

# Lacey Branch

## Ocean County Library

10 East Lacey Road  
Forked River, NJ 08731  
609.693.8566

[www.theoceancountylibrary.org](http://www.theoceancountylibrary.org)

### Great Reads!

#### ***A note for parents and caregivers:***

- The titles on this recommended reading list are all available at the Lacey Branch along with other library branches **and** through one of our digital platforms, either *hoopla* or *Libby by Overdrive*. You can access them at <http://theoceancountylibrary.org/downloads>.
- If a family member is in need of a library card, you can visit the Lacey Branch or apply online at <https://theoceancountylibrary.org/library-card-application>, and pick up the card at your convenience.
- You may also register the entire family for the ***Oceans of Possibilities*** Summer Reading Challenge at <https://theoceancountylibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>. Earn virtual badges by completing reading and activity challenges.
- Titles listed by grade level are suggestions for appropriate reading levels, but reading levels vary widely by grade and you may find great books for your child on lists for other grades. For additional assistance in finding age-appropriate and engaging books, please stop into the library.
- The Lexile score is added (ex. **640L**) for titles, when it is available. Some teachers provide this readability score to their students. It's just a guide. For more information on Lexile visit <https://lexile.com>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [cmeys-cronin@theoceancountylibrary.org](mailto:cmeys-cronin@theoceancountylibrary.org). Happy reading!

Corinne Meys-Cronin  
Youth Services Librarian  
Lacey Branch of the Ocean County Library

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### Great Reads!

#### Entering Grade 1

##### Read to Child

Any beginning reader or picture book. Below are some suggestions:

- Archer, Micha. *Wonder Walkers* (Overdrive)  
Becker, Bonny. *A Visitor for Bear* (Overdrive)  
Blackall, Sophie. *Hello Lighthouse* (Overdrive)  
Daywalt, Drew. *The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors* (hoopla)  
Fogliano, Julie. *My Best Friend* (Overdrive)  
Higgins, Ryan. *We Don't Eat Our Classmates!* (Overdrive)  
John, Jory. *The Bad Seed* (Overdrive)  
Martin, Bill. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* (Overdrive)  
Cronin, Doreen. *Click, Clack, Moo* (Overdrive)  
de la Pena, Matt. *Last Stop on Market Street* (hoopla)  
Formento, Alison. *These Bees Count!* (Overdrive)  
Litwin, Eric or Dean, James. *Pete the Cat* series (Overdrive and hoopla)  
Maillard, Kevin Noble. *Fry Bread; a Native American Family Story* (Overdrive)  
Martinez-Neal, Juana. *Alma and How She Got Her Name* (Overdrive)  
Medina, Meg. *Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away* (Overdrive and hoopla)  
Mora, Oge. *Thank You, Omu!* (Overdrive)  
Shannon, David. *Duck on a Bike* (Overdrive)  
Tabor, Corey R. *Mel Fell* (Overdrive)  
Thomas, Jan. *A Birthday for Cow* (Overdrive)  
Watt, Melanie. *Scaredy Squirrel* (hoopla)  
Wheeler, Lisa. *Dino-Wrestling* (hoopla)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 1

#### Guided or Independent Reading

Arnold, Tedd. *Fly Guy* (any in series) **170L-470L** (Overdrive)  
Barton, Chris. *Mighty Truck on the Farm* (any in series) (hoopla)  
*Beginner Book Series* (any book in the series) Example authors: Dr. Seuss, Eastman, Berenstain (Overdrive and hoopla)  
Capucilli, Alyssa. *Biscuit Goes Camping* **230L** (any in series) (hoopla)  
Dean, James. *Pete the Cat* (any in “My First Reading” or “Level 1” (hoopla or Overdrive)  
DK Readers Level 1 - ex. *Deadly Dinosaurs* (any in series) (Overdrive)  
Dunrea, Olivier. *Gideon & Otto* **280L** (or other beginning readers by author) (hoopla)  
George, Kallie. *Duck, Duck, Dinosaur; Bubble Blast* (hoopla or Overdrive)  
Hale, Bruce. *Clark the Shark* (any in series) (hoopla or Overdrive)  
Hills, Tad. *A Gift for Goose* **370L** (or other beginning reader by author) (Overdrive)  
Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad All Year* **300L** (any in series) (hoopla or Overdrive)  
Madan, Vikram. *Bobo and Pup-Pup; Let’s Make Cake!* (Overdrive)  
McCully, Emily Arnold. *Little Ducks Go* **170L** (or any book in the “I Like to Read” Series) (Overdrive)  
*National Geographic Readers* (any book in the Level 1 series) (Overdrive)  
O’Connor, Jane. *Fancy Nancy Sees Stars* **270L** (any in series) (hoopla)  
Rylant, Cynthia. *Henry and Mudge* **370L – 480L** (any in series) Overdrive  
Scotton, Rob. *Splat the Cat and the Quick Chicks* **430L** (any in series) (hoopla)  
Tabor, Corey R. *Fox the Tiger* **240L** (any in series) (Overdrive)  
Yoon, Salina. *Duck, Duck, Porcupine!* **390L** or *My Kite is Stuck!* **340L** (Overdrive)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 2

- Adler, David. *Young Cam Jansen* (any in series) **330L – 540L** (Overdrive)  
Adler, David. *Cam Jansen* (any in series) **360L – 640L** (Overdrive)  
Arnold, Tedd. *Fly Guy* (any in the series) **280L – 420L** (Overdrive)  
*Beginner Book Series* (any book in the series) Example authors: Dr. Seuss, Eastman, Berenstain (Overdrive and hoopla)  
Birney, Betty G. *Humphrey's Tiny Tales* (any in series) **490L – 520L** (Overdrive)  
Blabey, Aaron. *The Bad Guys* (any in series) **530L** (Overdrive)  
Blume, Judy. *Freckle Juice* **400L** (Overdrive)  
Derling, Kimberly. *Cece Loves Science* **550L** (hoopla)  
DiCamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson* (any in series) **380L – 450L** (Overdrive and hoopla)  
Dicamillo, Kate. *Bink & Gollie* (any in series) **270L – 420L** (Overdrive)  
Hale, Shannon. *The Princess in Black* (any in series) **340L – 430L** (Overdrive)  
Kline, Suzy. *Horrible Harry* (any in series) **410L – 540L** (Overdrive)  
Levine, Ellen. *Henry's Freedom Box: a true story from the Underground Railroad* **AD490L** (hoopla)  
Lobel, Arnold. *Frog and Toad All Year* **300L** (any in series) (hoopla and Overdrive)  
McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody and Friends* (any in series) **390L – 520L** (hoopla and Overdrive)  
*National Geographic Readers* (any in the Level 1 or 2 series) **200L – 650L** (Overdrive)  
Osborne, Mary Pope. *Magic Tree House* (any in series) **230L - 750L** (Overdrive)  
Pennypacker, Sarah. *Clementine* (any is series) **580L – 720L** (Overdrive)  
Rylant, Cynthia. *Mr. Putter and Tabby* (any in series) **410L- 540L** (Overdrive)  
Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. *Nate the Great* (any in series) **110L – 510L** (Overdrive)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 3

- Adler, David. *Cam Jansen* (any in series) **360L – 640L** (Overdrive)
- Barrows, Annie. *Ivy & Bean* (any in series) **490L – 590L** (Overdrive)
- Beaty, Andrea. *Rosie Revere and the Rauous Riveters* **520L** (Overdrive)
- Blabey, Aaron. *The Bad Guys* (any in series) **530L** (Overdrive)
- Butler, Dori Hillestad. *The Buddy Files* (any in series) **450L – 500L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Cleary, Beverly. *Ramona and Beezus* (any in series) **780L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- DiCamillo, Kate. *Mercy Watson* (any in series) **380L – 450L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Dominguez, Angela. *Stella Diaz Has Something to Say* **650L** (Overdrive)
- Elliott, Rebecca. *Owl Diaries* (any in series) **530L – 620L** (Overdrive)
- Gutman, Dan. *My Weird School or My Weird School Daze* (any in series) **510L - 770L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Kline, Suzy. *Horrible Harry* (any in series) **410L – 540L** (Overdrive)
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* **560L** (Overdrive)
- McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody* (any in series) **390L – 590L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- National Geographic Readers* (any book in the Level 2 or 3 series) **200L – 650L** (Overdrive)
- Osborne, Mary Pope. *Magic Tree House* (any in series) **230L – 750L** (Overdrive)
- Pennypacker, Sarah. *Clementine* (any is series) **580L – 720L** (Overdrive)
- Pilkey, Dav. *Dog Man* (any in series) **390L** (Overdrive)
- Stilton, Geronimo. *Geronimo Stilton* (any in series) **450L – 810L** (hoopla)
- Warner, Gertrude Chandler. *The Boxcar Children* (any in series) **510L – 640L** (hoopla and Overdrive)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 4

- Angleberger, Tom. *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* **760L** (any in series) (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Appelt, Kathi. *The One and Only Ivan* **570L** (Overdrive)
- Blume, Judy. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* **470L** (Overdrive)
- Brown, Jeff, Greenhut, Josh or Pennypacker, Sara. *Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures* (any in series) **580L – 700L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Clements, Andrew. *The Loser's Club* **860L** (Overdrive)
- Cline-Ransome, Lesa. *Finding Langston* **760L** (Overdrive)
- Craft, Jerry. *New Kid* **320L** (hoopla)
- DiCamillo, Kate. *Flora & Ulysses* **520L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- DK Adventures* (any in series) Example: *Twister* **720L** (Overdrive)
- Gutman, Dan. *My Weird School, My Weird School Daze* (any in series) **470L – 770L** (Overdrive and hoopla)
- Holm, Jennifer. *The Lion of Mars* **530L** (Overdrive)
- Jamieson, Victoria. *When Stars are Scattered* **GN530L** (Overdrive)
- Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (any book in the series) **910L – 1060L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Konigsburg, E.L. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* **700L** (Overdrive)
- L'Engle, Madeleine. *A Wrinkle in Time* **740L** (Overdrive)
- Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* **810L** (Overdrive)
- National Geographic Readers* (any in the Level 2 or 3 series) **200L – 650L** (Overdrive)
- Phelan, Matt. *Knights vs. Dinosaurs* **610L** (Overdrive)
- Pilkey, Dav. *Dog Man* (any in series) **390L** (Overdrive)
- Stilton, Geronimo. *Geronimo Stilton* (any in series) **450L – 810L** (hoopla)
- Tarshis, Lauren. *I Survived* (any in series) **590L – 970L** (Overdrive)
- Watson, Renee. *Ways to Make Sunshine* **750L** (Overdrive)
- Who was...? Who is...? What is...?* (any in series) **510L – 920L** (Overdrive)
- Yang, Kelly. *Front Desk* **640L** (Overdrive)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 5

- Angleberger, Tom. *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* (any in series) **760L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Appelt, Kathi. *The One and Only Ivan* **570L** (Overdrive)
- Avi. *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* **740L** (Overdrive)
- Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks* (any in series) **800L – 940L** (Overdrive)
- Craft, Jerry. *New Kid* **320L** (Overdrive)
- Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bud, Not Buddy* **950L** (Overdrive)
- DiCamillo, Kate. *Because of Winn-Dixie* **610L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- DK Adventures* (any in series) Example: *Twister* **720L** (Overdrive)
- Gutman, Dan. *Houdini and Me* (Overdrive)
- Hale, Nathan. *Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales* (any in series) **GN200L – GN400L** (Overdrive)
- Johnson, Varian. *The Parker Inheritance* **610L** (Overdrive)
- Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Hello Universe* **690L** (Overdrive)
- Khan, Hena. *Amina's Voice* **800L** (Overdrive)
- Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (any in series) **950L – 1060L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Konigsburg, E.L. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* **700L**, *The View from Saturday* **870L** (Overdrive)
- Lai, Thanhha. *Inside Out & Back Again* **800L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Lewis, C.S. *The Chronicles of Narnia* (any in series) **790L** (hoopla and Overdrive)
- Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars* **670L** (Overdrive)
- Medina, Meg. *Merci Suarez Changes Gears* **700L** (Overdrive)
- Phelan, Matt. *Knights vs. Dinosaurs* **610L** (Overdrive)
- Ryan, Pam Munoz. *Echo* **680L** (Overdrive)
- Tarshis, Lauren. *I Survived* (any in series) **590L – 970L** (Overdrive)
- Who was...? Who is...? What is...?* (any in series) **510L – 920L** (Overdrive)
- Yang, Kelly. *Front Desk* **640L** (Overdrive)

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## Great Reads!

### Entering Grade 6

- Avi. *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* **740L** (Overdrive)  
Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks* (any in series) **800L – 940L** (Overdrive)  
Buckley, Michael. *N.E.R.D.S.* (any in series) **720L – 740L** (hoopla)  
Craft, Jerry. *New Kid* **320L** (Overdrive)  
Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963* **920L** (Overdrive)  
*DK Adventures* (any in series) Example: *Twister* **720L** (Overdrive)  
Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Strangers; Greystone Secrets Book 1* **730L** (Overdrive)  
Johnson, Varian. *The Parker Inheritance* **610L** (Overdrive)  
Higuera, Donna Barba. *The Last Cuentista* **730L**  
Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Hello Universe* **690L** (Overdrive)  
Khan, Hena. *Amina's Voice* **800L** (Overdrive)  
Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (any in the series) **950L – 1060L** (hoopla and Overdrive)  
Konigsburg, E.L. *The View from Saturday* **870L** (Overdrive)  
Lai, Thanhha. *Inside Out & Back Again* **800L** (hoopla and Overdrive)  
Lewis, C.S. *The Chronicles of Narnia* (any in series) **790L – 970L** (hoopla and Overdrive)  
Medina, Meg. *Merci Suarez Changes Gears* **700L** (Overdrive)  
Messner, Kate. *History Smashers Series, ex. Pearl Harbor* **950L – 1000L** (Overdrive)  
Park, Linda Sue. *Prairie Lotus* **730L** (Overdrive)  
Patterson, James. *Becoming Muhammed Ali, a novel* **1010L** (Overdrive)  
Reynolds, Jason. *Ghost* **730L** (Overdrive)  
Ryan, Pam Munoz. *Echo* **680L** (Overdrive)  
Sloan, Holly Goldberg. *Short* **810L** (Overdrive)  
Stoker, Ali. *The Chance to Fly* (hoopla)  
*Who was...? Who is...? What is...?* (any in series) **510L – 920L** (Overdrive)  
Wolk, Lauren. *Wolf Hollow* **800L** (Overdrive)  
Yang, Kelly. *Front Desk* (any in series) **640L**