Soddy-Daisy Community Library 2025 Summer Reading Recommendations

K-2

The Soddy-Daisy Community Library is proud to present our 2025 Classic Summer of Reading Recommendations. These books were chosen by a panel of librarians, educators, and book industry professionals and represent a diverse cross-section of interests. There's something here for every reader.

We hope these recommendations will support your child's education, improve their reading skills, and provide plenty of relaxation and fun.

Happy Reading!

# **Picture Books**

#### **Acorn Was a Little Wild**

by Jean Arena

Acorn loves adventure, but when a squirrel buries him, he is forced to stay still until exciting changes begin.

#### John's Turn

by Mac Barnett
John is nervous about dancing on
stage at school, but when it's his
turn to share his special talent, he
takes a deep breath and lets his
feet fly!

# What Happened to You?

by James Catchpole
Joe just wants to play pirates, but
everyone keeps asking about his
leg—until they finally realize it's
way more fun to just play!

# Welcome to the Wonder House

by Rebecca Kai Dotlich and Georgia Heard

The rooms in this house are filled with wondrous images and poems about nature from animals to trees to clouds and oceans.

# We Are Definitely Human

by X. Fang
When three silly space visitors
crash-land in Mr. Li's field, he

welcomes them like friends even if they talk funny, play "sportsball," and wear hats in the goofiest way!

# Layla, the Last Black Unicorn

by Tiffany Haddish Layla is a unicorn who feels different from the others at her new school, but when her class gets lost in the forest, she's the one who knows just what to do.

# A Day with No Words

by Tiffany Hammond
Meet Aidan, a boy who
doesn't use spoken words but
talks with a tablet—and
shows how everyone can
share, play, and have fun in
their own special way!

# Alba and the Ocean Cleanup

by Lara Hawthorne
Alba the fish loves collecting
shiny treasures from the
ocean, but when trash starts
filling her home, she must find
a way to save the sea before
it's too late!

#### In the Blue

by Erin Hourigan
This book gently explores
what it is like for a child to

experience the depression of a loved one. With each new wave of change, love will always bond them together.

#### **Your Forest**

by Jon Klassen

This cozy book takes you on a quiet walk through the forest with a friendly ghost, a little cabin, and a bedtime ending as the sun goes down.

## A Name from the Sky

by Diane Kruger
Diane learns that her namesake is
the magical protector of animals
and hopes that she will find her
own special powers someday.

#### Lift

by Min Le and Dan Santat Iris, who loves pushing elevator buttons, feels betrayed when her little brother does it first, leading her to imagine magical adventures through a new, mysterious button.

#### Millie Fleur's Poison Garden

by Christy Mandin
Millie Fleur plants a wild and
wacky garden full of silly, spooky
plants—even if the grumpy town
thinks it's weird, she knows it's
wonderful!

# Picture Books (cont)

Hello, Star by Stephanie V.W. Lucianovic

When a young girl learns that a bright light in the sky is a dying star, she spends years learning about the universe so she can reach out to comfort her friend.

### The Quiet Forest

by Charlotte Offsay
When a tiny mouse causes
big trouble in the forest, it's up
to a bear cub and the animals
to work together and bring
back the peace in this silly,
wild adventure!

# **Chooch Helped**

by Andrea L. Rogers
Sissy's little brother Chooch is
always "helping" (even when
he's messing things up!), and
Sissy has to learn what it
means to be a big sister in a
busy, loving Cherokee family.

### Ruthie Rose's Big Idea

by John Schu
Ruthie Rose has a super sparkly idea that spreads through her whole school—maybe even to you—making

everyone excited about poems and creativity.

### Memoirs of a Dog

by Devin Scillian
Topanga, the dog, gets blamed
for everything, but she's here
to tell you that the only reason
the household works at all is
because she's the one in
charge.

#### **Don't Trust Fish**

by Neil Sharpson Never ever trust fish—they're sneaky, weird, and might be secretly planning something super silly under the sea!

# Interrupting Chicken Cookies for Breakfast

by David Ezra Stein
Little Chicken and his dad read
their favorite nursery rhymes in
bed, but Little Chicken can't
stop interrupting with comical
cookie-themed rhymes.

# <u>Classics</u>

#### The Wall

by Eve Bunting
A little boy visits a shiny black
wall with his dad to find his
grandpa's name and learns
why he's a hero, even though
they never met.

### **The Great Kapok Tree**

by Lynne Cherry
A man exhausts himself trying
to chop down a giant kapok
tree. While he sleeps, the forest
creatures whisper in his ear
about the importance of trees
and how all living things
depend on one another.

# Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed

by Eileen Christelow
After saying goodnight to their
mother, five little monkeys jump
on the bed, one by one falling
off and bumping their heads.
They learn a lesson about
safety and listening to their
mother.

## **Make Way for Ducklings**

by Robert McCloskey
Mrs. Mallard and her eight
ducklings want to move to a
new pond, but when the busy
streets get scary, kind police

officers help them get there safely!

#### A Kiss for Little Bear

by Else Holmelund Minarik This beloved Little Bear classic celebrates the love between grandparent and grandchild.

### **Skippyjon Jones**

by Judith Byron Schachner A Siamese cat with big ears and a big head puts on a mask and cape to become the sword fighter, El Skippito, and save a band of Chihuahuas.

# **Giving Thanks**

by Jake Swamp
Every morning, children say
thank you to the sun, the
trees, the animals, and all of
nature to celebrate the love
and gifts of Mother Earth.

# A Chair for My Mother

by Vera B Williams
A little girl, her mom, and her grandma save all their coins in a big jar so they can buy a soft, cozy chair to rest in after a long day.

# **Non-Fiction**

#### **Not Just the Driver**

by Sara Holly Ackerman
A behind the scenes look at
who helps make all the
transportation systems work
from trucks to subways to
trains to boats to planes.
Teamwork helps the world to
move!

# One Day This Tree Will Fall

by Leslie Barnard Booth Discover how a tree's wounds and decay bring new life to the forest ecosystem. There are many ways a tree's story could end, and we can celebrate the life cycle and *afterlife* of trees.

### **Mushrooms Know**

by Kallie George
Welcome to the magical world
of mushrooms with this colorful
and engaging book that
celebrates curiosity,
uniqueness, and the power of
staying connected.

# Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider

by Jessica Lanan
This nonfiction story reveals the hidden life of the jumping spider.

### **Mars! Earthlings Welcome**

by Stacy McAnulty
Meet Mars, the red planet!
Mars makes a persuasive
case for why people should
make the journey to spend
time with him.

# Hello, I'm an Axolotl

by Hayley Rocco
Did you know that axolotls
have a superpower? They can
regrow lost limbs, tails, and
even parts of their hearts and
brains! Meet the axolotl in
this clever, funny, and
informative book.

### Night Walk to the Sea

by Deborah Wiles & Daniel Miyares Rachel Carson teaches her nephew to care for all creatures.

# His Fairytale Life: A Book About Hans Christian Andersen

by Jane Yolen
Discover the inspiring true
story behind Hans Christian
Andersen, and see how
imagination and
determination can create
timeless tales.

# **Beginning Readers**

# Pete the Cat: Pete at the Beach

by James Dean
Pete has lots of fun collecting
shells and building a sand
castle, but he isn't sure he
wants to go in the water which
looks scary!

## **Nothing Fits a Dinosaur**

by Jonathan Fenske It's time to get ready for bed, but this silly dinosaur can't find anything that fits!

# Pony Scouts: The Camping Trip

by Catherine Hapka
Summer vacation means time
to go camping with the ponies!
Meg discovers there's a lot she
doesn't know about camping,
but learning is part of the fun.

### **Ice Cream Soup**

by Ann Ingalls
What happens when you try to
make an ice cream cake but
add too many delicious
toppings?

# The Best Seat in Second Grade

by Katherine Kenah

Sam brings his hamster on the class field trip to the science museum, but disaster strikes when George jumps from Sam's pocket.

# The Inside Scouts Help the Brave Giraffe

by Mitali Banerjee Ruths Viv and Sanjay are the Inside Scouts! Together, they help animals with their cool superpower. They can shrink super small.

# Schoolhouse Mystery (The Boxcar Children Time to Read)

by Gertrude Chandler

Warner
People say nothing interesting happens in the village of Port Elizabeth, but the Boxcar Children find a big mystery when they visit the schoolhouse.

We have lots of great
Beginning Reader books and plenty of additional
recommendations!

# **Chapter Books**

#### **Mister Shiver series**

by Max Brallier
With authentically scary, easyto-read text, this creepy book
is perfect for young children
who crave a little scare. It will
send shivers down your spine!

#### **Adventure Friends series**

by Todd Brandon
With their walkie-talkies and
compass in hand, two new
friends, Clarke and Miguel,
map out their neighborhood
and search for hidden
treasure!

#### **Orris and Timble**

by Kate DiCamillo
A solitary rat named Orris,
inspired by a sardine can
slogan, rescues a baby owl,
Timble, caught in a trap,
beginning an unlikely
friendship despite their natural
predator-prey relationship.

### Infamous Ratsos series

by Kara LaReau
Louie and Ralphie plan to
prove they are tough! The
problem is every time they try
to be tough, the Ratso
brothers end up accidentally
doing good deeds instead.

**Secret Explorers series** by S.J. King

This group of brilliant kids comes together from all four corners of the globe to fix problems, solve mysteries, and gather knowledge all over the planet – and beyond.

## **Rainbow Magic series**

by Daisy Meadows
Kirsty and Rachel travel to
Fairyland where they meet
magical fairy sisters and help
them with troubles that arise
in their beautiful kingdom.

# **Desmond Cole, Ghost Patrol series**

by Andres Mediosa
Desmond, a fearless eightyear-old, runs his own ghost
patrol. His best friend is afraid
of everything. Together they
tackle spooky problems in
their town.

Additional great chapter book series: Best of Iggy Diary of a Pug Ivy & Bean Stink Get ready for the
SDCL Classic
Summer of Reading!
When you read this summer, you can
earn this classic t-shirt!



Soddy-Daisy Community Library
9619 Dayton Pike \* Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379
423.800.2367
KELCURTFoundation.org
founders@kelcurtfoundation.org

