Class III and IV Summer Reading List

With summer vacation comes the joy of reading for pleasure. When you are selecting books to read over the summer, choose books from a broad range of genres and formats, such as historical fiction, fantasy, biographies, poetry, nonfiction, and graphic novels. This list includes suggestions for great summer reads, but feel free to read other books too. We hope it gets you started on a full summer of reading! Explore your public library and ask friends and family for more suggestions.

Happy reading,

The Librarians

Bourdier, Emmanuel. **Hazelnut Days**
This nuanced and beautifully illustrated picture book follows the inner thoughts of a boy as he visits his incarcerated father.

Floca, Brian. **Locomotive**
Information and Caldecott Award winning illustrations of what the first passengers experienced as they traveled West on the transcontinental railroad in the summer of 1869.

Kalman, Maira. **Fireboat: The Heroic Adventures of the John J. Harvey**
The true story of a retired fireboat called into action on September 11, 2001.

Luyken, Corinna. **The Book of Mistakes**
As an artist creatively incorporates her slipups into a drawing, readers see the ways in which 'mistakes' can provide inspiration and opportunity, and reveal that both the art and artist are works-in-progress.

Woodson, Jacqueline. **The Other Side**
Two girls, one white and one African-American, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.

Young, Rebecca. **Teacup**
The multi-layered story of a boy’s journey to a new place, ripe with symbolism and meaning and connection to the modern day refugee experience.
Nadler, Ben. **The White Snake**
A retelling of the German folktale *White Snake* in graphic format. This fast-paced adaptation emphasizes the importance of listening, kindness and fairness and includes endnotes that give background information about the original tale.

Poliquin, Rachel. **Beavers (Superpower Field Guide)**
What would a Brearley booklist be without a book about beavers?

Sell, Chad. **The Cardboard Kingdom**
A group of neighborhood kids create costumes from cardboard and use their imagination in adventures with knights, robots, and monsters.

Siegel, Mark. **5 Worlds Series**
The Five Worlds are on the brink of extinction unless five ancient and mysterious beacons are lit. When war erupts, three unlikely heroes will discover there's more to themselves--and more to their worlds--than meets the eye.

Tra, Frank. **Masterpiece Robot and the Ferocious Valerie Knick-Knack**
When Laura, aka Masterpiece Robot heads into the backyard, her active imagination places her on patrol around the perimeter of a dystopian city.

Varon, Sara. **Sweater Weather**
What would it be like if animated animals walked the streets of Brooklyn?

Yang, Gene Luen. **Secret Coders**
Learn about the history of coding and different coding languages as you follow Eni, Hopper, and Josh as they try to solve a mystery. This engaging graphic novel series is hard to put down and serves as a great introduction to computer programming.

Burgos, Hilda Eunice. **Ana Maria Reyes Does Not Live In a Castle**
With a new sibling on the way and a big piano recital on the horizon, Dominican- American Ana Maria Reyes tries to win a scholarship to a New York City private school.

Clary, Julian. **The Bolds**
Two hyenas from Africa find a pair of passports and move to England where they live suburban lives.
Durst, Sarah Beth. **The Girl Who Could Not Dream**
Sophie’s parents run a secret shop where dreams are bought and sold but when Sophie dreams, her dreams become real, so she is forbidden to have any.

Flint, Shamini. **Ten**
What happens when Maya, a Malaysian girl in 1986, forms her own all-girls soccer team when she’s told soccer is a “boy’s game?”

Gino, Alex. **George**
A story of a girl who was born a boy, but refuses to let that stand in the way of her dream of playing Charlotte in the school’s production of Charlotte’s Web.

Kalmar, Daphne. **A Stitch in Time**
In 1927 Vermont, eleven-year-old Donut starts to lose everything when her dad dies and her Aunt Agnes plans to move her to Boston.

Khan, Hena. **Amina’s Voice**
A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family’s vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.

Levy, Dana Alison. **The Family Fletcher Takes Rock Island**
The Fletcher family looks forward to their regular vacation at Rock Island: clam chowder, swimming, ice cream, and most of all the lighthouse. But what happens when the lighthouse is closed?

Lin, Grace. **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**
Minli’s adventure begins when she buys a magical goldfish and tries to help a dragon who cannot fly.

Perkins, Lynne Rae. **Secret Sisters of the Salty Sea**
Alix and her older sister Jools have never been on a real vacation before. Follow this family as they experience summer adventure.

Phelan, Matt. **Knights vs. Dinosaurs**
With the realm at peace and few dragons about, the Knights of the Round Table are bored, so Merlin sends them out to fight...dinosaurs?

Shevah, Emma. **Dara Palmer’s Major Drama**
Dara Palmer dreams of being an actress, but when she does not get a part in the school play she wonders if it is because of her different looks as an adopted girl from Cambodia. Dara becomes determined not to let prejudice stop her from being in the spotlight.
Applegate, Katherine. **Endling**
Attention *Warriors* fans! Follow Byx when her pack of doglike *dairnes* is killed and she joins other creatures on a quest to discover if any other *dairnes* have survived.

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks**
While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy.

Brown, Peter. **The Wild Robot Escapes**
The extraordinary saga of Roz the robot continues as she tries to return to her beloved island.

Tan, Susan. **Cilia Lee-Jenkins: Future Author Extraordinaire**
In this new series, Meet Priscilla "Cilla" Lee-Jenkins, a future bestselling author extraordinaire! She's on a tight deadline, because when her new baby sister comes, her family will forget all about her.

Taylor, Sydney. **All of a Kind Family**
The adventures of five sisters growing up in a Jewish family in New York City in the early twentieth century.

Vernon, Ursula. **Hamster Princess: Harriet the Invincible**
Never a conventional princess, Harriet becomes an adventurer after learning she is cursed to fall into a deep sleep on her twelfth birthday.

Zetta, Elliott. **Dragons in a Bag**
In Brooklyn, nine-year-old Jax joins a curmudgeonly witch on a quest to deliver three baby dragons to a magical world. The first book of an exciting series.

Barasch, Lynne. **Hiromi’s Hands**
A picture book biography of Hiromi Suzuki, who became one of the first female sushi chefs in New York City.

Cate, Annette. **Look Up! Bird-Watching in Your Own Backyard**
An illustrated guide to bird watching, no matter where you live!

Ferrer, JJ. **The Art of Stone Skipping and Other Fun Old Time Games**
An illustrated guide to dozens of traditional games like boxball, catch, comet ball, and more.
Honigstein, Raphael. **The Big Book of Treasures**
Twenty-three true stories about legendary treasures and treasure hunters, accompanied by lively, engaging illustrations.

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs and June Jo Lee. **Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix**
This picture book biography of Chef Roy Choi and his Korean-Mexican fusion cuisine is illustrated in an eye-catching way. You’ll be hungry after reading this book!

This engaging and informative guide tells kids how to become effective social activists.

Rose, Deborah Lee. **Beauty and the Beak: How Science, Technology, and a 3D-Printed Beak Rescued a Bald Eagle**
Meet Beauty, the bald eagle that made world news when she was injured, rescued and received a 3D-printed prosthetic beak.

Schaefer, Carole Lexa. **Made by Hands: A Crafts Sampler**
Told through narrative, poetry, memoir, and journal entries this tribute to handmade objects brings American history alive.

Siber, Kate. **National Parks of the USA**
Take a tour of the 21 iconic and majestic National Parks, through maps and information about the flora and fauna of each park.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. **Funny Bones: Posada and the Day of the Dead Calaveras**
A biography of artist Jose Guadalupe “Lupe” Posada, who was the inventor of the calaveras, pictures of skeletons doing activities for Day of the Dead celebrations.

Byrd, Robert. **Jason and the Argonauts: The First Great Quest in Greek Mythology**
The story of Jason and the Argonauts’ search for the Golden Fleece. This illustrated account brings Jason’s life and times to a new audience.

Christopher, Neil. **On the Shoulder of a Giant**
The retelling of an Inuit folktale about an Arctic giant who adopts a human hunter as his son.

Waters, Susy Pilgrim. **Grandma and the Great Gourd**
On her way to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, Grandma encounters a hungry fox, bear, and tiger, and she must outwit them all.
Yee, Paul. **Chinese Fairy Tale Feasts**
This book puts together traditional Chinese fairy tales with kid-friendly recipes. Be sure to check out the other books in the series too!

Yolen, Jane. **Not One Damsel in Distress**
A collection of thirteen traditional tales from various parts of the world, each of whose main character is a fearless, strong, heroic, and resourceful woman.

Daniel, Diane. **Sometimes I Feel Like a Fox**
This collection of poems on animal totems gives an introduction to the Anishinaabe tradition of totem animals like deer, beaver, and moose.

Fleischman, Paul. **Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices**
In this collection of poems that describes the characteristics and activities of various insects, the poems are meant to be read aloud by two voices, sometimes alternating and sometimes simultaneously.

Giovanni, Nikki. **I Am Loved**
Joyous poems are illustrated with vibrant watercolors and tempera art.

Paschkis, Julie. **Vivid: Poems & Notes About Color**
The arts and science of colors are celebrated with clever verse, whimsical gouache illustrations, and a multitude of fascinating facts and wordplay.

Bruetti, Ivan. **Comics: Easy As ABC!**

Carlson, Laurie. **Knit, Hook, and Spin**

Hammer, Melina. **Kid Chef: Healthy Recipes and Culinary Skills for the New Cook in the Kitchen**

Reilly, Kathleen. **25 Amazing Projects Investigate the History and Science of What we Eat**

Schwake, Susan. **Art Lab for Kids: 52 Creative Adventures in Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, and Mixed Media**

Sterling Publishers. **Curious Jane: Science + Design + Engineering for Inquisitive Girls**

Ventura, Marme. **Big Book of Building: Duct Tape, Paper, Cardboard, and Recycled Projects Blast Away Boredom**

Woodward, John. **Necessary Skills and Then Some**