Experts agree that children who read during the summer months gain reading skills while those who do not often slide backwards (RIF). Don’t let your child experience the “summer slide”! Choose books from the following list or head to the library and explore the shelves. Children should read for at least 20 minutes each day.

A general rule for selecting books at the appropriate independent reading level is to choose a page and ask your child to read it aloud. If he or she does not know more than 5 words on the page, the book may be too difficult for them to read independently. Don’t let that discourage them - consider reading a “too difficult” book aloud to your child. Your child is never too old to enjoy being read to. This opens the door for quality time and interesting conversations.

- Your child should use the accompanying Reading Log to track their reading. Please have them turn it in on the first day of school.
- Visit the Berwyn Public Library. Enroll in their summer reading program. It is open to all St. Leonard students even if you don’t live in Berwyn. The reading program provides an incentive to read and it is a lot of fun!
- Allow children to select books that are of interest to them. It is important for children to associate reading with pleasure. Make reading fun!

**Suggested Titles:**

*The Knight and the Dragon* by Tomie dePaola (Any book by this author is a great choice!)

*Olivia* (Any books in this series) by Ian Falconer

*The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein (Some wonderful poetry collections are also
available by this author, such as Where the Sidewalk Ends)

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems (ANY title by this author is sure to make you laugh out loud. Check out the Elephant and Piggie Series, too.)

If You Give a Pig a Pancake by Laura Numeroff (Any title by this author, too)

Little Bear (Any books in this series) by Else Holmelund Minarik

Owen by Kevin Henkes

Chester’s Way by Kevin Henkes

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

Stone Soup by Ann McGovern

The Patchwork Quilt by Valerie Flournoy

Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey

The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

Doctor De Soto by William Steig

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig

Stellaluna by Janell Cannon

A Bad Case of Stripes by David Shannon (Any title by this author)

Clean Your Room, Harvey Moon! by Pat Cummings

Ronald Morgan Goes to Bat by Patricia Giff

The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry

The Ugly Duckling by Jerry Pinkney

Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Ehlert

Animals Born Alive and Well by Ruth Heller

Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans

Sharks by Gail Gibbons (Many excellent non-fiction titles are available from
this author.

The Day the Dog Said “Cock-a-Doodle-Doo” by David McPhail

Bedtime for Frances by Russell Hoban

Bread and Jam for Frances by Russell Hoban

A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond

Bob Book Series - this is a great series to help struggling readers get started on reading!

The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Suess - any and all books by Dr. Suess

Frog and Toad Series by Arnold Lobel

Swimmy by Leo Lionni

Fortunately by Remi Charlip

Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina

Junie B. Jones (Any books in this series) by Barbara Park

Curious George (Any books in this series) by H.A. Rey

Arthur (Any books in this series) by Marc Brown

The Listening Walk by Paul Showers

Skippy Jon Jones by Judy Schachner

A Chair For My Mother by Vera B. Williams

Elizabeti’s Doll by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen