

Dear Students and Parents,

The Fulton County School System strongly believes in developing readers who read both for information and for pleasure. Books on the *Summer Reading List* vary in subject matter and level of difficulty. Our intent is to provide students and their parents with a wide range of authors and styles of writing in both fiction and non-fiction, and to allow students to select reading materials that match their interests.

Lexile levels are indicated for most books, and they address vocabulary and sentence structure. When vocabulary is repeated often and sentences are more simply written, a text has a lower Lexile scores. Texts with less frequently-used vocabulary and with complex sentence structures have higher Lexile scores.

However, Lexile levels do not address subject matter. While a text may have a lower Lexile number, the contents could be more mature. Parents should be actively involved in assisting with their children's reading choices. The short descriptions with each book title should assist you in your selections.

Enjoy your summer reading.

Fulton County Schools English/Language Arts Department
Fulton County Schools Media Services Department

Fulton County 2009

Grades 4-5

Summer Reading List

Fiction Chapter Books

Babbitt, Natalie. *The Search for Delicious*. The King is compiling a dictionary and when no one can agree on the meaning of delicious, he sends his 12-year-old messenger to poll the country. Lexile: 910

Balliett, Blue. *The Calder Game*. When Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village—along with an Alexander Calder sculpture—his friends Tommy and Petra fly from Chicago to help Calder's father find him. Lexile: 830

Birney, Betty. *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs*. Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World. Lexile: 790

Clements, Andrew. *Lost and Found*. Twin brothers learn about friendship and honesty after taking advantage of a mistake in which their new school thinks there is only one of them. Lexile: 780

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton*. Elijah, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who stole money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom. Lexile: 1070

Enright, Elizabeth. *The Saturdays*. Four New York City siblings pool their allowances so they can each do a special activity on a Saturday. Lexile: 820

Hiassen, Carl. *Scat*. Nick and Marta are both suspicious when their biology teacher disappears and they try to uncover the truth despite everyone's insistence that nothing is wrong. Lexile: 810

Horvath, Polly. *My One Hundred Adventures*. Jane, who lives on the beach in a run-down house with her family, has an eventful summer after she decides to have 100 adventures to make her life more interesting. Lexile: 810

Law, Ingrid. *Savvy*. Follows the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, who has just had her Savvy—a magical power—revealed. Lexile: 1070

Preller, James. *Six Innings*. Earl Grubb's Pool Supplies plays Northeast Gas & Electric in the Little League Championship game, while Sam, who is in a wheelchair has to call the play-by-play instead of joining in the game. Lexile: 690

Nonfiction Books

Brown, Don. All Stations! Distress! April 15, 1912, the day the Titanic Sank. An engaging account of this historical event is provided in a manner appropriate for elementary students. Lexile: N/A

Greenberg, Jan. Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Through the Gates and Beyond. Examines the lives work of two artists who create environmental art installations, including "The Gates" in Central Park. Lexile: N/A

Hartman, Dan and Patent. When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone. Beautiful photographs and text explain how the wolf, onced returned to Yellowstone National Park, helped restore balance to the ecosystem. Lexile 1040

Lewin, Ted and Betsy. Horse Song: The Naadam of Mongolia. A wonderful overview of the people and activities encountered in Mongolia during Naadam, an annual horse festival. Lexile: 870

Nelson, Kadir. We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball. Explores the history of Negro League Baseball, covering all facets from trials and tribulations to triumphs. Lexile: 900

Nivola, Claire. Planting the Trees of Kenya. Relates the story Wangari Maathi, a native Kenyan who taught the people living there how to plant trees and care for the land.. Lexile: 1030

Nobleman, Marc Tyler. Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman. Tells the compelling story of Teens Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster's creation Superman and success of the comic. Lexile 760

Thimmesh, Catherine. Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed . A brief biography of the life and achievements of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who fought for women's right to vote. Lexile: 1060

Thomas, Peggy. Farmer George Plants a Nation. Details how George Washington built his farm at Mount Vernon while also building a nation. Lexile: 970

Weathorford, Carol Boston. Before John was a Jazz Giant. A biography of John Coltrane that focuses on his inspirations and development as a musician during his childhood and teen years. Lexile: 1090

Picture Book Stories to Share

Brumbeau, Jeff. The Quiltmaker's Journey. The quiltmaker grows up wealthy and sheltered, but changes her life after she discovers the poverty and need outside her home. Lexile: 840

Bryany, Jennifer. A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams. A picture book biography of American poet William Carlos Williams, who studied to become a doctor, but still found time to write poetry. Lexile: 820

Fraser, Debra. Miss Alaineus: A Vocabulary Disaster. When Sage's spelling and definition of a word reveal her misunderstanding of it to her classmates, she is at first embarrassed but then uses the mistake as an inspiration for a special project. Lexile: 690

Gonzalez, Lucia M. The Story Teller's Candle. During the Great Depression, librarian Pura Belpre introduces the public library to immigrants. Presented in English and Spanish. Lexile: 730

Gutman, Dan. Casey Back at Bat. Presents a humorous sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's classic "Casey at Bat," with colorful illustrations and rhymes. Lexile: 810

Janezcko, Paul D. A Kick in the Head: an Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms. Presents a collection of poems which showcase 29 different poetic forms, each with a definition. Lexile: N/A

McGill, Alice. Way Up and Over Everything. In this retelling of a folktale, five Africans escape slavery by simply disappearing into thin air. Lexile: 730

Rumford, James. Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad. A young boy in Baghdad uses the art calligraphy to distance himself from the war. Lexile: 830

Schulman, Janet. Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City. Recounts the true story of Pale Male, a red-tailed hawk living in New York city who built his nest on an apartment building and has become one of the city's most-watched celebrities. Lexile: 1030

Stone, Tanya Lee. Sandy's Circus. A beautifully illustrated account of mobile artist Alexander Calder's creation of a miniature circus from wire, string, cloth, and other found objects. Lexile: 750