

Summer Reading 2010

Sharing common literature builds community and sparks discussion long after the books are tucked away. This year's theme invites us to explore new ways of thinking as well as thinking in unexpected ways.

It was difficult to limit adult reading to only two books, so I didn't. We plan on building several parent workshops on both Diane Levin's work, *So Sexy So Soon*, and Daniel Pink's exploration of education in *A Whole New Mind*. If you have wondered about the relevance of a Montessori education, please be sure to read Daniel Pink. He introduces a whole new way of thinking about education.

The adult fiction selections include Michael Pollan's *Botany of Desire*, which isn't really fiction, but the work is so beautifully written and introduces a different slant on the world that I have included it on this list.

The Principles of Uncertainty was recommended to me by a former student who thought I would really enjoy it, which I did, so I pass it on to you. Take the plunge into a truly new way of organizing the world.

Students in each age group must read the two **assigned** books and be prepared to discuss them in September. Classroom teachers will have additional suggestions for reading. All reading lists are posted on our website (www.meadowmontessori.org). We want children (and adults) to continue to read all summer long.

The books are available here at school, as well as the Book Nook and the Monroe County Library. In addition, many of these (including the adult selections) are available in audio format (audible.com).

As always, we wish you a summer of happy reading!

EARLY CHILDHOOD

- Fiction** Max Lucado, *You Are Special*
Patty Lovell, *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon*
- Non-fiction** Doreen Rappaport, *Martin's Big Words*

JUNIOR (Lower Elementary)

- Fiction** Alexander McCall Smith, *The Perfect Hamburger*
- Non-fiction** Lynn Elliot, *Food and Feasts in the Middle Ages*

INTERMEDIATE (Upper Elementary)

- Fiction** Cynthia Kadohata, *Kira-Kira*
- Non-fiction** Gordon Parks, *Gordon Parks: No Excuses*

SENIOR (Middle School)

- Fiction** Karen Cushman, *Catherine Called Birdy*
- Non-fiction** Eric Schlosser, *Chew on This*

HIGH SCHOOL

- Fiction** Tracy Chevalie, *Girl With a Pearl Earring*
- Non-fiction** Michael Pollan, *The Botany of Desire*

ADULT

- Fiction** Michael Pollan, *The Botany of Desire*
Maira Kalman, *The Principles of Uncertainty*
- Non-fiction** Diane Levin, *So Sexy So Soon*
Daniel Pink, *A Whole New Mind*