

Your **ARROW** Reader Now

Grades 4-6

June 2006

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Editors' Pick of the Month

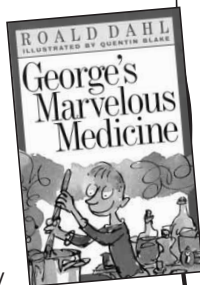
Look for these titles in your Arrow June Book Club flyer

George's Marvelous Medicine by Roald Dahl

Who it's for: Kids who want to laugh out loud with this classic tale

Why we chose it: Every generation should enjoy Dahl's stories, especially this hilarious yarn about a boy trying to turn his cranky granny nice with a special concoction.

Kids weigh in: "I like this as much as the author's other books like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*."



Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J. K. Rowling

Who it's for: Fantasy lovers who have traveled through Harry's first four years at Hogwarts

Why we chose it: This page-turner keeps kids reading over the summer — and after they're done, another adventure awaits in *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

Kids weigh in: "There's more action and surprises in this one."



Stranded in Boringsville by Catherine Bateson

Who it's for: Anyone who's ever complained, "I'm bored!"

Why we chose it: An Australian girl discovers friendship and self-confidence while living in the middle of nowhere.

Kids weigh in: "I like how it mixes in poetry and other characters' writing."



Keep Literacy Skills Sharp this Summer

When school's out, kids often lose the motivation to read. Three months of little or no reading can significantly weaken vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency skills. Keep your child on track with these literacy tips to make reading and writing part of his everyday summer routine.

Bring home material he can't resist. Whether it's another title in his favorite series, hobby magazines, or even comic books, any kind of daily reading is good for his brain. The more pleasurable, the more likely he is to think of reading as natural, so he won't be intimidated by school reading.

Play writing games together. Save the kids' crosswords, anagrams, or cryptograms from the newspaper. Pull them out in those "I'm bored!" moments (rainy days, long car rides, etc.) for a fun stretch of thinking skills and vocabulary.

Pack a traveler's reading kit. Before you go away, give your child books about your destination, a map, and a writing journal so he can keep track of sites he sees. Afterwards, he can add pictures and souvenirs to the journal.

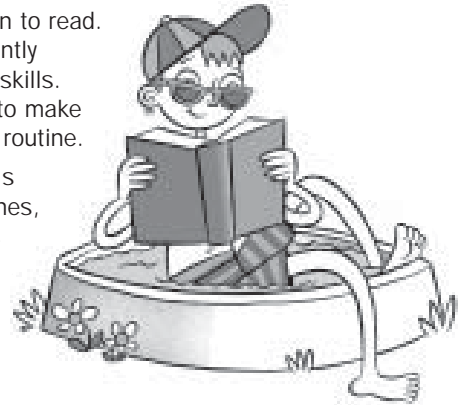
Turn off the TV. Unplug at least one night a week and share other types of entertainment that can boost literacy — playing board games, telling stories, or just reading together.

Cool off with a reading pool. Even older kids will get a kick out of sitting in a small inflatable pool when it's just too hot to do anything. After your child climbs in, place a crate of books nearby so your reader can enjoy a book while he lounges.

Remember, the books might get wet or damaged so don't let library books or hardcover favorites into the pool. Wherever the summer takes you, one of the best ways to encourage your child to read is to be a role model. When he sees you enjoying a book, newspaper, or magazine, it reinforces the idea that reading is fun.

Find more articles, booklists, and activities at:

www.scholastic.com/summerreading



Did You Know

Put math, problem solving, and literacy skills to work! Help your child set up a lemonade stand or start a summer business.

Ask an Expert

While educators often say any reading is good reading, all realize that some titles aren't right for kids. I wouldn't say no to just-for-fun reads like comic books, which may seem unorthodox but encourage a love of reading. But draw the line at books with mature content. The best way to set limits without discouraging interest in reading is to offer alternatives that you know are an even better fit for your child. Focus on the type of stories she loves by asking your librarian to recommend age-appropriate books that suit her interests. You can also find recommendations on our booklists at www.scholastic.com/read. If you're unsure about a title, read it through yourself. If you see your child has already started a book that seems objectionable, tell her you've wanted to read it too. That might turn her off right away, or it will give you a chance to discuss the content and guide her through the mature themes.

Meet Our Expert: Francie Alexander, a former teacher, has worked with the U.S. Department of Education. She is currently Chief Academic Officer at Scholastic.

Find more expert advice for your reader at www.scholastic.com/read.

What should I do if my child wants to read inappropriate books?

 SCHOLASTIC

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15 Weeks of Fun in the Sun and Cool Reading Ideas

Keep your child's brain from melting with our Memorial Day to Labor Day activity guide.

May 28-June 3

Catch the summer reading buzz with cool activities and must-read book picks at www.scholastic.com/summerreading

June 4-June 10

Plant a garden. For reference checkout guides like *Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots* by Sharon Lovejoy.

June 11-June 17

Celebrate Flag Day with *The American Flag* by Debra Hess

June 18-June 24

Make Dad a super-sized poster card for Fathers Day with a list of things you love about him.

June 25-July 1

Celebrate Superman's Birthday on June 30. Make up a story about his latest daring adventures.

July 2-July 8

Enjoy a week-long Independence Day Celebration with great reads. See: www.scholastic.com/read/bl_america.htm

July 9-July 15

Read a baseball book before this week's All-Star Game. Find recommended titles at: www.scholastic.com/read/gr3_5/bl_baseball.htm

July 16-July 22

Hey campers! Time to send letters to friends, your folks, and your grandparents.

July 23-July 29

Relive the magic of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* with the new paperback edition!

July 30-August 5

Go fly a kite! First, learn to build one. Check the library for easy-to-follow instruction guides.

August 6-August 12

Throw a luau to celebrate the day Hawaii became part of the USA - August 12, 1898!

August 13-August 19

What's the hottest day of the week? Fry Day! Find more laughs for Joke Day this week in your favorite joke book.

August 20-August 26

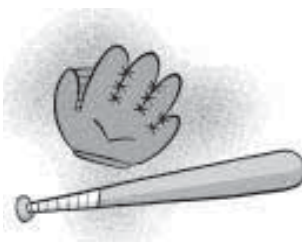
Take a walk through the park with a nature guide, and try to identify the creatures you see.

August 27-September 2

Kick off Library Sign-Up Month this September by getting your own card and checking out new books for fall!

September 3-September 9

Keep the summer fun alive with a journal. Write down everything you did and read this vacation. Add photos and keepsakes.



Find the Perfect Book for Your Child!

If your child's school uses Guided Reading Levels (GRL) or a Grade Level Equivalency (RL), use this chart to find perfect on-level books from your Arrow June Book Club flyer.

Title	RL	GRL
Are You There God? It's Me Margaret	4.7	T
Cronus Chronicles #1: Shadow Thieves	5.4	W
The Dog Who Caught the Crook and other Incredible Dog Tales	4.8	S
Double Fudge	4.5	Q
Edge Chronicles #3: Midnight Over Sanctaphrax	4.3	R
George's Marvelous Medicine	5.5	P
Gooseberry Park	5.3	P
Guardians of Ga'Hoole #9: The First Collier	4.5	R
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix	5.9	W
Heat	5.5	V
The Lord of the Rings III: Return of the King	7.9	Z
Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism	5.6	T
Operation Red Jericho	6.8	X
The Outsiders	5.1	Z
Return of the Dragon	6.7	S
Secret Knowledge of Grownups	6.3	T
Skylark	3.3	R
Stranded in Boringsville	4.4	R
Summer of the Swans	5.2	U
Tail of Emily Windsnap	5.2	S
White Fang	5.5	Y

Find out more about leveled reading at www.scholastic.com/yourreader.

About Your Arrow Reader Now

Your Arrow Reader Now is produced by the editorial staff at Scholastic.com. For information on how to foster reading at home, age-appropriate booklists, and more, visit *All About Reading*. Go to: www.scholastic.com/read.