

## IMC Recommended List K-6 July 2008

These titles have been recommended for purchase by San Diego Unified School District book reviewers. Use this list to purchase titles for your school or classroom library. Many of these are also available for teacher check out at the IMC. Questions may be directed to Deborah B. Ford, IMC Resource Librarian at (858) 496-8442 or dford@sandi.net.

Title - Author - {Interest Level, Dewey} --Publisher : Year, Reading Level, Number of Pages

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1, 2, Buckle My Shoe -- Hines, Anna Grossnickle. {IL K-3, 398.8} -- Harcourt, 2008., RL .6, 24p

A child learns to count with the help of a classic nursery rhyme.

Alfred Digs -- George, Lindsay Barrett. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Greenwillow Books, 2008., RL 2.1, 40p

Alfred the aardvark lives with his mother on the "A" page of the dictionary, and when his pet ant, Itty Bitty, slips out of the ant farm to visit the zoo, Alfred goes after him, digging all the way down to "Z."

Alvin Ho : Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things -- Look, Lenore. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Schwartz & Wade Books, 2008., RL 3.9, 172p

A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.

Amelia Bedelia and the Cat -- Parish, Herman. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Greenwillow Books, 2008., RL 1.9, 48p

Amelia Bedelia finds a stray kitten and tries, in her literal-minded way, to take good care of it.

Un Amigo de Veras Maravilloso -- Bloom, Suzanne. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Boyds Mills Press, 2007., 32p

A studious polar bear has a hard time getting along with a very, very inquisitive goose until the goose tells him something very special. Spanish edition of A Splendid Friend, Indeed.

Andy Shane and the Queen of Egypt -- Jacobson, Jennifer. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 2.6, 56p

Andy Shane selects Egypt as the topic of his first-ever Culture Fair project, but the very bossy Dolores Starbuckle declares that she is the Queen of Egypt and does not give him a moment's peace until he agrees to let her work with him.

Annie and Snowball and the Teacup Club : The Third Book of Their Adventures -- Rylant, Cynthia. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 2.6, 40p

Annie forms a club for girls who love teacups and other dainty things, but she will always love her cousin Henry and his big drooly dog too.

Arabella Miller's Tiny Caterpillar -- Jarrett, Clare. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 3.5, 26p

Arabella Miller discovers a tiny caterpillar and takes it home to care for it until it transforms into a beautiful butterfly.

As Good as Anybody : Martin Luther King Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel's Amazing March Towards Freedom -- Michelson, Richard. {IL 3-6, 323} -- Alfred A. Knopf, 2008., RL 3.2, 38p

Describes the experiences that influenced Martin Luther King, Jr., and Abraham Joshua Heschel's civil rights activism and discusses the friendship between the two men.

Awful Ogre Running Wild -- Prelutsky, Jack. {IL K-3, 811} -- Greenwillow Books, 2008., RL 3.5, 40p

A collection of poems recounting the awesome adventures Awful Ogre has during his summer vacation.

The Best Book to Read -- Bertram, Debbie. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Random House, 2008., RL 2.5, 26p

A young boy goes to the library with his class and hears about the many kinds of books that can be found there.

Beware of the Frog -- Bee, William. {IL 1-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 2.2, 42p

Sweet old Mrs. Collywobbles lives on the edge of a big, dark, scary wood, but has a pet frog to protect her from greedy goblins, smelly trolls, and hungry ogres.

Big Bad Bunny -- Billingsley, Franny. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 1.6, 34p

Mama Mouse hurriedly searches the forest for her missing little one, Baby Boo-Boo, while Big Bad Bunny stomps and growls not far away--but the bunny may not be as bad as it seems.

Big Plans -- Shea, Bob. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Hyperion Books for Children, 2008., RL 1.4, 42p

An unrepentant little boy, sent to the corner for bad behavior, thinks about his very big plans for the future.

The Birthday Tree -- Fleischman, Paul. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 3.4, 33p

A sailor and his wife, having lost three sons to the sea, plant an apple tree in honor of the birth of their fourth son, Jack, that seems to reflect his ups and downs, and when Jack too heads out to sea, his parents trust the tree to keep them informed of his welfare.

Blue Goose -- Tafuri, Nancy. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 1.5, 32p

When Farmer Gray goes away for the day, Blue Goose, Red Hen, Yellow Chick, and White Duck get together and paint their black and white farm.

The Boy Who Wouldn't Share -- Reiss, Mike. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins Publishers, 2008., RL .8, 32p

Edward, unwilling to share his toys with his sister, has a change of heart when she has something he wants.

The Calder Game -- Balliett, Blue. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Scholastic Press, 2008., RL 5.4, 379p

When seventh-grader Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village--along with an Alexander Calder sculpture to which he has felt strangely drawn--his friends Petra and Tommy fly from Chicago to help his father find him.

Clementine's Letter -- Pennypacker, Sara. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Hyperion Books for Children, 2008., RL 4.7, 150p

After learning that her favorite teacher will be leaving for a trip to Egypt and will be absent for the remainder of the year, Clementine devises a plan to get rid of the substitute and get Mr. D'Matz to stay.

A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever -- Frazee, Marla. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Harcourt, 2008., RL 2.7, 32p

Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon's grandparents during summer vacation.

The Cow That Laid an Egg -- Cutbill, Andy. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins, 2008, 2006., RL 3.8, 32p

The chickens at the farm hatch a plan to help Marjorie the cow feel special, but some of the other cows get suspicious.

Delilah D. at the Library -- Willis, Jeanne. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Clarion Books, 2007, 2006., RL 2.3, 34p

Young Delilah D., who believes she is queen of a land far, far away, goes to the library with her nanny and brother and tells Library Anne the library rules of her kingdom.

Dinosaur Trouble -- King-Smith, Dick. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Roaring Brook Press, 2008, 2005., RL 3.1, 118p

Young dinosaurs Nosy, a pterodactyl, and Banty, an apatosaurus, become friends, despite their parents' prejudices.

Doctor Ted -- Beaty, Andrea. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Marfaret K. McElderry Books, 2008., RL 2.1, 32p

After bumping his knee one morning, Ted decides to become a doctor, but he has only one problem--he has no patients!

Dog and Bear : Two's Company -- Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Roaring Brook Press, 2008., RL 1.6, 32p

Three more easy-to-read stories reveal the close friendship between a dachshund named Dog and a stuffed bear.

Duck Soup -- Urbanovic, Jackie. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins, 2008., RL 2.4, 32p

Maxwell Duck is trying to invent a soup that everyone will remember him for; but when he goes out to look for the missing ingredient and his friends show up, they think he has fallen into the soup.

Fancy Nancy : Bonjour, Butterfly -- O'Connor, Jane. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins, 2008., RL 2.1, 32p

Nancy is furious when she cannot go to her friend Bree's butterfly-themed birthday party, but her family's outing might just be extraordinary enough to make her feel better.

Fartiste -- Krull, Kathleen. {IL 3-6, -E-} -- Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 1.8, 37p

In nineteenth-century France, Joseph Pujol, a little boy who can control his farts, grows up to become Le Petomaine, making audiences laugh at the Moulin Rouge in Paris with his animal noises, songs, and other sounds. Includes facts about Joseph Pujol and life in turn-of-the-century Paris.

Fly High, Fly Guy! -- Arnold, Tedd. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Scholastic, 2008., RL 1.2, 30p  
When Buzz, his parents, and his pet fly go on a road trip and get lost, Fly Guy comes to the rescue to help them find their way home.

Frankenstein Takes the Cake -- Rex, Adam. {IL K-3, 811} -- Harcourt, 2008., RL 3.2, 39p

Contains poems about the bad habits, anxieties, and other fears and foibles of monsters, including selections about Frankenstein's wedding.

The Girl in the Castle Inside the Museum -- Bernheimer, Kate. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Schwartz & Wade Books, 2008., RL 2.7, 33p

Children come to visit a little girl who lives all alone inside a castle that is housed inside of a museum.

Gorgonzola : A Very Stinkysaurus -- Palatini, Margie. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Katherine Tegen Books, 2008., RL 2.9, 32p

When Gorgonzola the dinosaur learns that everyone runs from him to avoid his smell, rather than out of fear, he is grateful to the little bird who shows him how to brush his teeth and wash.

Help Me, Mr. Mutt! : Expert Answers for Dogs With People Problems -- Stevens, Janet. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Harcourt, 2008., RL 2.3, 50p

Dogs across the United States write to Mr. Mutt, a people expert, for help with their humans.

Hen Hears Gossip -- McDonald, Megan. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Greenwillow Books, 2008., RL 1.8, 32p

When Hen overhears some news on the farm, she runs to tell Duck, who tells another animal, and as the gossip is repeated from one animal to the next, it becomes unrecognizable.

A Home for Dixie : The True Story of a Rescued Puppy -- Jackson, Emma. {IL K-3, 636.7} -- Collins, 2008., RL 2.6, 32p

Tells the true story of Emma, who desperately wanted a dog, and an abandoned puppy who wanted a home.

I'm Bad! -- McMullan, Kate. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Joanna Cotler Books, 2008., RL 2, 34p

A hungry Tyrannosaurus Rex searches for food in the prehistoric forest but is thwarted in its attempts to find something to eat.

I, Matthew Henson : Polar Explorer -- Weatherford, Carole Boston. {IL 3-6, 910.911} -- Walker, 2008., RL 6.5, 32p

Shares the story of Matthew Henson, an African-American man who vigorously pursued his dream to reach the North Pole along with explorer Robert Peary.

The Incredible Book Eating Boy -- Jeffers, Oliver. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Philomel Books, 2007, 2006., RL 2.2, 32p

Henry loves to eat books, until he begins to feel quite ill and decides that maybe he could do something else with the books he has been devouring.

Ivy and Bean Take Care of the Babysitter -- Barrows, Annie. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Chronicle Books, 2008., RL 2.3, 122p

Ivy, left in the care of her mean older sister Nancy for the afternoon, enlists her best friend Ivy in a plot to prove Nancy is the worst babysitter ever.

Just Grace Walks the Dog -- Harper, Charise Mericle. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Houghton Mifflin, 2008., RL 3.6, 163p

Eight-year-old Just Grace and her best friend Mimi embark on a campaign to convince Grace's parents that they are responsible and dependable enough to get a dog.

Keep Your Eye on the Kid : The Early Years of Buster Keaton -- Brighton, Catherine. {IL K-3, 791.4302} -- Roaring Brook Press, 2008., RL 2.7, 30p

An illustrated childhood biography of comedian Buster Keaton, following his early experiences in his parents' Vaudeville act, and his fascination with the emerging film industry.

Keeping Score -- Park, Linda Sue. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Clarion Books, 2008., RL 4.8, 202p

During the 1950s, young Maggie struggles to will her beloved Brooklyn Dodgers to a victory in the World Series and wishes that her friend Jim, a soldier in Korea, would answer her letters.

A Kitten Tale -- Rohmann, Eric. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Alfred A. Knopf, 2008., RL 2.7, 32p

As four kittens who have never seen winter watch the seasons pass, three of them declare the reasons they will dislike snow when it arrives, while the fourth cannot wait to experience it for himself.

Lady Liberty : A Biography -- Rappaport, Doreen. {IL 3-6, 974.7} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 6.2, 42p

Presents an illustrated biography of the Statue of Liberty, describing who designed it and why, and how it came to become a symbol of the United States.

LaRue for Mayor : Letters from the Campaign Trail -- Teague, Mark. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Blue Sky Press, 2008., RL 3, 32p

Mrs. LaRue's dog, Ike, decides to run for mayor of Snort City after realizing the front-runner, Chief Bugwort, wants to enforce leash, curfew, and other laws for dogs.

The Light of the World : The Life of Jesus for Children -- Paterson, Katherine. {IL K-3, 232.9} -- Arthur A. Levine Books, 2008., RL 1.9, 48p

Tells the story of Jesus' life from his birth in Bethlehem to his crucifixion and resurrection, and describes his teachings, explaining why he is called "the light of the world."

Manfish : A Story of Jacques Cousteau -- Berne, Jennifer. {IL 3-6, 551.46} -- Chronicle Books, 2008., RL 3.9, 34p

An illustrated biography of Jacques Cousteau, discussing how his youthful fascinations with filming and underwater exploration translated into his life's work, and telling of his later devotion to saving the ocean environment.

Mary Had a Little Lamp -- Lechner, Jack. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2008., RL 2, 32p

Mary takes her "bendy," gooseneck lamp wherever she goes, much to the dismay of her parents and classmates, but after leaving it at home during summer camp, Mary finds that she has outgrown her need for her odd companion.

Maybe a Bear Ate It! -- Harris, Robie H. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Orchard Books, 2008., RL 1.5, 36p

At bedtime, a young boy who cannot find his favorite book imagines the various creatures that might have taken it from him.

Midsummer Knight -- Rogers, Gregory. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Roaring Brook Press, 2007, 2006., 32p

A bear is rescued by a fairy in an enchanted wood and agrees to return the favor by leading the battle against a usurper who has imprisoned the king and queen, along with their loyal subjects, in the dungeon of their castle.

Monarch and Milkweed -- Frost, Helen. {IL K-3, 595.78} -- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 3.1, 34p

Illustrations and text describe the lifecycle of the monarch butterfly and its link with the milkweed plant.

The Monarch's Progress : Poems with Wings -- Harley, Avis. {IL 3-6, 811} -- Wordsong, 2008., RL 5.4, 32p

Presents eighteen poems in such forms as haiku, sonnet, and cinquain that explore the life cycle, migration, history, and beauty of monarch butterflies, and includes a fact section.

Monkey and Me -- Gravett, Emily. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 1.2, 26p

A little girl imitates a variety of animals, from bats to penguins to kangaroos, with her stuffed toy monkey.

Mrs. Biddlebox -- Smith, Linda. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Harcourt, 2007, 2002., RL 2.8, 32p

With baking magic, Mrs. Biddlebox uses fog, dirt, sky, and other ingredients of a rotten day to transform it into a sweet cake.

Never Take a Shark to the Dentist : (and Other Things Not to Do) -- Barrett, Judi. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 2, 34p

A list of things one should not do with various animals, such as "hold hands with a lobster."

Nic Bishop Frogs -- Bishop, Nic. {IL K-3, 597.8} -- Scholastic, 2008., RL 3.7, 48p

Full-color, illustrated photographs describing the characteristics and behaviors of a variety of frogs around the world.

Not a Stick -- Portis, Antoinette. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins, 2008., RL 1.5, 32p

An imaginative young pig shows some of the many things that a stick can be.

On the Farm -- Elliott, David. {IL K-3, 636} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 2, 32p

Describes all the animals of the farmyard, including a goat, a cow, a rooster, bees, and bunnies, presented in verse and accompanied by woodcut and watercolor illustrations.

Our California -- Ryan, Pam Munoz. {IL K-3, 979.4} -- Charlesbridge, 2008., RL 3.7, 42p

Colorful illustrations and rhyming text describes the sights and sounds of California. Includes historical facts about cities. Also available in Spanish.

Pale Male : Citizen Hawk of New York City -- Schulman, Janet. {IL 3-6, 598.9} -- Knopf, 2008., RL 5.2, 34p

Recounts the true story of Pale Male, a red-tailed hawk living in New York City who has become one of the city's most-watched celebrities and bird watchers, tourists, and residents admire the bird and his nest, built on a Fifth Avenue apartment building.

The Penderwicks on Gardam Street -- Birdsall, Jeanne. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Knopf, 2008., RL 5.8, 308p

The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him.

Queen of Halloween -- Engelbreit, Mary. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins Publishers, 2008., RL 2.3, 28p

When Ann Estelle and her friend Michael go trick-or-treating and approach a big scary house, they both learn that courage means also being afraid.

Read All About It! -- Bush, Laura L. {IL K-3, -E-} -- HarperCollins Publishers, 2008., RL 2, 32p

Tyrone likes everything about school except reading, until he and his classmates are swept into a mysterious adventure during the class story hour.

The Sea Serpent and Me -- Slater, Dashka. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Houghton Mifflin, 2008., RL 2.7, 40p

A small sea serpent falls from the faucet into a bathtub and becomes a little girl's best friend, but as he grows, they both realize that he needs to go back to the sea where he belongs.

Sipping Spiders Through a Straw : Campfire Songs for Monsters -- DiPucchio, Kelly S. {IL 3-6, 782.42164} -- Scholastic Press, 2008., RL 3.2, 32p

A collection of creepy critters sing their favorite campfire sing-alongs, slightly altered for little monsters.

Smash! Crash! -- Scieszka, Jon. {IL K-1, -E-} -- Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 1.6, 34p

Jack, a big-rig truck, and his best friend Dan the dump truck, spend their days having fun crashing and smashing things all across town.

Snake and Lizard -- Cowely, Joy. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Kane Miller Book Pub., 2008.

Snake and Lizard share a number of adventures, argue with each other, and end up as lifelong friends.

Stanley and the Class Pet -- Saltzberg, Barney. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 1.5, 24p

Stanley is excited about bringing the class pet, a bird, home for the weekend, but when his friend Larry urges him to open the cage and let Figgy out to fly, it is hard to know who is to blame for the ensuing disaster.

Stink and the Great Guinea Pig Express -- McDonald, Megan. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 2.2, 118p

Stink Moody, friends Webster and Sophie, and Mrs. Birdwistle visit tourist attractions in Virginia as they try to give away 101 guinea pigs rescued from a laboratory, although Stink is very reluctant to relinquish his favorite, Astro.

Tadpole Rex -- Cyrus, Kurt. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Harcourt, 2008., RL 2.7, 40p

A tiny primordial tadpole grows into a frog, feeling just as strong and powerful as the huge Tyrannosaurus Rex that stomps through the mud.

Ten-Gallon Bart and the Wild West Show -- Crummel, Susan Stevens. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Marshall Cavendish Children, 2008., RL 2.9, 40p

Buffalo Chip's Wild West Show comes to Dog City and retired sheriff Bart, looking for some excitement, enters the bull-riding contest.

Tuff Fluff : The Case of Duckie's Missing Brain -- Nash, Scott. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008, 2004., RL 3.6, 45p

When Duckie, a terry cloth duck, loses his brain and can no longer tell stories to the other toys, Tuff Fluff the private investigator must solve the case.

A Visitor for Bear -- Becker, Bonny. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Candlewick Press, 2008., RL 2, 56p

Bear's efforts to keep out visitors to his house are undermined by a very persistent mouse.

Wave -- Lee, Suzy. {IL K-3, -E-} -- Chronicle Books, 2008., 36p

A wordless book in which a young girl experiences the power of ocean waves.

What To Do About Alice? : How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy! -- Kerley, Barbara. {IL 3-6, 973.9} -- Scholastic Press, 2008., RL 2.8, 44p

An illustrated biography of Alice Roosevelt Longworth that focuses on her experiences while her father was president of the United States.

The Willoughbys -- Lowry, Lois. {IL 3-6, -Fic-} -- Houghton Mifflin, 2008., RL 5.4, 174p

A tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, in which the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.