



Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading

3 BOOKS (1 required and 2 free choice)

Please choose books that have not been previously read.

Each rising fifth grade student will be required to read *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio. *Students should be ready to discuss, narrate and write about the book when they return to school in August.*

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 5th Grade Students

Aylward, Gladys
Babbitt, Natalie
Banks, Lynne Reid
Barrie, J.M.
Blos, Joan
Brady, Esther Wood
Brink, Carol Ryrie
Burnett, Frances Hodgson
Byars, Betsy
Caselli, Giovanni
Coerr, Eleanor
Cousins, Margaret
Dahl, Ronald
Dixon, Franklin
Dodge, Mary Mapes
Eager, Edward
Edmonds, Walter
Enright, Elizabeth
Estes, Eleanor
Farley, Walter
Fox, Paula
George, Jean Craig
Graham, Kenneth
Guy, John
Henry, Marguerite
Hook, Jason
Juster, Norton
Keene, Carolyn
Knight, David
Knight, Eric
Krensky, Stephen
Latham, Jean Lee
Lasker, David
Lewis, C.S.
Lindgren, Astrid Eri
Lofting, Hugh
MacDonald, George
Margeson, Susan M.
McGovern, Ann
Morey, Walk
Morley, Jacqueline
Nesbit, Edith
Neuschwander, Cindy
Norton, Mary
O'Brien, Robert
O'Dell, Scott
Paulsen, Gary
Peet, Bill
Porter, Eleanor

Gladys Aylward: The Little Woman
Tuck Everlasting
The Indian in the Cupboard
Peter Pan
A Gathering of Days
Toliver's Secret
Caddie Woodlawn
The Secret Garden, Little Lord Fauntleroy, The Little Princess
Summer of the Swans
The Middle Ages: History of Everyday Things
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes
The Story of Thomas Alva Edison
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The BFG, The Fantastic Mr. Fox and others
Hunting for Hidden Gold
Hans Brinker, or The Silver Skates
Half Magic, Magic by the Lake (and many others)
The Matchlock Gun
Then There Were Five, The Saturdays, The Four Story Mistake
The Moffats
The Black Stallion
A Likely Place
The Cry of the Crow, My Side of the Mountain and other titles
The Wind and the Willows
Viking Life
King of the Wind and other titles
The Vikings
The Phantom Tollbooth
The Secret of the Old Clock (and other Nancy Drew mysteries)
Isaac Newton: Mastermind of Modern Science
Lassie Come Home
Conqueror and Hero: The Search for Alexander
Carry On, Mr. Bowditch
The Boy Who Loved Music: A Biography about Franz Joseph Haydn
The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe, The Last Battle and other titles
Pippi Longstocking
Voyages of Dr. Doolittle
The Princess and Curdie, At the Back of the North Wind
Viking
Wanted Dead or Alive: The True Story of Harriet Tubman
Gentle Ben
How Would You Survive as a Viking?
The Railway Children, Five Children and It
Sir Cumference and the First Round Table (first in a series)
The Borrowers
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh
Island of the Blue Dolphin
Hatchet (and others)
Bill Peet: An Autobiography
Pollyanna

Pyle, Howard
Quakenbush, Robert
Reit, Seymour
Roddy, Lee
St. John, Patricia
Sharp, Margery
Sidney, Margaret
Spear, Elizabeth
Sperry, Armstrong
Steig, William
Sobol, Donald J.
Wiggin, Kate Douglas
Wilde, Oscar

The Arabian Nights
Ahoy! Ahoy! Are you There? A story of Alexander Graham Bell
Guns for General Washington: A Story of the American Revolution
The Secret of the Howling Case, America Adventure Series books
The Tanglewoods' Secret, Star Light and other titles
The Rescuers
Five Little Peppers and the sequels
Calico Captive, The Bronze Bow
Call It Courage
Abel's Island
Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
The Happy Prince