

Here are some new ideas and old ideas of things to do this summer.

Things to Read

First, be sure to stay in touch with the **Erving Public Library** for news about taking out books, DVDs, music CDs and other information. Click [here](#) for more info.

[MCBA: Massachusetts Children's Book Award list of books for 2020-2021](#)

For all students who will be in 4th, 5th or 6th grade next year, these books will be available at our school library and the public library!

A Webcomic: [Sheldon](#) by Dave Kellett for Gr 4 & Up—Goofy humor in this gag-a-day comic with a loose cast of characters: Sheldon, a 10-year-old billionaire, his friends Emily and Dante, his grandfather, a talking duck, a dog, and a lizard.

Take a virtual trip to the **Eric Carle Museum** to see an exhibit of **[“Art in Place”](#)** made by some of our favorite picture book illustrators, curated by Mo Willems.

[We Are Kid Lit Collective](#) This blog has read-aloud picture books and a reading list that celebrates diversity in children's literature, from a group of educators and librarians who create and share stories of Indigenous and People of Color (IPOC).

Things to Listen To & Watch

Podcasts

[Kids Listen Activity Podcast](#), best for grades 1-3

Lots of topics to listen to and learn about with activities to go along.

[Brains On!](#) lots of interesting questions from science

[SmashBoomBest](#): Mash-up of two topics each week from “Brains On!” that asks you to decide on a burning question.

[Flyest Fables](#)

This original fable focuses on a magical book that takes readers to a world where they find the strength to overcome any obstacle.

[The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel](#)

Listen as Mars Patel and his pals JP, Toothpick, and Caddie set out on an adventure in search of two missing friends. Mysterious tech billionaire Oliver Pruitt seems to know all about their quest, because as he likes to say, “To the stars!”

[Fierce Girls](#)

Stories of famous females from Australia, like Bindi Irwin--but interesting for kids from anywhere in the world!

Puppets

[Wonderspark Puppets](#)--Streaming a free puppet show on Friday mornings at 11 am and puppet craft every weekday afternoon at 4 pm plus Saturday morning at 10 am.

Films from the Museum of Modern Art (also known as MoMA) in New York City.
These films all appear on YouTube, so let the grown-ups at home get you started.

These first two films show some unexpected and fantastical worlds:

[The Happy Duckling](#). 9 minutes 2008. Great Britain. Directed by Gili Dolev

In a pop-up book world, a boy finds himself chased by a duck. This unlikely pair of friends is about to discover that sometimes you have to be cruel in order to be kind.

[Shipwrecked](#). 10 minutes 2006. Canada. Directed by Devon Bolton

A lonely 10-year-old boy discovers a miniature shipwreck on a beach and sees dozens of tiny footprints leading away from the vessel. He follows the prints, uncovering and examining tiny clues left behind by the crew, and he tries to piece together a story.

These next two films are about “sticky situations” where the characters have a big problem to work out:

[The Moustache](#). 4 minutes 2015. Finland. Directed by Anni Oja

This town is not big enough for the two of them...or their mustaches. No dialogue

[Dinner for Two](#). 7 minutes 1997. Canada. Directed by Janet Perlman

Peace in the rainforest is disrupted when two chameleons get “stuck” in conflict. Luckily for the lizards, a frog sees the whole thing and turns into exactly what they need: a helper.

These three films show kids using their imaginations in different ways:

[Jack and Benny’s Flying Machine](#) 8 minutes.2012. Great Britain. Directed by Krysten Resnick. On a special morning, Jack decides that today will be the day he and his teddy Benny will fly.

[Caine’s Arcade](#). 9 minutes 2012. USA. Directed by Nirvan Mullick

Meet 9-year old Caine Monroy from East LA, who spent his entire summer vacation constructing a cardboard arcade at his dad’s auto parts store.

[The Music Box](#). 2.5 minutes 2010. USA. Directed by Jennifer Oxley and Nicholas Oxley In a New York City apartment, a little girl tries to open an antique wooden box. Unfortunately the box is stuck ... but the little girl has an idea.

Things to Do

From the “**Creativity Lab**” at MoMA in New York City:

[Interesting art projects to try at home from MOMA](#)

Finally, write Ms. Urban a letter or note and tell me about anything you’d like:

for instance: a book you read,

a fun adventure

something interesting or amazing in your backyard

or make up your own story about the Library Lion or Tiger

You can [email me](#) or send it to the school: Ms. Urban

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