



The Shlenker School
Congregation Beth Israel

May 22, 2009

Dear Early Childhood Families,

We encourage all of our families and children to read regularly throughout the summer. In addition, we will give special recognition in the fall to the students who read a minimum number of books from the enclosed reading list and complete the attached form.

Students who are entering PreK-3 or PreK-4 grade levels should read (or be read to) at least six books from the attached reading list. As the reading is completed, parents should "help" their child fill out the form and return it to school on the first or second day of the new school year. Only books read between June 1 and August 21 can be counted for this program. Students who return their forms no later than August 21 will receive a certificate and a book in recognition of their participation in this program.

The reading lists have been compiled by the Houston Area Independent Schools Library Network, and we hope that you find they meet your child's needs. They can be found by going to the HAISLN website at www.haisln.org. Look for the lists on our website, too.

We hope that you have a wonderful summer and that this program will encourage you and your child to continue reading throughout the summer months!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gutowsky
Early Childhood Principal



Igniting a spark in every child



**THE SHLENKER SCHOOL
SUMMER READING PROGRAM**

This form must be completed and returned to The Shlenker School no later than August 21, 2009 in order to qualify for this program! Please return forms to the Early Childhood Administrative Assistant in the school office.

Child's Name _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

I read _____

My favorite part of the book was _____

Of the books I read this summer, I would recommend _____

_____ to a friend.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Aliki. ***My Five Senses***. HarperCollins, 1989. The excitement a child feels when discovering the world through the use of the five senses is related.
- Allen, Judy. ***Are You a Ladybug?*** Kingfisher, 2000. The life cycle of a ladybug is introduced, showing how it changes from an egg to an adult ladybug.
- Anderson, Jill. ***Zebras***. NorthWord, 2005. Simple text and color photos present a portrait of the zebra, covering its physical characteristics, diet, predators, social behavior, and life cycle.
- Aston, Dianna Hutts. ***Mama Outside, Mama Inside***. Holt, 2006. Two mothers – a human and a bird – prepare for the birth of their babies while living very close to each other.
- Ayres, Katherine. ***Up, Down, and Around***. Candlewick, 2007. A garden produces a variety of edible plants, such as corn that grows up, onions that grow down, and tomato vines that twine all around.
- Barton, Byron. ***My Car***. Greenwillow, 2001. Sam describes in loving detail his car and how he drives it.
- Beaty, Andrea. ***Doctor Ted***. McElderry Books, 2008. After bumping his knee one morning, Ted decides to become a doctor, but he has only one problem – he has no patients.
- Bonnett-Rampersaud, Louise. ***Bubble and Squeak***. Marshall Cavendish, 2006. Bubble helps her mother practice bedtime rituals that she proclaims she has outgrown, such as checking for monsters and reading a favorite book, but that her baby sister, Squeak, will need when she gets a little older.
- Bredeson, Carmen. ***Fun Facts about Alligators!*** Enslow Elementary, 2008. Descriptions are given regarding the life cycle of alligators, where they live, what they eat, how they differ from crocodiles, and other alligator facts.
- Brett, Jan. ***Daisy Comes Home***. Puffin Books, 2002. Mei Mei's six hens are the happiest hens in China, but when Daisy – the smallest – falls into the river in a basket and drifts away, she must learn to survive on her own.
- Charlip, Remy. ***A Perfect Day***. Greenwillow, 2007. A parent and child spend a perfect day together, from sunrise to nightfall.
- Child, Lauren. ***Say Cheese!*** Dial Books, 2007. Lola has promised her mother that she will stay clean and tidy for picture day, but she is covered in paint and milk by the time she poses for her picture, so her friend Charlie suggests how to save the day.
- Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Louder, Lili***. Putnam, 2007. Lili is so shy that her voice is never heard in class until the day a good friend needs her help.
- Crews, Donald. ***Shortcut***. Greenwillow, 1992. Children taking a shortcut by walking along a railroad track find excitement and danger when a train approaches.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- Crews, Nina. **One Hot Summer Day**. Greenwillow, 1995. Simple text and photographs are used to tell the story of a child's activities in the heat of a summer day, punctuated by a thunderstorm.
- Cronin, Doreen. **Click, Clack, Splish, Splash: a Counting Adventure**. Atheneum, 2006. While Farmer Brown sleeps, some of the animals who live on the farm go on a fishing expedition.
- Cunnane, Kelly. **For You Are a Kenyan Child**. Atheneum, 2006. A little Kenyan boy gets distracted by all there is to see and do in the village and forgets what his mama asked him to do.
- Curtis, Jamie Lee. **Big Words for Little People**. Joanna Cotler, 2008. A big sister teaches her younger siblings some important words, like "responsibility," "perseverance," and "respect."
- Daly, Niki. **Happy Birthday, Jamela!** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. Jamela wants sparkly "princess shoes" to go with her new birthday dress, but Mama makes her buy practical school shoes instead.
- Dewdney, Anna. **Nobunny's Perfect**. Viking, 2008. Bunnies who slurp their juice, forget to say "please," and bite their friends, learn about good manners.
- Dodd, Emma. **Just Like You**. Dutton, 2007. A baby bear describes the ways in which he wants to be like his father when he grows up.
- Dodds, Dayle Ann. **The Prince Won't Go to Bed!** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. When the young prince refuses to go to bed, assorted members of the royal household offer their ideas on exactly what he needs, but it is his sister, Princess Kate, who learns the truth.
- Dotlich, Rebecca Kai. **What Is Science?** Holt, 2006. Young readers are introduced to the world of science and all it encompasses.
- Durango, Julia. **Cha-Cha Chimps**. Simon & Schuster, 2006. In this counting book, ten little chimps sneak out at night to dance at a swinging club called Mambo Jamba's, where rhinos hustle and ostriches polka, and are found out by Mama.
- Elliott, David. **And Here's to You!** Candlewick, 2004. This rhyming celebration introduces all sorts of creatures, from the "Feather People" (birds) to the "Dreaming People" (dogs) to even the "People People".
- English, Karen. **Hot Day on Abbott Avenue**. Clarion, 2004. After having a fight, two friends spend the day ignoring each other until the lure of a game of jump rope helps them to forget about being mad.
- Ernst, Lisa Campbell. **Round Like a Ball!** Blue Apple Books, 2008. Readers try to guess the identity of the object that is round like a ball, both wet and dry, hot and cold, and always moving.
- Ficocelli, Elizabeth. **Kid Tea**. Marshall Cavendish, 2007. On every night of the week, a new color of "kid tea" is created in the bath, depending on the activities of that day.

HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- Ganeri, Anita. ***From Seed to Sunflower***. Heinemann, 2006. The life cycle of a sunflower plant is presented in simple text with illustrations, tracing its development from seed to flower.
- Geras, Adele. ***Little Ballet Star***. Dial, 2007. Tilly is thrilled when she gets to see her aunt perform in the ballet, "The Sleeping Beauty," especially because she gets to go backstage and even onto the stage itself.
- Gleeson, Libby. ***Half a World Away***. Arthur A. Levine, 2007. When Amy moves to the other side of the world, her best friend Louie must find a way to reconnect with her.
- Gonzalez, Maya Christina. ***My Colors, My World = Mis Colores, Mi Mundo***. Children's Book Press, 2007. Maya, who lives in the dusty desert, opens her eyes wide to find the colors in her world, from Papi's black hair and Mami's orange and purple flowers to Maya's red swing set and the fiery pink sunset. Text in English and Spanish.
- Gorbachev, Valeri. ***Turtle's Penguin Day***. Knopf, 2008. After hearing a bedtime story about penguins, Turtle dresses as one for school and soon the entire class is having a penguin day, sliding on their bellies and eating goldfish crackers.
- Gravett, Emily. ***Monkey and Me***. Simon & Schuster, 2008. A little girl imitates a variety of animals with her stuffed toy monkey, from bats to penguins to kangaroos.
- Gravett, Emily. ***Orange Pear Apple Bear***. Simon & Schuster, 2006. As a bear juggles, the concepts of color, shape, and food are explored using only five simple words.
- Hall, Zoe. ***The Apple Pie Tree***. Blue Sky Press, 1996. An apple tree is described as it grows leaves and flowers and then produces its fruit, while in its branches robins make a nest, lay eggs, and raise a family. Includes a recipe for apple pie.
- Hayes, Sarah. ***Dog Day***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008. Ben, Ellie, and their friends have fun learning math, reading, and writing from their new teacher, a dog named Riff, but when the principal comes to check on the class, the children wonder what will happen to Riff.
- Henkes, Kevin. ***Old Bear***. Greenwillow, 2008. When Old Bear falls asleep for the winter, he has a dream that he is a cub again and is enjoying each of the four seasons.
- Hennessy, B.G (Barbara G.). ***Because of You***. Candlewick, 2005. Using everyday examples, this book describes how every single person helps make the world a kinder and more peaceful place.
- Horacek, Petr. ***Butterfly, Butterfly***. Candlewick, 2007. Lucy discovers a world full of colorful creatures while searching for the beautiful butterfly she played with in the garden the day before.
- Hudson, Cheryl Willis. ***Construction Zone***. Candlewick, 2006. Simple text and colorful photographs describe the excitement of a busy construction site.

HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- Ichikawa, Satomi. ***My Father's Shop***. Kane/Miller, 2004. A young boy named Mustafa ventures out of his father's carpet shop into the marketplace – under a carpet that makes him look like a rooster – where he learns about the languages of the tourists, bringing his father new customers in the process.
- Jenkins, Emily. ***What Happens on Wednesdays***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. A child describes every event that occurs on a Wednesday, from waking up while it is still dark and deciding it is not a kissing day, through a half-day of school, to snuggling into bed at night.
- Jenkins, Martin. ***Ape***. Candlewick, 2007. The behavior, diets, and habitats of the orangutan, chimpanzee, bonobo, and gorilla are described before revealing that humans are the other great ape, discussing simple similarities between people and the other apes, and the need to protect these species.
- Kajikawa, Kimiko. ***Close to You: How Animals Bond***. Holt, 2008. Photographs and simple text describe the different ways parents in the animal kingdom interact with their children.
- Kirk, Daniel. ***Library Mouse***. Abrams Books, 2007. Sam, a shy and creative mouse who lives in a library, decides to write and illustrate his own stories which he places on the shelves with the other library books. When the children find the tales, they all want to meet the author.
- Klise, Kate. ***Imagine Harry***. Harcourt, 2007. After Little Rabbit starts school, he sees less and less of his invisible friend, Harry, and finally tells his mother that Harry moved away.
- Korchev, Lori. ***Adventures of Cow***. Tricycle Press, 2005. A lost cow has many adventures before finding its way home.
- Kostecki-Shaw, Jenny Sue. ***My Travelin' Eye***. Holt, 2008. Jenny Sue loves that her “travelin' eye” lets her see the world in a special way, and so she is not happy when her teacher suggests that her parents take her to an ophthalmologist to fix the lazy eye.
- Kurtz, Kevin. ***A Day in the Salt Marsh***. Sylvan Dell, 2007. Rhyming verse introduces readers to hourly changes in the salt marsh as the tide comes and goes.
- Kuskin, Karla. ***Green As a Bean***. Laura Geringer Books, 2007. Questions in verse are asked about the many things you could be if you were square or soft or loud or red or small or fat or fierce or dark.
- Lachenmeyer, Nathaniel. ***The Origami Master***. Albert Whitman, 2008. An Origami Master whose only company has been his creations captures someone who has been leaving him a magnificent origami animal each night.
- Lehman, Barbara. ***Museum Trip***. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. In this wordless book, a boy imagines himself inside some of the exhibits when he goes on a field trip to a museum.
- Lobel, Anita. ***Hello, Day!*** Greenwillow, 2008. Various animals greet the sunrise in their own unique voices, except for the owl who welcomes the night.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- London, Jonathan. **Froggy Eats Out**. Viking, 2001. After Froggy misbehaves at a fancy restaurant, his parents take him to a fast flies restaurant to celebrate their anniversary.
- Lord, Janet. **Albert the Fix-it Man**. Peachtree, 2008. A cheerful repairman fixes squeaky doors, leaky roofs, and crumbling fences for his neighbors who return the kindness when he catches a terrible cold.
- Lunde, Darrin P. **Meet the Meerkat**. Charlesbridge, 2007. Colorful illustrations and simple text describe the characteristics, habitat, and habits of the meerkat.
- Lunis, Natalie. **Ostrich: the World's Biggest Bird**. Bearport Publishing, 2007. An overview of the ostrich is provided, with descriptions of its size, habitat, movements, predators, and life cycle. Brief details on other large birds are also included.
- MacDonald, Suse. **Fish, Swish! Splash Dash! Counting Round and Round**. Little Simon, 2007. Die-cut pages and simple text introduce young readers to the numbers one through ten by counting the fish in the sea up to ten and then back down to one.
- Manning, Mick. **Cock-a-doodle-hooooooo!** Good Books, 2007. When a tired, lonely owl finds shelter in a hen house during a storm, he is awakened by a flock of bossy hens who try to force him to be a rooster until he demonstrates what he can do for them.
- Markes, Julie. **Good Thing You're Not an Octopus!** HarperCollins, 2001. A little boy finds that his life is pretty easy compared to how it might be.
- Markle, Sandra. **Little Lost Bat**. Charlesbridge, 2006. The early life of an orphaned Mexican free-tailed bat is chronicled, from its birth to its adoption by a new mother. Facts about bats are included.
- Mayhew, James. **Where's My Hug?** Bloomsbury, 2008. Jake tries to track down his mother's hug after she gives it to his father, who gives it to the cat, who gives it to a witch, and so on.
- McDonald, Megan. **Hen Hears Gossip**. Greenwillow, 2008. When Hen overhears some news on the farm, she runs to tell Duck who tells another animal, and as the gossip is repeated from one animal to the next, it becomes unrecognizable.
- Munro, Roxie. **Rodeo**. Bright Sky Press, 2007. Fifty flaps and fold-outs are used to illustrate a variety of rodeo events.
- Neitzel, Shirley. **The Jacket I Wear in the Snow**. Greenwillow, 1989. A young girl names all the clothes that she must wear to play in the snow.
- Nevius, Carol. **Baseball Hour**. Marshall Cavendish, 2008. A typical baseball practice in which the athletes demonstrate teamwork is described.
- Nevius, Carol. **Building with Dad**. Marshall Cavendish, 2006. A father and his young child watch the construction of the new school, from the bulldozing of earth and mixing of the concrete for the foundation to the hanging of the new sign.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- O'Connor, Jane. ***Fancy Nancy's Favorite Fancy Words: from Accessories to Zany.*** HarperCollins, 2008. Fancy Nancy helps children learn the alphabet by sharing her favorite fancy words.
- Patricelli, Leslie. ***The Birthday Box.*** Candlewick, 2007. An imaginative young child has a wonderful time playing with his birthday present and the box it came in.
- Pinkwater, Daniel. ***Bear's Picture.*** Houghton Mifflin, 2008, 1972. A bear continues to paint what he likes despite the criticism of two passing gentlemen who believe that bears cannot be artists.
- Prelutsky, Jack. ***Me I Am!*** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007, 1983. This illustrated children's poem celebrates individuality and uniqueness.
- Raye, Rebekah. ***The Very Best Bed.*** Tilbury House, 2006. A squirrel with his store of seeds and nuts hunts for a cozy bed, but he must search high and low for a spot that is not already taken by other animals.
- Rockwell, Anne F. ***Our Earth.*** Voyager Books/Harcourt, 1998. This simple introduction to geography explains such things as how the earth was shaped, how islands are born from volcanoes, and how gushing springs affect rivers.
- Rodriguez, Edel. ***Sergio Makes a Splash.*** Little, Brown, 2008. Even though he loves everything to do with water, Sergio the penguin is afraid to try deep water until he learns how to swim and conquers his fears.
- Rosen, Michael. ***We're Going on a Bear Hunt.*** McElderry Books, 1989. Brave bear hunters go through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat.
- Rosoff, Meg. ***Jumpy Jack & Googily.*** Holt, 2008. Jumpy Jack the snail is terrified that there are monsters around every corner despite the reassurances of his best friend, Googily.
- Ruelle, Karen Gray. ***Bark Park.*** Peachtree, 2008. Illustrations and rhyming text reveal dogs of every shape, size, and personality as they romp and frolic in a park.
- Saltzberg, Barney. ***Cornelius P. Mud, Are You Ready for Bed?*** Candlewick, 2005. Cornelius the pig has his own style when preparing for bed, but he does not really feel ready until he gets a hug.
- Schaefer, Lola M. ***An Island Grows.*** Greenwillow, 2006. An island is born and as it grows, lava flows, waves pound, and sands mound as it becomes inhabited.
- Schertle, Alice. ***Little Blue Truck.*** Harcourt, 2008. A little blue truck finds his way out of a jam, with a little help from his friends.
- Schertle, Alice. ***A Very Hairy Bear.*** Harcourt, 2007. The experiences of a shaggy, "boulder-big" bear are recounted as the four seasons come to the beautiful wood which is his home.
- Schoenherr, Ian. ***Pip & Squeak.*** Greenwillow, 2007. After rushing through the snow to get to their friend's birthday party, two mice realize that they forgot to bring the present.

HASLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- Schuette, Sarah L. ***Let's Look at Winter***. Capstone Press, 2007. The signs that say it is winter are investigated, such as the changes in the weather, the length of days, and the behavior of plants and animals.
- Schwartz, Amy. ***A Beautiful Girl***. Roaring Brook, 2006. On her way to the market, Jenna encounters an elephant, a robin, a fly, and a goldfish that discover some of the things that make little girls different from each other.
- Schwartz, Corey Rosen. ***Hop! Plop!*** Walker, 2006. Mouse and Elephant go to the playground together, but it seems as if everything they try to play on together is broken.
- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. ***One Boy***. Roaring Brook, 2008. A boy creates ten paintings in this counting book that also explores the relationship of words within words.
- Sherry, Kevin. ***I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean***. Dial, 2007. A giant squid brags about being bigger than anything else in the ocean – almost.
- Squires, Janet. ***The Gingerbread Cowboy***. Laura Geringer Books, 2006. A freshly baked gingerbread cowboy escapes from the rancher's wife's kitchen and eludes his pursuers in this western United States version of "The Gingerbread Boy."
- Stein, David Ezra. ***Leaves***. Putnam, 2007. A bear that has never experienced autumn before is puzzled by the falling leaves, unsure whether he should try to put them back or use them as a bed for winter.
- Stewart, Melissa. ***When Rain Falls***. Peachtree, 2008. This gently illustrated story describes where all of the animals go during a rainstorm.
- Stockdale, Susan. ***Fabulous Fishes***. Peachtree, 2008. Colorful illustrations and simple text describe a variety of fish.
- Swanson, Susan Marie. ***The House in the Night***. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. Illustrations and easy-to-read text explore the light that makes a house in the night a home filled with light. (Caldecott Medal, 2009)
- Swinburne, Stephen R. ***Guess Whose Shadow?*** Caroline House/Boyds Mills, 1999. This photo-essay shows how light creates shadows.
- Tafari, Nancy. ***What the Sun Sees; What the Moon Sees***. Greenwillow, 1997. These books, issued back-to-back and inverted, contrast the world as viewed in sunlight with the quiet night world in moonlight.
- Teckentrup, Britta. ***Grumpy Cat***. Boxer Books, 2008. A street cat, increasingly grumpy in its loneliness, changes its attitude when a small, abandoned kitten decides to be its friend.
- Tourville, Amanda Doering. ***A Crocodile Grows Up***. Picture Window Books, 2007. The life of a Nile crocodile is followed from its birth along an African river until the age of ten when she becomes a mother.
- Urbanovic, Jackie. ***Duck Soup***. HarperCollins, 2008. Maxwell Duck is trying to invent a soup that will make him famous, but when he goes out to look for the missing ingredient and his friends show up, they think he has fallen into the pot.

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2009

PreSchool, PreKindergarten, Kindergarten

- Van Fleet, Matthew. **Dog**. Simon & Schuster, 2007. This clever interactive book has pull tabs, flaps, and photographs to illustrate basic concepts such as opposites, synonyms, and action words.
- Warnes, Tim. **Mommy Mine**. HarperCollins, 2005. Whether it is by croak, flutter, or fur, all children claim their mothers as their own.
- Weaver, Tess. **Cat Jumped In!** Clarion, 2007. An inquisitive feline walks through the rooms of a house, jumping into one mess after another, before landing in the loving arms of the owner.
- Wells, Rosemary. **Max's Bunny Business**. Viking, 2008. Ruby and her friend Louise set up a lemonade stand to earn money to buy matching rings, but Max foils their plan.
- Wheeler, Lisa. **One Dark Night**. Harcourt, 2003. Mouse and Mole feel afraid one dark night crossing a mush-mucky swamp and a marsh-misty wood.
- Willems, Mo. **The Pigeon Wants a Puppy!** Hyperion, 2008. The pigeon really, really wants a puppy, but when a puppy arrives, the pigeon changes its mind.
- Willis, Jeanne. **Cottonball Colin**. Eerdmans Books, 2008. Afraid that her smallest child, Colin, will be hurt if he goes outside or plays, a mother mouse insists that he sit quietly indoors until his grandmother suggests wrapping him in cotton wool which proves to be effective but in a most unexpected way.
- Wilson, Karma. **Bear Feels Scared**. McElderry Books, 2008. Bear's animal friends come to his rescue when he becomes lost and frightened in the woods.
- Wilson, Karma. **A Frog in the Bog**. McElderry Books, 2003. A frog in a bog grows larger and larger as he eats more and more bugs until he attracts the attention of an alligator that puts an end to his eating.
- Wilson, Karma. **Sakes Alive!: a Cattle Drive**. Little, Brown, 2005. Two cows, Mabel and Molly, take the farmer's truck and go for an eventful joyride into town.
- Wolf, Sallie. **Truck Stuck**. Charlesbridge, 2008. Illustrations and simple rhyming text tell the story of a big truck that gets stuck under a bridge.
- Wood, Audrey. **A Dog Needs a Bone!** Blue Sky Press, 2007. In this rhyming tale, a dog makes extravagant promises to its mistress if only she will give it a bone.
- Ziefert, Harriet. **Bigger Than Daddy**. Blue Apple Books, 2006. Edward wants to be bigger than his Daddy, so for one afternoon they pretend to exchange places.

Compiled by: Nancy Rodenbusch (Chair), *St. Mark's Episcopal School*;
Adonica Aston, *River Oaks Baptist School*;
Layne Mason, *The Center for Hearing and Speech*;
Gayle Modrall, *Presbyterian School*.