

## Finding Books for Summer Reading

Books on the K-12 lists may be found in the Connecticut public library system. You can use your Hamden library card at any public library in the state. Bookstores that will have our lists are Barnes & Noble in North Haven and Milford, Books & Company in Whitneyville, and Borders in Milford and Meriden.

## Miller Public Library

Call 287-2680 for hours or [www.hamdenlibrary.org](http://www.hamdenlibrary.org)

We want to thank the Miller Library staff for their continued support. We hope your family has an opportunity to participate in some of the reading programs offered this summer at Miller. Sign up early. Branches also have summer programs.

### What Reading Level?

Books for Summer Reading should be on or just above the student's reading level. It can be tricky judging the reading level of a book. Here's a simple way, called the *Five Finger Rule*, to know if your child can successfully read the book they have chosen.

- Find a page of text somewhere in the middle of the book. For most older students, the fiction book should be one with few or no pictures.
- Have the student begin to read the page aloud, so you can hear the places where there is difficulty.
- Each time the student comes to a word they don't know, they hold up one finger.
- If they have all five fingers up before they get to the end of the page, wave "good-bye" to the book. It is probably too difficult for them right now. They can try it again later.
- If there are no fingers up when they finish the page, then the book may be easy. Is it too easy?
- If there are fewer than five fingers but more than one or two fingers up by the end of the page, the book may be at just the right level.



## Hamden Public Schools

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Hamden Public Schools

# Summer Reading List



# Grade 3

# 2008

## Hamden Summer Reading Program

- All elementary students are required to read a minimum of two books during the summer - one fiction and one non-fiction book.
- Students must use the list of authors, titles or subjects in this brochure to assist them in making appropriate selections. Books must be written on or above the student's reading level. Parents should review the selections for content and reading level. Reading level guidance is given later in this brochure.
- Students are required to complete two activities -- one for each of the two books read. Activities must be turned in **by September 3.**

Choose from these activities:

- Design a game or puzzle that will teach others about the book.
- Create a montage, collage, diorama, mobile or comic strip about events or information from your book.
- Write a dramatization (play) of a scene from your fiction book.
- Create a poster or commercial to sell your book.
- Create a song or rap to tell others about your book.
- Create a two-sided color postcard telling about your favorite part (Fiction) or the most interesting facts (Non-fiction) in your book.
- An A-to-Z poem (see the website for details)

A district-wide *Celebration of Summer Reading* will be held in September during school.

## Governor's Summer Reading Challenge 2008

Hamden Public Schools participates in the annual *Governor's Summer Reading Challenge*. Students can become part of a larger initiative to be the Connecticut school with the largest number of books read over the summer. Starting with the two books read for Hamden's program, students record the titles of all the books they read over the entire summer. School totals are sent to the Governor in the Fall.

Students - here's what to do:

- Write your name in your "Summer Reading Challenge" journal.
- Start reading June 14th. Each time you complete a book, record the title in your journal.
- If you need more space, attach a sheet of paper. If you lose the journal, use another sheet of paper.
- Give your journal or list to your teacher **by September 3.**
- The school will announce the total number of books read by students at your school. The count will be sent to the Governor.
- Last year, Hamden elementary students read 22,730 books. Let's break our own record and aim for **24,000!**

## Fiction for Third Grade

Choose any book in the following authors' series that is on the student's reading level:

Adler, David	any <i>Cam Jansen</i> book
Cameron, Ann	any <i>Julian, Gloria</i> or <i>Huey</i> book
Dadey, Debbie	any <i>Bailey School Kids</i> book
Danziger, Paula	any <i>Amber Brown</i> book
Giff, Patricia Reilly	any <i>Kids of the Polk St. School</i> book
Howe, James	any <i>Pinky and Rex</i> book
Kline, Suzy	any <i>Horrible Harry</i> book
Krensky, Stephen	any <i>Arthur</i> chapter book
Montes, Marisa	any <i>Get Ready for Gabi!</i> book
Osborne, Mary Pope	any <i>Magic Tree House</i> book
Park, Barbara	any <i>Junie B. Jones</i> book
Roy, Ron	any <i>A to Z Mystery</i> book
Sachar, Louis	any <i>Marvin Redpost</i> book
Yolen, Jane	any <i>Commander Toad</i> book

## Non-Fiction for Third Grade

Choose any book from the following subjects that is on the student's reading level:

Animals  
Biographies  
Bones  
Chemistry  
Connecticut  
Math (books by Greg Tang  
are recommended)  
Native Americans  
Nutrition  
Plant growth  
Poetry  
Rocks and minerals

