

Welcome to Second Grade Summer Reading!

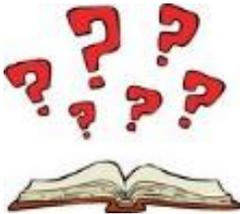
Mrs. Borda



This summer we are encouraging rising second-graders to read a fun and engaging mystery at their reading level. **There is no written assignment for rising second-graders.** As many children enjoy keeping a list of books read, an optional reading log is provided as is the link to Montgomery County Public Libraries Read and Learn 2018 program.

Why start with a mystery? They often get off to a fast start with an event that has just happened and a setting where you quickly meet interesting characters. As you read, you become a detective -- working to find clues, recognize red herrings (false clues), and identify the witnesses and suspects. **You sharpen your reading and your thinking skills while reading mysteries!** Many mysteries are written as a series, encouraging students to continue reading for more stories featuring a favorite character.

Below, we offer a list of questions to help foster book discussions with your child, questions that adapt easily to all genres of fictional stories.



A fun mystery story offers wonderful opportunities to talk about pretend characters who face a problem and have to solve it. Detectives (aka Readers and Listeners) have to ask questions as they explore the crime scene (read/listen to the story). Here are some questions to share with your child:



These questions help identify the plot:

- Who is the main character?
- Where does the story take place? When does the story happen?
- What is the problem?
- How does the character solve the problem?



These questions support sequencing the plot:

- What happened first?
- What happened next? What happened in the middle?
- What happened at the end?



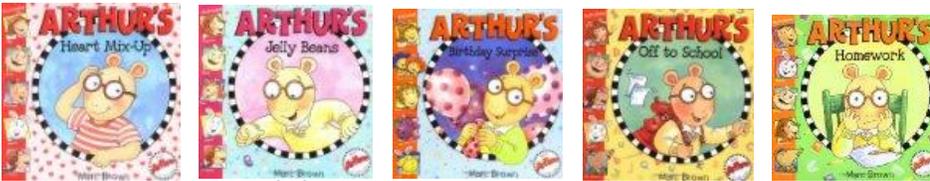
Mysteries also open up the possibilities of wondering about the story:

- What will happen next?
- How would you solve the problem?
- How else could the problem have been solved?
- Who would you be in the story?



Mystery Series Suggestions:

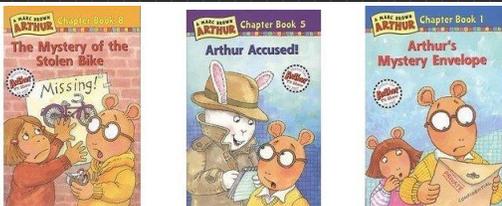
Below are some suggested mystery series at different reading levels to help you get started! You can find most of these suggestions at your local library, bookstore, on online vendor.



Arthur 8x8 Series (Level J) Author and Illustrator: *Marc Brown*
Number of Books in Series: 13 Age Group: 2 - 6 years

Book 1 Summary: FIND ARTHUR'S HEART

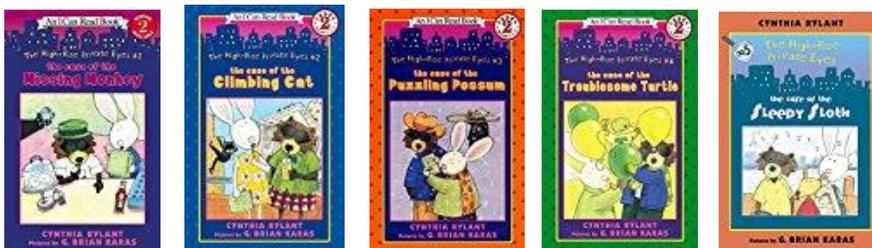
Arthur has misplaced his science project. You can help him find it in his room. Can you also answer these questions and find these things from the story? What does the Brain want to launch? What is Francine riding? What is Buster using to solve a mystery? What sport is Binky playing? Also, how many items can you find that start with the letter "B"? How about "P"? Have fun! (Look for the answers on the inside back cover.)



Marc Brown Arthur Chapter Books (Level M) Author and Illustrator: *Marc Brown*
Number of Books in Series: 32 (Not all are mysteries.) Age Group: 7-9 years

Book 1 Summary: THE MYSTERY OF THE STOLEN BIKE

When Arthur and his friends go bike riding, Francine is embarrassed by her Father's hand-me-down bicycle. It's a real clunker. So when Francine reports that the bike is stolen, her friends rally to find the thief. Will Arthur and his friends discover the true fate of Francine's bike?



The High-Rise Private Eyes (Level J/K) Author: *Cynthia Rylant* Illustrator: *G. Brian Karas*
Number of Books in Series: 8 Age Group: 6 - 9 years

Book 1 Summary: THE CASE OF THE MISSING MONKEY

When a glass monkey is stolen, High-Rise Private Eyes Bunny Brown and Jack Jones are on the job! But will this be one case that's too tough to crack?



Bones Mysteries Series (Level J) Author: [David A. Adler](#) Illustrator: [Barbara Johansen Newman](#)
 Number of Books in Series: 10 so far Age Group: 5 - 8 years

Book 1 Summary: BONES AND THE BIG YELLOW MYSTERY

Detective Jeffrey Bones begins gathering clues when Mr. Green asks for his help finding the school bus he lost while shopping at the mall.



Nate the Great (Level J/K) Authors: Sharmat Illustrators: Marc Simont, Martha Weston, Jody Wheeler
 Number of Books in Series: 29 Age Group: 6 - 9 years

Book 1 Summary: NATE THE GREAT

Join the world's greatest detective, Nate the Great, as he solves the mystery of the lost picture! Perfect for beginning readers, this long-running chapter book series will encourage children to problem-solve with Nate, using logical thinking to solve mysteries!



Chime Travelers Series (Not leveled, Grades 2-5) Author: [Lisa M. Hendey](#) Illustrator: [Jen Bower](#)
<https://chimetravelerkids.com/> A Catholic faith-filled mystery/adventure series, each featuring a Saint.
 Check out the author's webpage for information about the books and fun story-related activities.

Book 1 Summary: THE SECRET OF THE SHAMROCK

When Patrick has to work on his church's cleaning team on a Saturday, he thinks his weekend fun is ruined. But when the old church bells start chiming, Patrick and his pet frog, Francis, are suddenly taken back through time to ancient Ireland. Will the strange shepherd he meets be able to help him get home, or will Patrick be stuck taking care of sheep in the rain and mud forever? Find out in *The Secret of the Shamrock*.

To find more exciting books on your child's reading level, visit the following link
<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard/> **and follow the steps below.**
 Click on Reading Level System. / Click on Guided Reading Level. / Click on your child's reading level.

Visit Montgomery County Public Libraries in person and on line. Explore the Kids Page:
<https://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/kids/books>

Explore these recommendations by experts for second-graders:
<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/book-lists/favorite-books-for-second-graders/>



RISING SECOND GRADE READING LOG

(NOT REQUIRED)

Read like a detective and solve the mystery of summer reading.



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