



## RECOMMENDED READ-ALOUD TITLES FOR 3rd GRADE STUDENTS

**So You Want to be President? by Judith St. George:** Presidential history is interesting! This great book's witty, anecdotal humor is fun, but the underlying theme reminds kids that the American presidents are a group of individuals, not a row of marble busts. Other books in the series include: **So You Want to be an Explorer?** and **So You Want to be an Inventor?**

**The Stories Julian Tells by Ann Cameron:** Julian is a wishful thinker and quick fibber, which makes for some good stories! His stories aren't always truthful, so he has a tendency to get into trouble. Other titles in the Julian series that are fun to read aloud are: **More Stories Julian Tells, The Stories Huey Tells, Julian, Secret Agent** and many more!

**Time Warp Trio [series] by Jon Scieszka:** This time traveling trio does everything from fighting off the Black Knight in Camelot, practicing magic tricks on Blackbeard and his pirates, and stampeding cattle in the Old West. One thing is for sure: no one's ever bored when the Time Warp Trio's around! Clever puns and zany vocabulary make the **Time Warp Trio** a treat for grown-ups and kids alike.

**The Man Who Walked Between the Towers by Mordecai Gerstein:** This beautifully illustrated book highlights Philippe Petit's tight rope walk between Manhattan's World Trade Center towers in 1974. This captivating book pays tribute to 9/11 while also illustrating how the Towers inspired Philippe, the courageous wire walker, to follow his dream.

**Freckle Juice by Judy Blume:** Andrew Marcus is a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student who wants to have freckles just like his classmate, Nicky Lane, so that his mother doesn't notice that his neck is dirty! He finally has a chance at getting his freckles when another classmate offers to sell him a "secret recipe for freckle juice." You and your student are sure to laugh at Andrew's gross attempts to achieve freckles!

**Charlotte's Web by E.B. White:** A lovely story that still enchants children to this day. E.B. White brings together a colorful cast of unlikely friends, including a pig, a spider, a little girl and a farm full of animals. If your student loves stories about animals, then I would also recommend White's **Stuart Little**.

**A Bad Case of Stripes by David Shannon:** Fun, colorful story about a little girl who changes colors and then some, but no one can figure out why. This is a quick read, but make sure to spend some time discussing the poignant theme - the importance of discovering one's true colors.

**Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid [series] by Megan McDonald:** The pesky little brother of McDonald's popular Judy Moody gets his own series and story. James "Stink" Moody is the shortest kid in his second grade class. He's convinced that he's shrinking and his bossy older sister, Judy, does not help matters any. This is an entertaining story that your student is sure to enjoy!

**Ramona Quimby, Age 8 by Beverly Cleary:** It's not easy being a kid and Ramona Quimby tells you all the reasons why. Brave and fearless Ramona has a lot to worry about -- a copycat classmate, sleeping in the spooky dark, her mom going back to work, a vicious neighborhood dog, and a big sister! Kids love to identify with Ramona. Check out the other books in the Ramona collection: **Ramona and Her Father, Ramona the Pest**, and many more!

**Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Thimmesh:** A unique, behind-the-scenes look at *Apollo 11* landing on the moon. For example, it took 500 designers and seamstresses to create the space suits! An interesting spin on a famous moment in history that emphasizes the importance of teamwork.



# POWER LUNCH TIPS & TITLES: 3rd GRADE EDITION

## Read Aloud Tips

- If reading a chapter book, set the stage before you begin reading. “Do you remember what happened in the story last week?” Ask them to give you a quick re-cap of the events. That will also help you remember and give your student a few moments to settle down.
- Encourage your child to ask questions about complex vocabulary or concepts they don't understand.
- Engage your listener by pointing out illustrations and difficult vocabulary, or asking your child what he/she thinks is going to happen in the next chapter or page.
- Read with expression! Chapters books and longer stories have many more characters and complex plots—use different voices, read with enthusiasm and change your tone.
- If you find that your child is zoning out or not focusing, ask your child if he/she knows anyone who has shared a similar experience as one of the characters. Try to break up the text with questions or conversation.
- Switch it up— variety of genre, authors, and book length will hold their attention longer. Vary the read-aloud menu from light, engaging stories to in-depth, provoking books.
- Do research together to learn more about authors and illustrators. Read other books by favorite authors!
- Don't be afraid to stop reading at a cliffhanger. This encourages your student to look forward to next week's session.
- Adjust your pace to fit the story. During a suspenseful part, slow down, draw out your words, bring your listener to the edge of his / her chair.

## Other Recommended Titles

**The Hundred Dresses** by Eleanor Estes

**Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery**  
by Deborah & James Howe

**Where the Sidewalk Ends** by Shel Silverstein

**My Father's Dragon** by Ruth Stiles Gannet [series]

**Sarah, Plain and Tall** by Patricia MacLachlan

**The Chocolate Touch** by Patrick Skene Catling

**The Borrowers** by Mary Norton [series]

**The Indian in the Cupboard** by Lynne Reid Banks

**Mr. Popper's Penguins**  
by Richard & Florence Atwater

**The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly Stupid Tales** by Jon Scieszka

**The Adventures of Captain Underpants**  
by Dav Pilkey [series]

**James and the Giant Peach** by Roald Dahl

**Shredderman: Secret Identity**  
by Wendelin Van Draanen

**Angelo** by David Macaulay

**Magic School Bus On The Ocean Floor**  
by Joanna Cole [series]

**Tough to Tackle** by Matt Christopher [sports series]

**26 Fairmount Avenue** by Tomie dePaola [series]

**Sideways Stories From Wayside School**  
by Louis Sachar

**Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez**  
by Kathleen Krull

**Ghosthunters and the Incredibly Revolting Ghost** by Cornelia Funke

**Magic Treehouse Series** by Mary Pope Osborne