# Newmark K-8 2023 Summer Reading Program Recommended Reading Books By Visiting Author, Wendy Mass

## Pre-order graphic novel, LO & BEHOLD, out May 2

When you're named after a 250-year-old tortoise, you grow up believing life is full of possibilities and wonder. But ever since Addie's family got turned upside down, those things have been harder for her to see. The last thing Addie wants to do is make a new friend, but when her dad's summer job takes them across the country, she meets Mateo and finds herself caught up in an exciting project. With the help of a virtual reality headset, she's suddenly scaling castle walls, dodging angry kittens, and seeing the world in whole new ways. Plus, she has an idea that could be bigger than anything she's imagined before, but can she right some wrongs first . . . or is it too late?



#### BOB

When nearly 11-year old Olivia returns to visit her grandmother in Australia, she remembers she left something REALLY important in the closet five years earlier. Something small and green. Something miraculous, magical, and wearing a fake chicken suit. *Bob.* Together they embark on a journey to uncover the truth about where he came from. (hint...it's pretty cool)



## JEREMY FINK AND THE MEANING OF LIFE

Twelve-year-old Jeremy receives a wooden box in the mail with the words, "The Meaning of Life—for Jeremy Fink to open on his 13th birthday." The box has four locks, requiring four keys. But the keys are missing. He and his best friend Lizzy (who has a little habit of stealing things) set off on a quest through the streets of Manhattan to find the keys before time runs out.

#### A MANGO-SHAPED SPACE

Thirteen-year-old Mia Winchell appears to be the most normal kid in her family. Her younger brother Zack keeps a chart of all the McDonald's hamburgers he's eaten in his lifetime. Her older sister Beth dyes her hair a different color every week and might be a witch. But Mia knows she is far from ordinary. She is keeping something from everyone who knows her: the fact that sounds, numbers, and letters have color for her. How will she handle being so different from everybody else? (learn about the colorful condition of Synesthesia!)





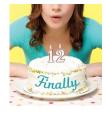
## **EVERY SOUL A STAR**

ALLY likes the simple things in life--labyrinths, stargazing, and comet hunting. Her home, the Moon Shadow Campground, is a part of who she is. BREE is popular, gorgeous (everybody says so), and a future homecoming queen for sure. She wears her beauty like a suit of armor. But what is she trying to hide? JACK, overweight and awkward, is used to spending a lot of time alone. But when opportunity knocks, he finds himself in situations he never would have imagined. When the three of them meet during a total eclipse of the sun, their lives change forever.

## 11 BIRTHDAYS (beginning of the 5-book Willow Falls series)

Amanda's 11th birthday should have been a happy occasion. Instead she's dressed in an itchy costume her mother picked out for her Hollywood-themed party that almost no one comes to. Meanwhile, across town, her ex-best friend Leo is celebrating their joint birthday with a huge bash including a hypnotist, a football star, a giant iguana, and a rock band. Amanda can't wait for the day AFTER her birthday so she can stop thinking about the fight that led to her and Leo having separate parties for the first time in their lives. There's just one problem. The next day is her birthday all over again. Amanda must figure out how to get un-stuck, in more ways than one.





## **FINALLY**

Book 2 in the Willow Falls series. Rory Swenson has been waiting her whole life to turn twelve. And she's got a list to prove it. But as she makes her way through the list, things don't go quite as planned! Fun, funny, and full of surprises, this is a story about wanting to finally grow up, even when the universe seems to be telling you to wait.

## 13 GIFTS

Book 3 in the Willow Falls series. When Tara tries to steal the school mascot in order to make friends with the popular crowd and gets caught, she gets sent to spend the summer with her aunt, uncle, and strange cousin Emily in Willow Falls. Things start off weird and only get stranger from there as she has to find mysterious objects hidden around town and unravels secrets about her own family she never would have guessed.





## THE LAST PRESENT

Book 4 in the Willow Falls series. Amanda and Leo have a history with birthdays. Now their friend's little sister, Grace, has fallen into a strange frozen state on her birthday, and Amanda and Leo must travel back in time in order to heal her. As they journey back to each of Grace's birthdays, they uncover a lot more than they ever expected, and set a powerful force into motion.



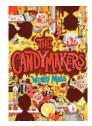
## GRACEFUL (last in the 5-book Willow Falls series)

Last book in the Willow Falls series! Angelina D'Angelo has left town to see the world. It's now Grace's turn to use her magic to protect the people of Willow Falls, and she is up to the challenge. This is her destiny, after all. But destiny is a funny thing--it doesn't always behave the way you'd expect it to.

## PI IN THE SKY

Joss comes from a family of overachievers, and is happy to let his older brothers shine. But when Earth suddenly disappears, Joss is tasked with the not-so-simple job of bringing it back. With the help of an outspoken girl named Annika, Joss embarks on the adventure of a lifetime and learns that the universe is an even stranger place than he'd imagined. Funny science fiction!





#### THE CANDYMAKERS

Four children have been chosen to compete in a national competition at the Life is Sweet candy factory to create the best new candy. Who will invent a candy more delicious than the Oozing Crunchorama or the Neon Yellow Lightning Chew? Logan, the Candymaker's son, who can detect the color of chocolate by touch alone? Miles, the boy who is allergic to merry-go-rounds and the color pink? Daisy, the cheerful girl who can lift a fifty-pound lump of taffy like it's a feather? Or Philip, the suit-and-tie wearing boy who's always scribbling in a secret notebook? This story, told from each contestant's perspective, is a candy-coated mystery full of mouthwatering surprises!



## THE CANDYMAKERS AND THE GREAT CHOCOLATE CHASE

When the owner of Life is Sweet announces that the young candymakers will be going on tour to introduce the winning candy, the four friends see this as an opportunity. But with a fifty-year-old secret revealed and stakes higher for each of them than they ever imagined, they will have to trust one another—and themselves—in order to face what lies ahead. In this action-packed sequel to the bestselling novel *The Candymakers*, prepare to embark on a journey full of hidden treasures, secret worlds, and lots of candy

## TWICE UPON A TIME series: RAPUNZEL, SLEEPING BEAUTY, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, ROBIN HOOD



Journey back to the days when fairy tales were true, and remember, there are two sides to every story...this funny series alternates viewpoints between the prince and the princess of your favorite tales to let you know what REALLY went on. It won't be what you expect!

## Two series for K and up:

## SPACE TAXI series: Books 1-6 in order from left to right













Archie Morningstar is 8 years, 8 months and 8 days old when he learns that his dad isn't a regular taxi driver. He's actually a SPACE taxi driver whose job is to shuttle aliens from planet to planet! Archie discovers he has the ability to

read the space map that guides his dad's taxi through space. He can't imagine anything more exciting—until he meets a very special talking cat and helps save the universe! Each book takes them on new adventures filled with fascinating planets and aliens, and teaches the reader fun science facts along the way. You don't have to start with Book One: Archie Takes Flight, but it's helpful.:0)

## TIME JUMPERS series: Books 1-4 in order from left to right



9 ½ year old Chase and his sister Ava find a mysterious old suitcase filled with odd objects. As soon as they touch one, they jump through time! Now they'll have to complete a dangerous mission or else risk getting stuck in time forever where there are no good snacks!

This series is part of Scholastic's early chapter book line, Branches, aimed at newly independent readers. With easy-to-read text, high-interest content, fast-paced plots, and illustrations on every page, these books will boost reading confidence and stamina. Branches books help readers grow!

## The two YOUNG ADULT titles below are intended for 7th Grade and up:



## **LEAP DAY**

Sixteen-year-old Josie Taylor was born on Leap Day, February 29, and today is her "fourth" birthday! Now it's the reader who gets to find out what it's like being born on Leap Day, by "leaping" into the minds and viewpoints of Josie and everyone around her, changing your assumptions of people forever.



## **HEAVEN LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE MALL**

16-year-old Tessa is a spunky heroine who hasn't always made the right choices. By reliving her life according to the purchases she's made at the mall, she just might discover what makes life worth living.

## Suggestions by Grade Level:

## Grades K-1:

Space Taxi series (6 books)
Time Jumpers series (4 books)

#### Grade 2:

Space Taxi series, Time Jumpers series, Bob

## Grade 3:

## Newmark K-8 2023 Summer Read Book List

Lo and Behold Space Taxi series, Time Jumpers series, Bob,

The Candymakers

The Candymakers and the Great Chocolate Chase

Twice Upon a Time series: (4 books: Rapunzel; Sleeping Beauty; Beauty & the Beast; Robin Hood)

## Grade 4:

Lo and Behold Space Taxi series, Time Jumpers series, Bob, The Candymakers, The Candymakers and the Great Chocolate Chase, Twice Upon a Time series,

Willow Falls series (5 books: 11 Birthdays, Finally, 13 Gifts, The Last Present, Graceful)

## **Grades 5 & 6**:

Lo and Behold
Bob,
The Candymakers,
The Candymakers and the Great Chocolate Chase,
Twice Upon a Time series,
Willow Falls series,
A Mango-Shaped Space,
Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life,
Every Soul a Star,
Pi in the Sky

## Grade 7 and up:

Any from the 5&6th, and also: Leap Day Heaven looks a lot like the Mall