. *Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy*. 2014. Ophelia is a timid eleven-year-old girl who is grieving her mother when she discovers a boy (from another time) locked in the museum where her father is working. Wonderful story about friendship, family, courage and the importance of not giving up.

Lawson, Jessica. *Nooks & Crannies*. 2015. Eleven-year-old Tabitha Crum, whose rather despicable parents were just about to abandon her, is invited to the country estate of a wealthy countess along with five other children and told that one of them will become her heir.

Lean, Sarah. *A Hundred Horses*. 2015. Nell, an eleven-year-old, has to spend her spring break with an aunt and cousins she has never met. There she meets a mysterious, wild girl with a strange, magical connection to horses and an uncanny understanding of Nell. Sarah Lean also wrote another wonderful book called *A Dog Called Homeless*.

Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. 2009. Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon that cannot fly on a quest. The book after this one is *Starry River of the Sky*.

Parry, Roseanne. *The Turn of the Tide*. 2016. After a devastating tsunami in Japan, cousins Jet and Kai spend the summer together in Astoria, Oregon, training for the Young's Bay Treasure Island Race and become close friends in the process.

Primavera, Elise. *Ms. Rapscott's Girls*. 2015. The girls at this school get lost on purpose and learn much about bravery, independence, strength and teamwork.

Pyron, Bobbie. *Lucky Strike*. 2014. Nathaniel Harlow lives in a trailer park in Franklin County, Florida, and he has always been unlucky. After he is struck by lightning on his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday and survives, Nathaniel's luck begins to change.



**Other books and authors to read**

Scott, Michael. The Alchemyst series.

Amato, Mary.

Butterworth, Oliver. *The Enormous Egg*.

Clements, Andrew.

Creech, Sharon. Suggested titles:

- *Walk Two Moons*
- *Bloomability*
- *The Wanderer*
- *Ruby Holler*
- *Moo*

Green, Tim. Sports fiction

Lupica, Mike. Sports fiction

Opel, Kenneth. *Silverwing* or *Boundless*.

Peck, Richard. *Secrets at Sea*.

Pennypacker, Sara. *Summer of the Gypsy Moths*.

Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square*.

*Thirty-Nine Clues* series.

**Nonfiction**

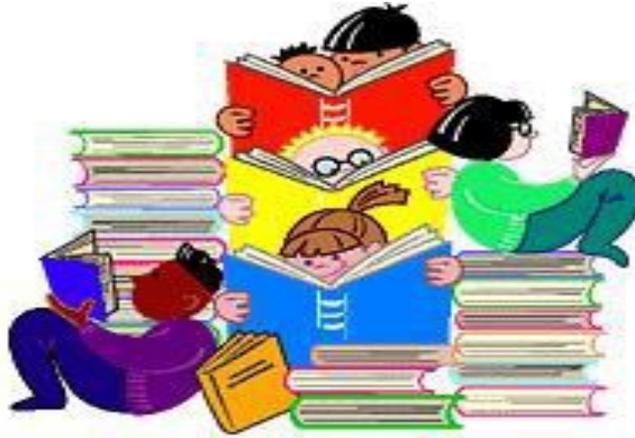
Beccia, Carlyn. *I Feel Better with a Frog in my Throat: History's Strangest Cures*. 2010.

Jenkins, Steve. *How to Swallow a Pig: Step-by-Step Advice from the Animal Kingdom*. 2016.

Roth, Susan L. *Parrots over Puerto Rico*

Tonatiuh, Duncan. *Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras*. 2015

*You Wouldn't Want to Be* series. For example, *You Wouldn't Want to Be a Roman Gladiator*.



### Fifth Grade Summer Reading List

All incoming fifth graders are expected to read **5** books that they have not read before. You must read the **required book and complete the activity, plus read at least 4 other books** from the titles listed below. Please pick from the categories listed below. Have a terrific time reading and come back to school ready to talk about all of the books that you enjoyed reading this summer!

**Activity:** Create **4** different picture postcards from **4** different characters. Write a message on the back of each one representing that particular character's feelings or point of view about an event in the story. **Bring them in on the first day of school.**

**Required book: *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio**

#### **Poetic Fiction and Poetry**

Janeczko, Paul B.. *A Poke in the I*. 2005. A collection of 30 concrete poems.

Alexander, Kwame. *The Crossover*. 2014. Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. This book won the Newbery medal in 2014.

Alexander, Kwame. *Booked*. 2016. Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

Hesse, Karen. *Out of the Dust*. 2007. Fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the Dust Bowl years of the Great Depression.

McKissak, Patricia. *Never Forgotten*. 2011. Award-winning lyrical story-in-verse that details the experiences of an African boy who was kidnapped and sold into slavery.

## **Fiction**

Balliet, Blue. *Chasing Vermeer*. 2005. This riveting mystery is set at the Lab School at the University of Chicago. When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Broach, Elise. *Shakespeare Stealer*. 2000. A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty. This is a 3-part historical fiction series.

Fitzgerald, Laura Mark. *Under the Egg*. 2015. Her grandfather's dying words lead thirteen-year-old Theodora Tenpenny to a valuable, hidden painting she fears may be stolen, but it is her search for answers in her Greenwich Village neighborhood that brings the real treasure.

Funke, Cornelia. *The Thief Lord*. 2001. This is the first book of an enduring series originally published in Germany. Orphaned brothers Prosper and Bo have run away from their cruel aunt and uncle. They decide to hide out in Venice where they fall in with the Thief Lord, a thirteen-year-old boy who leads a crime ring of street children.

George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain*. 1959. This is the classic that has been translated into more than twenty languages. Tired of living in the hustle and bustle of New York City, Sam runs away to the Catskill Mountains. An interesting note is that Jean Craighead George lived in this neighborhood for many years.

Horvath, Polly. *Everything on a Waffle*. 2001. Eleven-year-old Primrose, who lives in a small fishing village in British Columbia, recounts her experiences and all that she learns about human nature and the unpredictability of life in the months after her parents are lost at sea. This was a Newbery Honor book in 2002.

Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. 2009. In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers and studies the natural world with her grandfather, leading to an important discovery.

Korman, Gordon. *Masterminds*. 2016. A group of kids discover they were cloned from the DNA of some of the greatest masterminds in history for a sociological experiment. A nonstop exciting adventure.

Levy, Dana Alison. *The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher*. 2016. The adventures of a family with two fathers, four adopted boys and a variety of pets.

Maile, Meloy. *The Apothecary*. 2011. This one has it all: historical fiction, mystery and fantasy. Fourteen-year-old Janie Scott, newly arrived in London from Los Angeles in 1952, becomes friends with a mysterious apothecary and his son, Benjamin Burrows, and is drawn into a dangerous adventure. This is part of a series.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *Echo*. 2015. This is a masterpiece by Muñoz Ryan about a magical harmonica and the stories of three children: Friedrich in Germany in 1933, Mike in Pennsylvania in 1935 and Ivy in California in 1942, and much more.

Wiles, Deborah. *Aurora County All Stars*. 2007. Through a long, hot summer month in June, House Jackson—star pitcher of the Aurora County All-Stars, is finally ready to play again after being sidelined for a year with a broken elbow, but a standoff ensues when the team's big game is scheduled for the same day as Aurora County's two-hundredth anniversary pageant.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Locomotion*. 2003. Inspired by his teacher, eleven-year-old Lonnie begins to write about his life in a series of poems in which he discusses his feelings about his friends, his foster mom, his little sister Lili and the death of his parents. This is an award winning author.

### **Non-Fiction**

Bonner, Hannah. *When Fish Got Feet, Sharks Got Teeth and Bugs Began to Swarm*. 2009. Amazing, high interest history of animal and plant life before the dinosaurs from National Geographic.

Delano, Marfe Ferguson. *Earth in the Hot Seat*. 2014. Another high interest book from National Geographic on global warming.

Nelson, Kadir. *We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*. 2009. Winner of the Coretta Scott King Book Award 2009 author award and illustrator honor; Winner of the Sibert Medal Award 2009. Kadir Nelson is a gifted author and illustrator whose books are brilliant.

### **Classics to Read**

Rawls, Wilson. *Where the Red Fern Grows*.

Gipson, Fred. *Old Yeller*. In the late 1860's in the Texas hill country, a big yellow dog and a fourteen-year-old boy form a close, loving relationship.

Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Juster, Norton. *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Milo, a young boy with little interest in anything, takes a trip through the Phantom Tollbooth to the Lands Beyond where he meets an enchanting cast of characters who teach him the importance of words, numbers, ideas, creativity and enthusiasm for life.

Babbit, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*. The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing older.