BILLY'S BOOKS
A MARLINS SUMMER READING LIST
READING LIST

AGES 4-7
1. Take Me Out to the Ball Game by Jack Norworth
2. We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson
4. The William Hoy Story by Nancy Churnin
5. Mighty Jackie: The Strike-Out Queen by Marissa Moss
6. Animals in the Ocean by Moira Butterfield
7. Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean’s Most Fearless Scientist by Jess Keating
9. A Big Day for Baseball (Magic Treehouse #29) by Mary Pope Osborne

AGES 8-11
1. The Story of the Miami Marlins by Jim Whiting
2. Cam Jansen: The Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball by David A. Adler
3. Baseball by Ray Broekel
4. Oceans and Seas by Catherine Chambers
5. No Cream Puffs by Karen Day
6. Baseball Pals by Matt Christopher
7. Big Nate: Thunka, Thunka, Thunka by Lincoln Pierce
8. The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend by Sharon Robinson
9. The Dreamer by Pam Muñoz Ryan
READING LIST

AGES 12-14

1. Play Ball Like the Hall of Famers by Steven Krasner
2. Heart of a Champion by Carl Deuker
3. The Pitcher by William Hazelgrove
4. Daughter of the Deep by Rick Riordan
5. Joey Pigza Loses Control by Jack Gantos
6. A High Five for Glenn Burke by Phil Bildner
7. What You Always Wanted: An If Only Novel by Kristin Rae
8. The Journal of Biddy Owens Walter by Dean Myers
9. Mexican Whiteboy by Matt de la Peña
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Take Me Out to the Ball Game
Jack Norworth

In this rendering of the beloved song Take Me Out to the Ballgame, Jim Burke captures an exciting era of America’s favorite pastime - as well as the incredible story of one controversial contest that went down in the history books.

We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball
Kadir Nelson

This book tells the incredible story of baseball's unsung heroes.
Ballpark: The Story of America's Baseball Fields
Lynn Curlee

From the first ballpark converted from an ice rink in 1862 to the space-aged Houston Astrodome to the league's newest state-of-the-art stadiums, this book tells the history of baseball through its ballparks.

The William Hoy Story
Nancy Churnin

This picture book biography demonstrates how an extraordinary deaf player from the early days of baseball made a lasting contribution to the game. The ambitions of William Hoy (1862–1961) were clear from the start. The boy thought of little other than baseball and practiced tirelessly in hopes of playing on a team. Achieving his goal brought challenges that he didn’t expect, but giving up was not an option. Hoy realized that better communication was needed and knew just the way to do it.
In 1931, seventeen-year-old Jackie Mitchell pitches against Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig in an exhibition game, becoming the first professional female pitcher in baseball history.

Provides an introduction to some of the different animals that live in the world’s oceans, including the jellyfish, whale, manta ray, shark, starfish, and sea cucumbers.
**Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean’s Most Fearless Scientist**  
Jess Keating

This is the story of a woman who dared to dive, defy, discover, and inspire. This is the story of Shark Lady. One of the best science picture books for children, Shark Lady is a must for both teachers and parents alike!

**Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau**  
Jennifer Berne

This illustrated biography of Jacques Cousteau discusses how his youthful fascination with filming and underwater exploration translated into his life's work and tells of his later devotion to saving the ocean environment.

**A Big Day for Baseball (Magic Treehouse #29)**  
Mary Pope Osborne

Jack and Annie use the magic treehouse to travel back in time to 1947 Brooklyn, New York, where they pretend to be batboys at Jackie Robinson's first game with the Brooklyn Dodgers, against the Boston Braves.
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The Story of the Miami Marlins
Jim Whiting

Encompassing the extraordinary history of Major League Baseball’s Miami Marlins, this photo-laden narrative underscores significant players, team accomplishments, and noteworthy moments that will stand out in young sports fans’ minds.

Cam Jansen: The Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball
David A. Adler

Cam Jansen has the perfect chance to show off her amazing mental camera at the community hobby show. When a prized baseball is stolen, Cam’s memory is put to the test.
Baseball
Ray Broekel

Describes briefly all aspects of baseball including the object of the game, the field, positions, plays, teams, leagues, players and games.

Oceans and Seas
Catherine Chambers

How do fish survive in the deepest parts of the ocean? What is a tsunami? Why are our oceans and seas getting warmer? 'Mapping Earthforms' looks at the physical features that shape our landscape.
In 1980, when twelve-year old Madison, who loves to play baseball, decides to play in her town’s baseball league, she never envisions the uproar it causes when she becomes the first girl to join.

Jimmie learns an important lesson about the misuse of power when he is elected captain of his baseball team and makes decisions that are not in the team’s best interests.
Big Nate: Thunka, Thunka, Thunka
Lincoln Pierce

Struggling with a lame Little League team name, a bet he has with know-it-all Gina, and Spitsy's growing affection for a cat, Nate Wright learns to manage his stress by drumming an empty soda bottle on his head.

The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend
Sharon Robinson

Based on the true story of a boy in Brooklyn who became neighbors and friends with his hero, Jackie Robinson.

The Dreamer
Pam Muñoz Ryan

This book is a fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a painfully shy child ridiculed by his overbearing father, but who became one of the most widely read poets in the world.
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Play Ball Like the Hall of Famers
Steven Krasner

This book gives advice on how to play baseball like the pros from twenty big league stars and includes stories from their childhoods and careers, tips on making difficult plays, and player superstitions.

Heart of a Champion
Carl Deuker

Jimmy Winter is a born star on the baseball field, and Seth Barnam can only dream of being as talented. Still, the two baseball fanatics have the kind of friendship that should last forever. But when Seth experiences an unthinkable loss, he's forced to find his own personal strength, on and off the field.
Ricky’s mom tries to help him practice, but Ricky won’t make the high-school team unless his neighbor, a washed-up 1978 World Series pitcher, agrees to coach him.

This book examines some of the unique life forms that have been found by scientists exploring the oceans and looks at the innovative technologies used to make the discoveries.
Joey Pigza Loses Control
Jack Gantos

Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known and tries to help the baseball team he coaches win the championship.

A heartfelt and relatable novel from Phil Bildner, weaving the real history of Los Angeles Dodger and Oakland Athletic Glenn Burke--the first professional baseball player to come out as gay--into the story of a middle-school kid learning to be himself.

A High Five for Glenn Burke
Phil Bildner
What You Always Wanted: An If Only Novel
Kristin Rae

Maddie dreams of the Hollywood heartthrob who will sweep her off her feet, until she meets a boy who’s perfect in every way except for his love of baseball.

The Journal of Biddy Owens
Walter Dean Myers

This is Biddy Owens’s 1948 journal about working for the Birmingham Black Barons, a Negro League baseball team.

Mexican Whiteboy
Matt de la Peña

Sixteen-year-old Danny searches for his identity amidst the confusion of being half-Mexican and half-white while spending a summer with his cousin and new friends on the baseball fields and back alleys of San Diego County, California.