

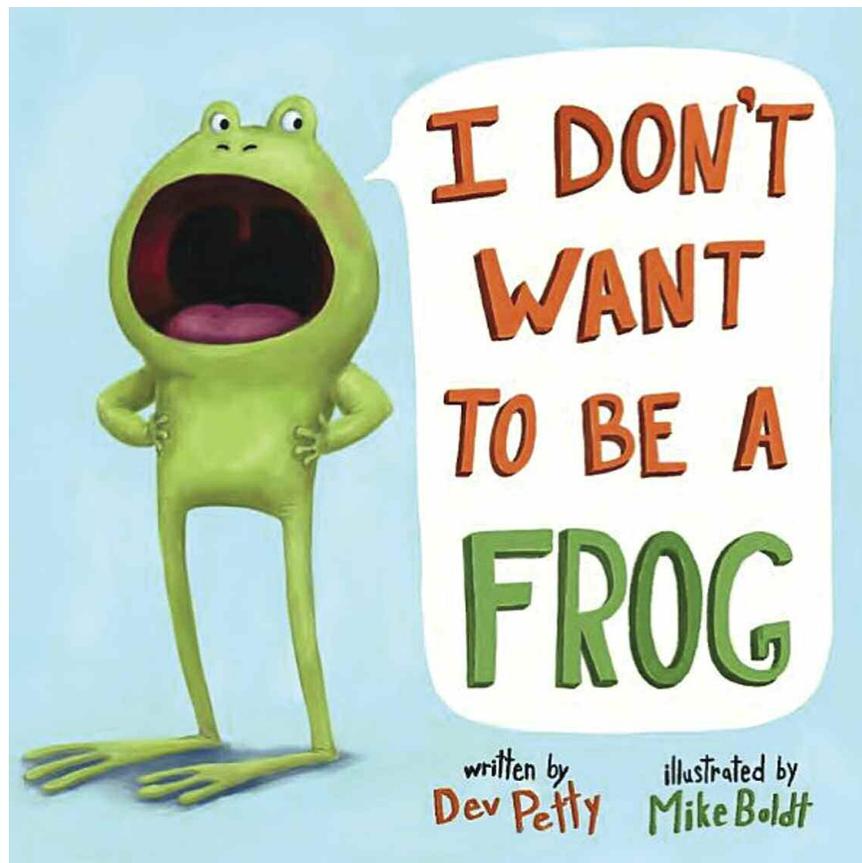
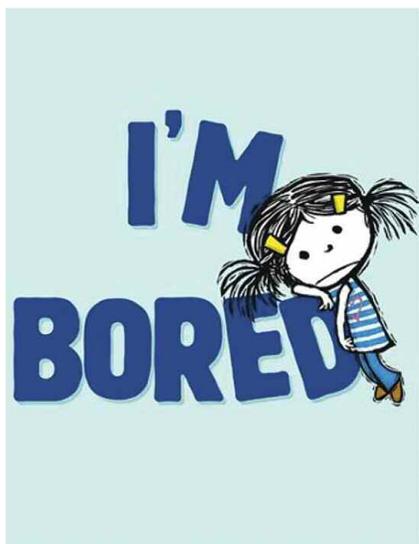
BY LAURA RAPHAEL, MA, MLIS, CHILDREN'S SERVICES COORDINATOR, TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

summertime and the reading is easy

In the delightfully irreverent picture book *I'm Bored* by Michael Ian Black, a bored young girl encounters an even-more-bored potato and must prove to it that kids are interesting. She dances, she pretends to be a lion-tamer, she conquers a sofa-mountain, and more.

(The potato is not impressed, declaring every new act "Boring" and even "Snoring.")

"I'm bored" is as common a child's summer experience as ice cream and swimming pools. When I read *I'm Bored* to children, usually at the beginning or right before summer, we talk about how to get un-bored during the summer months. Answers range from building a pillow fort (always fun) to drawing on sidewalks with chalk (ditto) to holding Olympic games in the back



yard (absolutely) to pretending to be a dragon (a million times yes).

Inevitably, at least one child will remember that we just read a really funny and entertaining book, and that **READING** is a pretty good way to not be bored, too. That's a great introduction to the library's Summer Reading Program (www.tulsalibrary.org/summer), which is still ongoing at all Tulsa City-County Library loca-

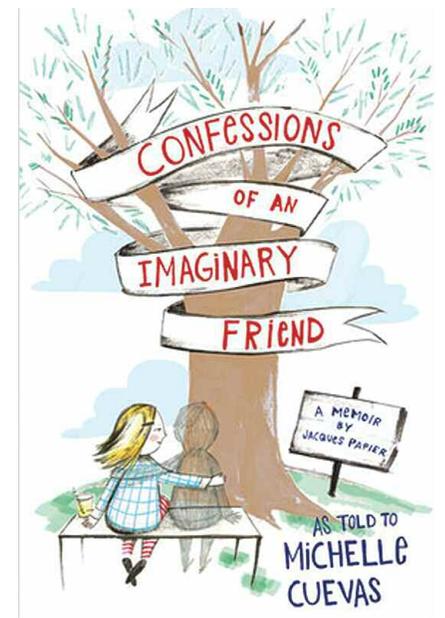
tions and lasts until August 6.

Here are just a few of my favorite titles and areas of inquiry to make sure your special potato stops snoring this summer...

To make your child (and maybe yourself) snort with laughter:

I Don't Want to be a Frog by Dev Petty

It's not easy being a frog... except when it is! In a surprising



twist to this energetic picture book, a frog learns why cute and cuddly is not always the best thing to be.

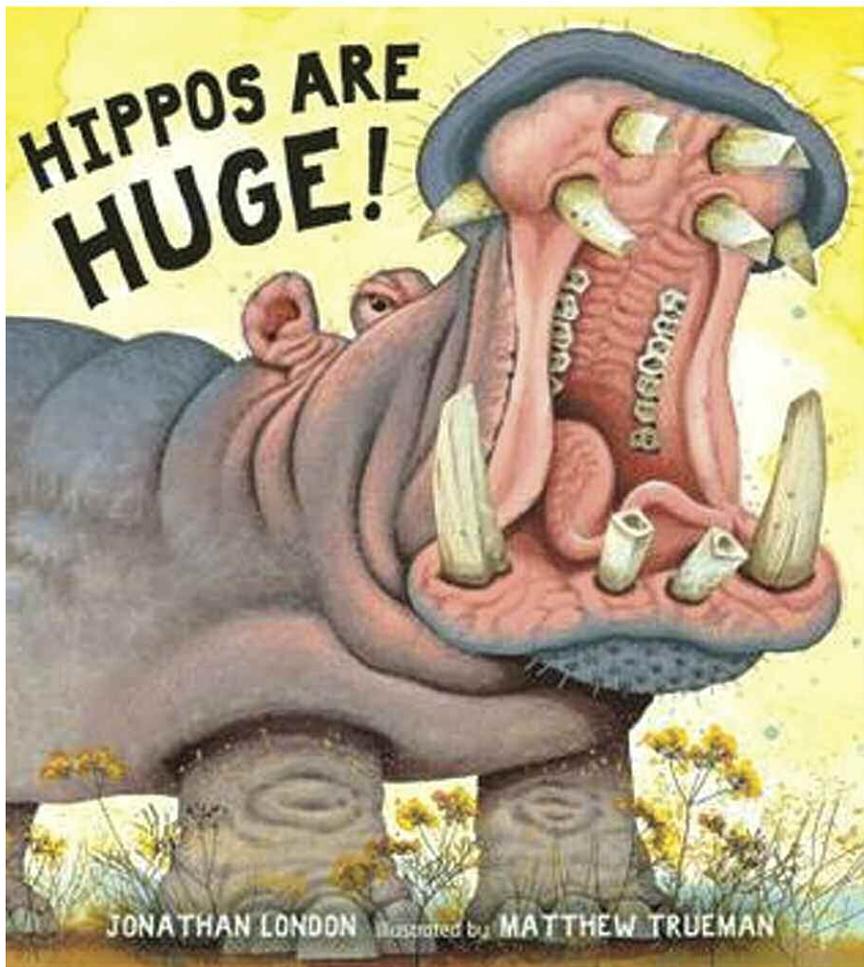
The Book With No Pictures by B.J. Novak

Kids know that this is the book that forces adults to make funny noises! But you'll have the last laugh: while your children are giggling at words like "Blaggity-blaggity," they are also learning about print conventions, vocabulary, and the alphabetic principle.

Confessions of an Imaginary Friend by Michelle Cuevas

For older children who are ready to read a chapter book either on their own or to have it read aloud to them, this short

continued next page



novel is told from the point of view of an imaginary friend – who thinks he’s real. Strange creatures, funny dialogue, and a satisfying ending round out this unusual book.

To introduce surprising facts about overlooked animals:

A trip to the J590 section in the library should be your first stop: this is where the library keeps the true-fact books about animals.

Hippos Are Huge by Jonathan London

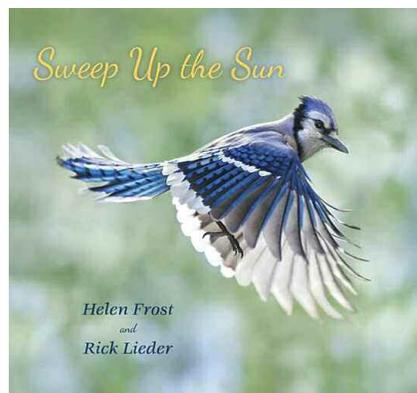
If you know nothing else about hippos, it is that they are huge. But they are so much more interesting than that!

Sweep Up the Sun by Helen Frost and Rick Lieder

This meditative work about birds features fascinating photos of real-life birds in flight.

For “real” reading that feels a little bit naughty:

Joke books, magic books, sports books – they all count as



reading, even if it feels like it’s not! Research shows that when children choose what they read, they read more... and the more they read, the better readers they will become.

There are two bedrock truths about summer: the temperature will rise, and kids will be bored. You can’t do much about the first, but regular trips to the library to check out a variety of books will do a lot about the second!

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JOIN TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY'S 2016 CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM! CONTINUES THROUGH AUG. 6



Sign up at any Tulsa City-County Library location or online at www.TulsaLibrary.org/summer. Library cards are not required to participate. Pick up a Summer Reading Program Event Guide for more details.

CHILDREN

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For preschoolers through fifth-graders

Read or listen to 8 books and visit the library 4 times and earn a medal of achievement, plus coupons for FREE entertainment and food, including admission to Oklahoma Aquarium, Tulsa Zoo, Tulsa Air and Space Museum, Tulsa Drillers game, Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa Children's Museum and Tulsa Roughnecks FC game.

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 - Incredible Inflatable Party at Bounce Pro Inflatables of Tulsa
 - Tulsa State Fair Mega Ride Pass wristbands
 - And other exciting prizes!

NEW! Children who finish the program and are not yet school-aged will be entered into a drawing for one of 10 gift certificates to local stores.



**GET IN THE GAME
READ**

TEEN/TWEEEN

Read 6 books and earn an ID wallet with earbuds and coupons for free entertainment and food. Visit www.TulsaLibrary.org/summer for more details.

TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM PRESENTED BY

