



HKA Primary Library Summer Reading Fun 2018

Dear HKA PS Students and Parents,

The upcoming long break is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy extended reading time and some very special stories together. In our library, I get to witness every day what enthusiastic readers our students are; I get to experience the magic that happens when you share a story by reading it out loud. I hope you and your family will discover some memorable books this summer and enjoy some great reading experiences together. You might even consider organizing your very own book club; wouldn't that be fun?

Just as in previous years, I have compiled some title suggestions for you (see the *Summer Reading Recommendations 2018* document) as well as some fun ideas with more reading recommendations to consider. This document provides an overview over the coming weeks, each week under a particular theme, all the way up to August. The weekly themes (represented by a particular book title this year), ideas and resources will also be posted on the [Primary Library blog](#) each Monday. Feel free to pick and choose from the suggestions and ideas, whatever catches your interest, in whatever way it suits your family's needs. Additional resources are available through our [HKA PS Summer Reading Padlet](#).

With much gratitude for another wonderful year of reading together, for the many book recommendations exchanged, for the passionate talks about books we love, and best wishes for a wonderful summer break,

Tanja & Alison

Summer Reading Themes

(Feel free to pick and choose the themes in any order.)

1. *All Summer Long*
2. *The Book of Gold*
3. *In Eighty Days Around the World*
4. *Kicking a Ball*
5. *Dear Diary*
6. *The Boy Who Wanted to Cook*
7. *The Most Magnificent Thing*
8. *The Truth About My Unbelievable Summer*

Week 1: June 18-24, 2018

All Summer Long

It is the very first week of the summer holidays - hooray! We have eight (teachers seven) weeks ahead of us, and no matter where we are going to be, summer fun and adventures will await us.

Here are a couple of ideas to get you started with the summer (reading) fun:

Make plans and lists...

What do you hope to do this summer? Where do you hope to go? Who are you hoping to see? What are you looking forward to read? What reading plans do you have? Maybe organize a book club with family and/or friends? Write it, sketch it, sing it, dance it... whatever works best for you 😊

Start a summer journal / scrapbook...

Do you remember the journals I showed you? How about starting one yourself and then filling it with all the special memories you make this summer. Don't forget to include all the wonderful books you come across.

Get started with summer reading by exploring some books about summer!

Picture books about summer

Magic Beach (Alison Lester)

Sun, Sun (Brad Gray)

Our Great Big Backyard (Laura Bush)

Sam and the Firefly (P.D. Eastman)

There Might Be Lobsters (Carolyn Crimi)

Chapter books and middle grades novels about summer

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking and Other Natural Disasters (Lenore Look)

The Penderwicks at Last (Jeanne Birdsall)

Secret Sisters of the Salty Sea (Lynne Rae Perkins)

Welcome to Wonderland series (Chris Grabenstein)

All Summer Long (Hope Larson)

Week 2: June 25 - July 1, 2018

The Book of Gold

Our library is closed for the long break, so where will you get books to read? In a public library for example! Did you know that Hong Kong alone has over 50 public libraries? I am sure there is a public library near you, no matter where you will be spending your summer. How about asking your parents to take you there for a visit? Tell them you are searching for the Book of Gold ;)

If there is no library near you, how about visiting a bookstore or exploring the book shelves in the homes of family and friends you visit this summer? While there, you could organize your own little treasure hunt by trying to find:

A picture book by an author you know
A chapter book by an author you know
A nonfiction book about a topic that interests you

Should you have neither a public library nor a bookshop near you, how about exploring an e-book library online? Remember, no matter where you are in the world, as long as you have internet access, you can make use of our **Tumble Book Library** subscription.

Here are a few favorite books of mine about libraries and books, you might like to read this week:

Picture books around libraries and books

The Book of Gold (Rob Staake)

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore (William Joyce)

Madeline Finn and the Library Dog (Lisa Papp)

The Library Lion (Michelle Knudsen)

Dewey: There's a Cat in the Library (Vicki Myron)

A Child of Books (Oliver Jeffers)

I Know a Librarian Who Chewed on a Word (Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton)

A few chapter books/middle grades novels around libraries, books and reading

Book Uncle and Me (Uma Krishnaswami)

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library (Chris Grabenstein)

The Ninja Librarians (Jen Swann Downey)

Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians (Brandon Sanderson)

The Year of the Book (Andrea Cheng)

Week 3: July 2 - July 8, 2018

In Eighty Days Around the World

Recently, I came across the fascinating account of two female journalists - Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Bisland - who in 1889 tried to outdo Jules Verne's fictional character Phileas Fogg by traveling around the world in under 80 days. Traveling has become so comfortable and fast, that it is easy to forget what the beginnings looked like.

Here are some ideas of what you might like to do this week in connection with our theme of traveling/transportation:

Pick up an atlas or a globe and put an itinerary together for a journey around the world with start in Hong Kong. What countries would you pass through? What means of transportation would you use?

If you have the opportunity, chat with a grandparent about what traveling and transportation looked like when they were children.

Find out if there is a museum near you about forms of transportation (should you by chance come through Germany, near Stuttgart are two fantastic automobile museums, the Mercedes Benz Museum and the Porsche Museum).

Here are some title suggestions of books around traveling/transportation:

Picture books about traveling/transportation

Are We There Yet? (Alison Lester)

Lost in Hong Kong (Matthew Cooper)

Two Little Trains (Margret Wise Brown)

Everything Goes: On Land / in the Air / by Sea (Brian Biggs)

Locomotive (Brian Floca)

Chapter books and middle grade novels about traveling/transportation

In Eighty Days Around the World (Jules Verne)

Nim's Island (Wendy Orr)

The Wanderer (Sharon Creech)

The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable (Dan Gutman)

On a Wide, Wide Sea (Michael Morpurgo)

Week 4: July 19 - July 15, 2018

Kicking a Ball

The FIFA World Cup 2018 in Russia is over. I don't know about you, but I was totally hooked, watching match after match. During the year, I don't follow league matches anymore, but I love tournaments like the World Cup very much. While we know which countries traditionally have strong teams, you can never predict how the teams will do in such a tournament and there are often big surprises and upsets, making it very exciting.

Here are some ideas of what you might like to do this week in connection with our theme of soccer:

Find out 5 fun facts about each of the countries that played in the final.

There are different names (soccer - football) and different variations (European soccer, American football, Aussie football etc.) of the team sport played with a ball and one's feet and at times other body parts. Find out more about the different forms and countries they are played in and/or originated from. If you have Internet access, you could search World Book Online.

Organize a friendly soccer match with family members and friends. Maybe you can have a barbeque afterwards together.

As always, see whether you can get some books to read about this week's theme. Here are a few suggestions:

Picture books around soccer

Kicking a Ball (Allan Ahlberg)

Big Kicks (Bob Kolar)

Winners Never Quit (Mia Hamm)

Hunter & Stripe and the Soccer Showdown (Laura Malone Elliott)

The Soccer Fence: A Story of Friendship, Hope, and Apartheid in South Africa (Phil Bildner)

Soccer Star (Mina Javaherbin)

Chapter books and middle grade novels around soccer

Soccer on a Sunday (Mary Pope Osborne)

The Million Dollar Kick (Dan Gutman)

The Kicks series (Alex Morgan)

The Wild Soccer Bunch series (Joachim Massaneck)

The Jamie Johnson series (Dan Freedman)

Nonfiction books about soccer and soccer stars

Pele, King of Soccer (Monica Brown)

The Flea: The Amazing Story of Lionel Messi (Michael Part)

Great Americans in Sports: Mia Hamm (Matt Christopher)

Absolute Expert Soccer (Eric Zweig)

Being Your Best at Soccer (Nel Yomtov)

Week 5: July 16 - July 22, 2018

Dear Diary

If you aren't already keeping a summer journal, it isn't too late... This might be the right time for you as you most probably already enjoyed some great times and might have lots of ideas and memories to record. It doesn't really matter how you go about it - you could use only words, or words and pictures, comic strips, annotated sketches, photos - whatever works best for you to tell your story and keep those summer memories alive. Make sure to include the wonderful books you are reading as well so that we can share recommendations with each other after the summer.

If you need some more inspiration, you might like to read some books about journaling and writing:

Picture books about journaling and writing

Diary of a Worm/Spider (Doreen Cronin)

Dear Dragon (Josh Funk)

Diary of a Wombat (Jackie French)

Rocket Writes a Story (Tad Hills)

The Desperate Dog Writes Again (Eileen Christelow)

Chapter books and middle grade novels about journaling and writing

Attack of the Journal (*Star Wars: Jedi Academy* series) (Jeffrey Brown)

Amelia's Notebook series (Marissa Moss)

Diary of a Killer Cat (Anne Fine)

Keena Ford series (Melissa Thomson)

Artichoke Heart (Sita Brahmachari)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid series (Jeff Kinney)

Allie McDoodle series (Ruth McNally Barshaw)

Week 6: July 23 - July 29, 2018

The Boy Who Wanted To Cook

During the school year, it often is simply too busy for elaborate cooking and enjoying extended time over a meal with family and friends. That is why I treasure it so much during the holidays. Do you and your family feel the same way? If yes, how about organizing a very special meal together this week? You could put it under a summer reading theme, selecting dishes inspired by children's books like Patricia Polacco's *Thundercake*, the vegetable soup from Grace Lin's *The Ugly Vegetables*, the meatballs from *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, dumplings from Ying Chang Compestine's *Boy Dumpling*, a dessert inspired by Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* - or any other dish mentioned in a favorite book.

You could make invitations, put a special menu together, write a shopping list of all the ingredients needed, go shopping, then cook and enjoy. The whole family could help and have fun with this. What do you think?

Here are a few special reading suggestions connected to cooking and food, which might inspire you further:

Food-themed picture books

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (Laura Numeroff)

Jojo Eats Dim Sum (James Kye)

Blueberries for Sal (Robert McCloskey)

Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic (Ginnie Lo)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Eric Carle)

Food-themed chapter books

A Passport to Pastries (Veera Hiranandani)

Baker's Magic (Diane Zahler)

Rutabaga the Adventure Chef (Eric Colossal)

Cupcake Diaries (Coco Simon)

Recipe for Adventure series (Giada De Laurentiis)

Week 7: July 30 - August 5, 2017

The Most Magnificent Thing

Many students enjoyed using The Space during this past school year, designing, constructing and creating under the guidance of Mr. Bruce. How about getting into tinkering and constructing this week with whatever resources and materials you currently have available? Maybe you even have the opportunity to do some building and constructing outside, at the beach, in a backyard or forest. Afterwards, you could write, draw or sketch about what you made. I would love to see it after the summer.

And here are, as always, a few books you might enjoy reading in connection with this week's theme of tinkering, designing, and constructing:

Picture books

Everything You Need for a Treehouse (Carter Higgins)

The Most Magnificent Thing (Ashley Spires)

Armstrong: The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon (Torben Kuhlmann)

The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins (Barbara Kerley)

Whoosh! Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions (Chris Barton)

Chapter books and middle grade novels

Wild Fire Run (Dee Garetson)

Nick and Tesla series (Bob Pflugfelder)

The Wild Robot (Peter Brown)

Hatchet (Gary Paulsen)

Nonfiction books

The Daring Book for Girls (Andrea J. Buchanan)

The Dangerous Book for Boys (Conn Igulden)

Make: Easy 1+2+3 Projects (by the editors of Make)

Everything Robotics (Jennifer Swanson, National Geographic)

The Way Things Work Now (David Macauley)

Week 8: Aug 6 - Aug 12, 2018

The Truth About My Unbelievable Summer

I hope your summer was unbelievably good, and I can't wait to hear all about it when we see each other again next week. Enjoy this last full week of holidays.

Here are a few ideas on what you might enjoy doing:

Organize an end-of-summer brunch, tea or dinner during which the whole family can share their favorite memories.

Create a summer / holiday collage including people you met, places you visited, special food you ate, activities and highlights, books you read...

Chat with your family about the new school year: what are you looking forward to?

Get in some more reading time!

As you start thinking about the new school year, you might enjoy reading some books about school and returning to school.

Picture books about school/returning to school

Schools First Day of School (Christian Robinson)

How to Get Your Teacher Ready (Jean Reagan)

My New Teacher and Me (Al Yankovic)

If You Take a Mouse to School (Laura Numeroff)

Dear Teacher (Amy Husband)

This School Year Will be the Best (Kay Winter)

Back to School Rules (Laurie B. Friedman)

Chapter books and middle grade novels about school/returning to school

Alvin Ho: Allergic to School, Girls and Other Scary Things (Lenore Look)

Rosco Riley Rules series (Katherine Applegate)

My Weird School series (Dan Gutman)

Sideways Stories From Wayside School (Louis Sachar)

The Year of the Book (Andrea Cheng)

We will be busy in the library this week, getting everything ready for you, and looking forward to welcoming you back soon!