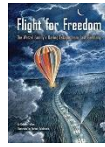


## Summer Reading Suggestions for Incoming Fourth Grade

<p><b><i>Going Down Home With Daddy</i> by Kelly Starling Lyons</b></p> <p>Lil' Alan anticipates a grand family reunion at Granny's house down home every summer, but he worries about how he'll contribute to the annual celebration of family history. This touching narrative explores the concept of family.</p>	<p><b><i>Funny Girl: Funniest. Stories. Ever.</i> edited by Betsy Bird</b></p> <p>What do you get when 25 of today's funniest women children's book writers combine their stories together in one book? A hilarious collection that will make you laugh until you cry! Bonus: A portion of the proceeds from this book goes to support <i>WriteGirl</i>, a nonprofit whose mission is to empower girls by promoting creativity and self-expression.</p>
<p><b><i>A House That Once Was</i> by Julie Fogliano</b></p> <p>Two children discover an abandoned house that's anything but empty. This is a shining example of a book that can be enjoyed on multiple levels, and we love unpacking it with third-grade children. Plus, use it to inspire ideas about a child's own memorable items.</p>	<p><b><i>Guys Read</i> series by Jon Scieszka</b></p> <p>Looking for a book series to interest the boys in your class? Look no further than Jon Scieszka's <i>Guy's Read</i> series. Titles feature bite-sized tales that will captivate readers. Whether your boys are into sports, humor, or superheroes, they're sure to find a story to love.</p>
<p><b><i>Wherever I Go</i> by Mary Wagley Copp</b></p> <p>Share this moving picture book to build a child's background knowledge about refugee camps and refugee experiences. (The author's note adds helpful context.) It's also a great choice to generate discussion about themes of courage and resilience.</p>	<p><b><i>Pumpkin Falls Mysteries</i> by Heather Vogel Frederick</b></p> <p>These stories follow the adventures of Truly Lovejoy, a young girl whose family has moved from Texas to a tiny town in New Hampshire to take over their family's century-old bookstore. Left largely to her own devices, Truly finds herself chasing down clues found in old books.</p>
<p><b><i>Can I Touch Your Hair? Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship</i> by Irene Latham &amp; Charles Waters</b></p> <p>When an unlikely pair works on a poetry project together, they think they have nothing in common. The effective back-and-forth format will get kids thinking.</p>	<p><b><i>The Book Scavenger</i> series by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman</b></p> <p>These three mystery tales all begin with clues found on Book Scavenger, a geocaching-style game where participants hide books in public places and reveal the locations through encoded clues. Set in charming detail in and around San Francisco, Emily and James embark on three rollicking, heart-thumping adventures.</p>
<p><b><i>I'm Trying to Love Math</i> by Bethany Barton</b></p> <p>Bethany Barton uses her powers of persuasion to demonstrate the wide reach, usefulness, and coolness of math. Read this to quell any groans about the relevance of math in the real world.</p>	<p><b><i>The Crime Solving Cousins</i> series by Shannon L. Brown</b></p> <p>This series features Sophie and Jessica, 12-year-old cousins without much in common except their skill for solving mysteries. Each of these 4th grade books leads the girls on a different adventure as they follow the clues and find that maybe they aren't so different after all.</p>

**Flight for Freedom: The Wetzel Family's Daring Escape from East Germany by Kristen Fulton**



A family secretly builds a hot air balloon for a secret nighttime crossing over the Berlin Wall. This compelling story is a perfectly-sized slice of history to captivate students. The information provided about the actual construction of the hot air balloon, both in the text and extensive back matter, could also spark interesting STEM conversations about the design process.

**Jake the Fake series by Craig Robinson & Adam Mansbach**



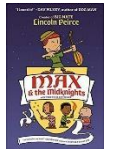
After Jake fakes his way into a prestigious music school, he needs to come up with a plan before the last laugh is on him. Each installment is funnier than the last.

**Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away by Meg Medina**



It's moving day for Daniela's best friend and neighbor, Evelyn Del Rey. Daniela narrates their final moments together in heart-wrenching detail as she lists all the reasons she'll miss her friend.

**Max and the Midnights by Lincoln Peirce**



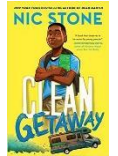
In this graphic novel from the author of the *Big Nate* series, Max is a medieval kiddo who dreams of being knight one day. In the meantime, she has plenty of hilarious adventures. It's great for talking to children about not judging someone based on appearances.

**The Zach and Zoe Mysteries by Mike Lupica**



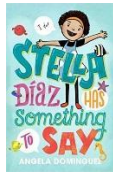
Boys and girls alike love this series full of sports, action and mystery starring fraternal twins Zach and Zoe.

**Clean Getaway by Nic Stone**



There are so many levels to this story of an eleven year-old boy and his grandmother's unconventional road trip. The story packs in tons of background about the Civil Rights era.

**Stella Diaz Has Something to Say (Stella Diaz series) by Angela Dominguez**



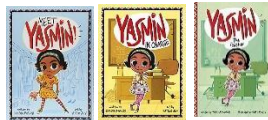
Like many of today's third-graders, Stella Diaz is busy figuring out how to navigate two cultures and two languages. We love the relatable, diverse cast of characters.

**On These Magic Shores by Yamile Saied Méndez**



When Minerva's mother doesn't come home from her night shift, Minerva takes on care for her younger sisters. Amidst the grave uncertainty, unexplained events bring bits of comfort. This Peter Pan spinoff layers magical thinking with real themes of resilience, responsibility, and family bonds. It's a fantastic discussion novel, or one to push independent readers towards deeper comprehension.

**Yasmin series by Saadia Faruqi**



Yasmin has plenty of spirit and a talent for looking on the bright side. This chapter book series starter adds to the small-but-growing list of kid lit titles starring contemporary Muslim Americans.

**Just Like Jackie by Lindsay Stoddard**



Alzheimer's impacts so many families now, and this title tackles the topic in a frank but hopeful way. Fifth-grader Robinson Hart has to learn to let others in when her grandfather, who has always cared for her, can no longer do so.

**Road Trip with Max and Mom and Weekends with Max and His Dad by Linda Urban**



His parents live apart and that takes some getting used to, but Max has unique and fulfilling relationships with both his mom and dad.

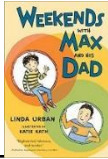
**The Land of Stories series by Chris Colfer**



Introduce kids to a series they won't be able to put down ... until all six installments are complete! When twins Alex and Conner Bailey fall into fairy tale realm, their adventures begin.

***Weekends with Max and His Dad* by Linda Urban**

His parents live apart and that takes some getting used to, but Max has unique and fulfilling relationships with both his mom and dad.



***The Littlest Bigfoot* by Jennifer Weiner**

The fantastical story of a girl who finds friendship in the unlikelyst of companions—a young member of the Bigfoot clan.



***Dragons in a Bag* series by Zetta Elliot**

When his mom drops him off with Ma, a mysterious character from her own childhood, Jaxon has no idea he'll travel into the world of magic and end up in charge of baby dragons. We love this new urban fantasy series.



***Indian No More* by Charlene Willing McManis**

When the U.S. government passes a law declassifying her family's tribe, Regina must grapple with tough questions about what that means for her identity—is she Indian, American, or both? This discussion-worthy novel, rooted in the author's own experiences, is ideal for advanced readers or as a compelling read aloud.

