



Rising 4th Grade Summer Reading

4 books read by the Child

Since most children of this age can read the majority of grade-level books for themselves, the following list will include a majority of independent reads, though there are a few that can be chosen as family read alouds, as [research](#) has proven that reading aloud into adulthood has a beneficial effect. Keep in mind that a Listening Vocabulary is almost always much higher than a Reading Vocabulary. Thus, you can read aloud a book that is above current school reading level, and most children will be able to understand it. After reading a short passage (and reading the illustrations as well), we suggest that you informally ask your child to tell back what he or she has heard, in order to improve comprehension, sequencing, synthesis, concentration, and enjoyment. Picture narrations are also a fun way to enliven the story while increasing comprehension.

The following is not an exhaustive list, but rather some of our particular favorites! There are obviously many more good books that are available. If you seek advice from a librarian, note that the terminology most librarians will best understand is “classic literature,” which for our purposes we call [“living” books](#). Remember that, with regard to all book suggestions, it is always your responsibility as the parent to assess a book’s suitability for you and your family.

We have included books which employ fantastical themes, due to the fact that we encourage children to enjoy the proper use of the imagination. This is an important aspect of development, and one in which parents are urged to give their child guidance. That is, your child will be looking to you to help define the lines of fantasy versus reality and the proper guidelines therein.

If a title is not in your local library, you may want to check used bookstores, both [physical](#) and [virtual](#). A great summer activity is to visit some of the physical bookstores in your area and see what they have to offer. A must-see is The Story Shop in Monroe, Georgia! Do not neglect the [power](#) of [audiobooks](#), as they are great opportunities for everyone to listen and bond as a family. They can also help with books set in a different locale, as the narrators are often from that particular culture. Enjoy!

On the sheet enclosed, please keep track of the books your child reads or those that you have read to him or her this summer. You will give this record to your child’s teacher at the beginning of school.



Summer Reading List for Rising 4th Grade Students

Atwater, Richard and Florence
Banks, Lynne
Brady, Esther Wood
Canfield, Dorothy
Cleary, Beverly
Dahl, Roald
dePaolo, Tomie
diCamillo, Kate

Dixon, Franklin
Eager, Edward
Estes, Eleanor
Fritz, Jean
Golenbock, Peter
Gottlieb, Gerald
Gross, Virginia
Haywood, Carolyn
Henry, Marguerite
Holling, Holling Clancy
Hope, Laura Lee
Kipling, Rudyard
Keene, Carolyn
Knight, Eric
Lawson, Robert
Lewis, C.S.
Little, Jean
MacLachlan, Patricia
McCloskey, Robert
Meigs, Cornelia
Millard, Anne
Montgomery, Lucy Maude
O'Brien, Robert C.
Norton, Mary
Robinson, Barbara
Ryrie, Carol
Selden, George
Sobol, Donald J.
Stevenson, Robert Louis
Travers, P.L.
Warner, Gertrude Chandler
Whelan, Gloria
White, E.B.
Wiggin
Wilder, Laura Ingalls
William Anderson
Wyeth, Sharon Dennis
Yates, Elizabeth

Mr. Popper's Penguins
The Indian in the Cupboard
Toliver's Secret
Understood Betsy
Henry Huggins and other titles
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush, Strega Nona, Fin M'Coul and others
Because of Winn-Dixie, The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, The Tale of Despereaux
The House on the Cliff (Hardy Boys mysteries--many others in the series)
Half Magic, Magic by the Lake (and many others)
Hundred Dresses, The Moffats, The Moffat Museum
The Cabin Faced West and other titles
Teammates
The Adventures of Ulysses
It's Only Goodbye: An Immigrant Story, Once Upon America Series
Back to School with Betsy
Misty of Chincoteague and others
Paddle-to-the-Sea
The Bobbsey Twins of Lakeport and sequels
Rikki-Tikki-Tavi
The Secret of the Old Clock (Nancy Drew mysteries--many others in the series)
Lassie Come Home
Mr. Revere and I
The Chronicles of Narnia (most of the series is read aloud in class)
From Anna
Sarah, Plain and Tall
Time of Wonder, Homer Price
Invincible Louisa: A Biography of Louisa May Alcott
The Atlas of Ancient Worlds
Anne of Green Gables
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH
The Borrowers
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
Caddie Woodlawn
A Cricket in Times Square
Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective
A Child's Garden of Verses
Mary Poppins
The Boxcar Children
Hannah, Stepping Stone Series
Trumpet of the Swan, Stuart Little
Birds' Christmas Carol
On the Banks of Plum Creek and other titles
Laura Ingalls Wilder: A Biography
Message in the Sky: Corey's Underground Railroad Diary, Dear America Series
Carolina's Courage; Amos Fortune, Free Man