

Dear Second Grade Student and Parents:

Summer is a great time for picnics, swimming and SUMMER READING! Parents often ask how they can help their children become life-long readers. The answer is simple. Read to them every day.

Read-Aloud advocate Jim Trelease recommends reading aloud with your child 20 minutes a day. The benefits derived from this seem endless-- increased comprehension, vocabulary and other wonderful academic benefits as well as time spent together in a pleasurable, relaxing way. He encourages parents to continue reading to their child even after the child learns to read.

The book series below will hopefully get your child excited about reading, expand knowledge and understanding of cultural diversity, and provide exemplary models for values education.

Parents, as you read books aloud to your child, take time to stop along the way through the books and talk about what he or she thinks, imagines, wonders, and predicts.

**TWO REQUIRED READ ALOUDS:**

One book from one of the following series:

*Mercy Watson* series by Kate DiCamillo

*Henry and Mudge* series by Cynthia Rylant

*The High Rise Private Eyes* series by Cynthia Rylant

*Dr. Seuss* series (especially Beginner Books)

**\*Students are required to choose one book from one of the above series and prepare a book presentation to share the first week back to school. See the "Choose Your Own Book Presentation" sheet for ideas.**

One of the following *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You* by Mary Ann Hoberman:

*(Very Short Stories to Read Together)* ISBN 031636502

*(Very Short Mother Goose Tales to Read Together )* ISBN 0316144312

*(Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together)* ISBN 0316146110

Mary Ann Hoberman books may be difficult to find. New or "gently used" books may be purchased online directly from:

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) , [www.alibris.com](http://www.alibris.com) , or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) .

**You will find many more great books in your public library and bookstore. Enjoy your summer vacation and have a fabulous reading adventure!**

Sincerely,

**Your Second Grade Teachers**

