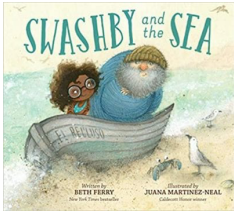
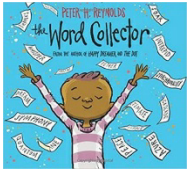
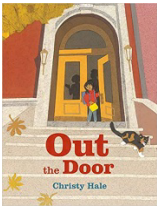
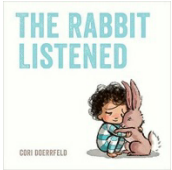
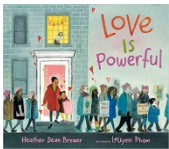

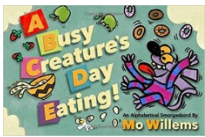





## Summer Reading Suggestions for Incoming First Grade

<p><b><i>Swashby and the Sea</i> by Beth Ferry</b>            Captain Swashby is a reclusive, retired sailor happy with his quiet life by the sea—until an energetic girl and her grandmother move in next door. This delightful book checks all the boxes: loveable and diverse characters, heartwarming themes, charming artwork, and discussion-worthy vocabulary.</p> 	<p><b><i>The Word Collector</i> by Peter H. Reynolds</b>            Many kids collect rocks, baseball cards, and comic books, but Jerome collects words. Inspire children to notice vocabulary and show them the power that just the right word can hold.</p> 
<p><b><i>Out the Door</i> by Christy Hale</b>            There are so many potential connections for this story about a girl's trip to school, which starts with her heading out the door and continues through her urban neighborhood and onto the subway. Use this as a conversation starter about neighborhoods and journeys to school.</p> 	<p><b><i>The Rabbit Listened</i> by Cori Doerrfeld</b>            This tender story reminds kindergarteners that sometimes, just listening is the best way to help.</p> 
<p><b><i>Love is Powerful</i> by Heather Dean Brewer</b>            As Mari and her mother create signs for an upcoming march, Mari isn't sure their letters are big enough for anyone to read their messages. But read them, people do. By the time you reach the author's note, with reflections from the real-life six-year old Mari on her experience attending a Women's March in 2017, we guarantee you'll have chills.</p> 	<p><b><i>The Bear and the Moon</i> by Matthew Burgess</b>            This gentle tale of a bear and a balloon is what we all need right now. Use it to introduce conversations about loss and disappointment in a reassuring way.</p> 
<p><b><i>A Busy Creature's Day Eating</i> by Mo Willems</b>            You can never have too many alphabet books in kindergarten, and a funny one is a huge plus. Eating everything in sight seems like a great idea ... until it makes you sick!</p> 	<p><b><i>Lucia the Luchadora</i> by Cynthia Leonor Garza</b>            With a nod to the Mexican lucha libre tradition, Lucia shows everyone on the playground that girls can most definitely be superheroes in this story about culture, caring, and confidence.</p> 
<p><b><i>Thank You, Omu!</i> by Oge Mora</b>            When Omu makes her thick, red stew, the delicious smell attracts many visitors hoping for a taste. Selflessly, she gives every last bite away—but her grateful neighbors have a plan to say thanks.</p> 	<p><b><i>Boo Who?</i> By Ben Clanton</b>            The characters from the rollicking <i>Rex Wrecks It</i> are back, along with a new friend, Boo. Boo feels invisible—because, well, he is—until the pals stumble upon a game where he can excel. This story is a wonderful way for children to learn about the importance of including others.</p> 

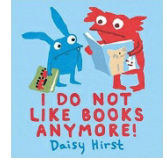
**Saturday by Oge Mora**

In this quiet gem, a mother-daughter pair make the best of a series of mishaps by keeping in mind what's truly important: being together.



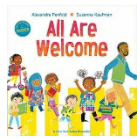
**I Do Not Like Books Anymore! by Daisy Hirst**

How smart to spin a narrative around a common new-reader buzzkill: boring books! The title Natalie excitedly brought home from school turns out to be a snooze, and all the books she wants to read feel too hard. Perseverance and encouragement get her back on a book-loving track.



**All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold**

Families of every makeup and background walk to school on this first day of school. Teachers greet them with joy and reverence.



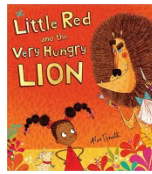
**What Color is Night? by Grant Snider**

What sounds like a simple question is deceptively complex in this poetic title that encourages readers to look more closely at the world around them.



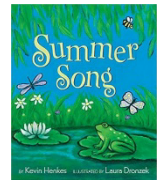
**Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion by Alex T. Smith**

You can't go wrong in kindergarten with a fantastic fractured fairy tale. In this rendition, Little Red heads through the jungle to bring medicine to her aunt. We can't get enough of the cheerful, energetic illustrations.



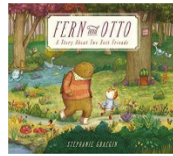
**Summer Song by Kevin Henkes and Laura Dronzek**

The text, language, and cheerful illustrations in this title is perfect for sharing with kindergartners, no matter the weather!



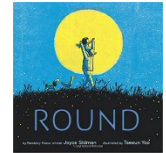
**Fern and Otto: A Story About Two Best Friends by Stephanie Graegin**

On the hunt for an exciting story idea, Fern and Otto take a grand tour of fairy tale and nursery rhyme events in the forest. In the end, they find that the best stories can be found closer to home.



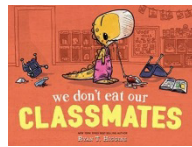
**Round by Joyce Sidman**

This ode to roundness in nature is both artful and thought-provoking.



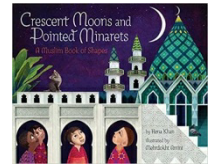
**We Don't Eat Our Classmates by Ryan T. Higgins**

All kindergartners do impulsive things from time to time, so they'll certainly identify with poor Penelope, who can't help but eat her classmates. This comical title is great for back-to-school, after a long break, or anytime you need to talk about impulse control.



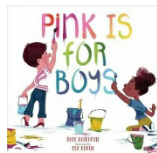
**Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes by Hena Khan**

This is so much more than a shape book. Explore both 2D and 3D shapes alongside Muslim culture with this unique offering. Children who enjoy artwork will especially appreciate the intricate designs in the illustrations.



**Pink is For Boys by Robb Pearlman**

Encourage children to think beyond gender stereotypes and create a culture where everyone can be exactly who they are with this relevant title.



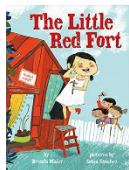
**One Fox: A Counting Book Thriller by Kate Read**

Counting books aren't usually billed as "thrillers," but visual and linguistic interest and a suspenseful storyline elevate this title to a read-aloud winner.



**The Little Red Fort by Brenda Maier**

This Little Red Hen retelling stars Ruby, who spies some scrap wood and gets a vision for an amazing fort. Will any of her brothers help her build it?



**Ten on a Twig by Lo Cole**

Ten colorful birds sit on a twig until—Snap!—the twig keeps breaking, causing birds to fall off.



**Izzy Gizmo by Pip Jones**

Meet the next STEM heroine of kid lit, relentlessly determined Izzy Gizmo. She's on a mission to help an injured crow fly. Luckily, her encouraging Grandpa has plenty of "gadgety things" to help her succeed.



**One Big Pair of Underwear by Laura Gehl**

This silly counting book is about groups of animals who must share snacks, pillows, playground slides, and (of course) underwear.



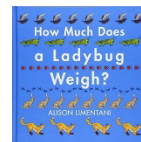
**Izzy Gizmo and the Invention Convention by Pip Jones**

In the equally energetic sequel, Izzy takes her invention show on the road to the Technoff Isle's Invention Convention.



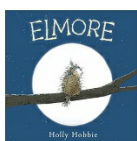
**How Much Does a Ladybug Weigh? by Alison Limentani**

Did you know that ten ants weigh the same as one ladybug?



**Elmore by Holly Hobbie**

It can be hard to make friends when you're a spiky porcupine! This book encourages children to think about the many ways they can connect with others.



**Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall**

Jabari wants to jump off the high diving board at the local pool. After some hesitation, he does it with style. This is a heartwarming story about pursuing big goals.

