

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

## 2009 Summer Pleasure Reading

Pleasure reading recommended by MBOUSD Library Media Specialists

### For Students Entering Grades 4 and 5

#### Picture Books

**Voices in the Park**, Anthony Browne (1998)

A great book to discuss how the meaning of the day's events change based on who's perspective you listen to.

**The Escape of Oney Judge: Martha Washington's Slave Finds Freedom**, Emily Arnold McCully (2007)

This is a fictionalized account of real-life Washington family slave Oney Judge's early years. It documents her passion to learn and her never-ending desire for freedom.

**What to Do About Alice? How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy!**, Barbara Kerley (2008)

A rollicking picture book biography of Theodore Roosevelt's oldest daughter, who raised some eyebrows, charmed a nation, and proved to be a problem for her father.

#### Chapter Books

**100 Cupboards**, N.D. Wilson (2008)

Henry and his cousin Henrietta discover 100 secret cupboards in the walls of his uncle and aunt's house, which are portals to other worlds.

**The Great Turkey Walk**, Kathleen Karr (1998)

Set in the Wild West of 1860, Simon Green hatches a plan to drive a flock of turkeys from Missouri to Denver and get rich with the profits. His adventures along the way provide a great summer read.

**The Westing Game**, Ellen Raskin (1978)

The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

**The Cabinet of Wonders**, Marie Rutkoski (2008)

Petra, along with her magical tin spider, must travel to Prague to reclaim her father's

enchanted eyes from the Prince of Bohemia who intends to use them for his own power-hungry purposes.

**Mr. Karp's Last Glass**, Gary Fagan (2009)

When his family falls on hard times and must take in boarders to make ends meet, Randolph, an avid young collector of bottle caps, new words, and other assorted items, is captivated by the mysterious wooden crates belonging to his family's new boarder, Mr. Karp.

**Bronte's Book Club**, Kristiana Gregory (2008)

When twelve-year-old Bronte moves to a small California beach town, her idea to form a book club in order to make friends turns out to be a good one, after a rocky start. The author lived in Manhattan Beach in the 1960's and used to ride her bike to the public library where she would check out books to read at the beach with her friends. Email the author: [www.kgregorybooks.com](http://www.kgregorybooks.com)

**Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Almost True Stories of Growing Up Scieszka**, Jon Scieszka (2008)

Reading this autobiography will explain how Jon Scieszka became the funny, imaginative writer that he is now.

Series Chapter Books

**Percy Jackson and the Olympians**, Rick Riordan (2005-2009)

Follow Percy's adventures as he travels through the Greek Underworld to prevent a war.

**The Sisters Grimm**, Michael Buckley (various publishing dates.)

Sabrina and Daphne Grimm must follow in their ancestors' footsteps and keep the Everafters – fairy tale characters – under control in the secretly magical town of Ferryport Landing.

**The Gideon Trilogy**, Linda Buckley-Archer (2007, 2008)

The first two books follow Peter Schock, a 21<sup>st</sup> century 12 year old stranded in the year 1763. His side kick Kate helps him join in salvaging a botched up rescue attempt delivering them to the year 1792...and a broken time machine. How will they manage to escape? You will have to read all three to find out!

**The 39 Clues**, various authors (2008, 2009)

Follow the Cahill siblings around the world as they try to solve the mystery of their famous and powerful family. There will eventually be 10 volumes in this series, written by famous authors like Rick Riordan, Gordan Korman, and Margaret Peterson Haddix. There is an additional website component to the series: [www.the39clues.com](http://www.the39clues.com).