

**Kaufman Silverberg Library**  
**Grade 2 and 3 Suggested Reading List**  
**2013**

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**Books with Judaic Content**

*All about Yom Kippur*, by Judyth Groner and Madeline Wikler. Brief text discusses the history and customs of Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Forgiveness, the holiest day of the Jewish year. Includes folktales.

*The ArtScroll Children's Haggadah*, by Shmuel Blitz. Full Hebrew text of the Haggadah is accompanied by child-oriented instructions that will guide the child through every stage of the Seder.

*Beautiful Yetta: the Yiddish chicken*, by Daniel Pinkwater. Yetta, the beautiful chicken, breaks free from the truck that is carrying her to market in this multilingual story. Text in English with some Yiddish and Spanish.

*The Castle on Hester Street*, by Linda Heller. Julie's grandmother deflates many of her husband's tall tales about their journey from Russia to America and their life on Hester Street.

*Emanuel and the Hanukkah Rescue*, by Heidi Smith Hyde. Nine-year-old Emanuel stows away aboard a whaling ship until the Hanukkah candles in a window light the way to bring him home.

*Hanukkah Moon*, by Deborah da Costa. Offers an unusual and inviting glimpse of Mexican-flavored Hanukkah festivities as well as celebration of Rosh Hodesh.

*Jodie's Passover Adventure*, by Anna Levine. Amateur archaeologist Jodie invites her cousin Zach on an adventure exploring Hezekiah's Tunnel in Jerusalem when he comes for a visit over Passover.

*Hannah's Way*, by Linda Glasser. After Papa loses his job during the Depression, Hannah's observant family moves to rural Minnesota, where she is the only Jewish child in her class. A story of friendship and community. A Sydney Taylor Award winning book.

*Lipman Pike: America's first home run king*, by Richard Michelson. Tells the story of Jewish baseball player Lipman Pike, one of the first "professional" athletes.

*A Song for my Sister*, by Lesley Simpson. Mira's birthday wish comes true when her baby sister is born and at her simchat bat Mira's song has an unexpected effect.

*The Story of Hanukkah*, by David A. Adler. Tells the story of the courageous Maccabees and the miracle that took place in the Temple in Jerusalem.

*A Sweet Passover*, by Lesléa Newman. Miriam learns the meaning of Passover when her grandfather makes a special matzah dish.

*What makes someone a Jew?* by Lauren Seidman. Using everyday examples that children can relate to, this book helps young Jewish readers understand what it really means to be a Jew. A vibrant and fun way to develop a broader knowledge of Judaism guiding children down their own path of Jewish spiritual discovery.

*Yom Kippur Children's Machzor*, by Noam Zimmerman. Brings to life the difficult concepts and lessons of the Yom Kippur holiday through original clay sculptures. In Hebrew and English.

**Non Fiction**

*The ABCs of the Environment*, by Bobbie Kalman. Highlights various environmental issues and suggests solutions such as e-cycling, the three Rs, alternative power sources, zero-carbon economy, composting, and reducing our energy footprints.

*Angry Birds Playground Animals: An around-the-world habitat adventure*, by Jill Esbaum. Learn about the diverse range of egg-producing animals and their habitats, everything from fish to amphibians to mammals. Includes learning exercises and fun activities.

*The Canadian Shield Alphabet*, by Myrna Irene Guymer. Using the alphabet as a tool for organizing information pertaining to people, places and events unique to Shield country, the author guides young readers through this diverse region.

*Disgusting Food Invaders*, by Ruth Owen. Filled with fascinating facts, this title welcomes young readers to feast their eyes on a host of tiny, uninvited dinner guests.

*Fish with Attitude: the shark book*, by Mark Norman. Provides basic information about different kinds of sharks.

*Morris and Buddy: the story of the first Seeing Eye dog*, by Becky Hall. Morris Frank lost his sight in 1924, when he was only sixteen. One day, Morris's dad read him an article about an American dog trainer living in Switzerland. This is the story of his relationship with Buddy, his own Seeing Eye dog.

## **Fiction**

*Alvin Ho: Allergic to girls, school, and other scary things*, by Lenore Look. 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.

*Blizzard of the Blue Moon: Magic Tree House #36*, by Mary Pope Osborne. The magic tree house carries Jack and Annie to New York City in 1938 on a mission to rescue the last unicorn.

*Crossing Bok Chitto: a Choctaw tale of friendship & freedom*, by Tim Tingle. In the 1800s, a Choctaw girl becomes friends with a slave boy from a plantation across the great river, and when she learns that his family is in trouble, she helps them cross to freedom.

*Dear Whiskers*, by Ann Whitehead Nagda. Jenny is discouraged when her second grade pen pal turns out to be a new student from Saudi Arabia who does not speak English very well, but as she works with her they slowly become friends.

*Jean Laffite: the pirate who saved America*, by Susan Goldman Rubin. A biography of the infamous Sephardic pirate Jean Laffite begins when he was a young boy and longed to be a pirate.

*Justine McKeen, Walk the Talk*, by Sigmund Brouwer. Justine McKeen does not like just how many cars are idling outside the school every day, so she has a plan to fix the problem, but not too many adults like her idea.

*A Kangaroo's Life*, by Ellen Lawrence. Provides information on kangaroos in general by looking at the specific example of red kangaroos.

*Lilly Traps the Bullies*, by Brenda Bellingham. Lilly and Theresa run into bullies at the pool, Spider and Bugsy, who tease Theresa but take an interest in Lilly. Lilly faces tough decisions about being a good friend versus trying to fit in.

*Mandy Sue Day*, by Roberta Karim. Using her senses of taste, hearing, touch, and smell, a blind girl enjoys a special day on the farm.

*Proud as a Peacock, Brave as a Lion*, by Jane Barclay. A gentle and caring grandpa answers his grandson's questions about what it was like to serve in the war.

*Shilling Bear: a story about kindness and sharing*, by Cindy Robin. The story of a poor boy, rich in spirit and family ties, who desperately wants his very own teddy bear. Includes book and audio CD.