



First Grade Summer Reading

15 Books

Since most children of this age cannot read everything for themselves, the books listed will most often be read to them. Even when students are able to read, some books should be read to them, 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 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. Some of these books may not be available in libraries, as there is a current trend in public libraries to purge and/or cancel many of the classics. If they are not in your local library, you may want to check used bookstores, both [physical](#) and [virtual](#). 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 attached sheet (or make your own!), please keep track of the books your child reads, or those you have read to him or her this summer. You will give this record to your child’s teacher at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.



Summer Reading List for Rising 1st Grade Students

Ackerman, Karen	<i>Moveable Mouse</i>
Aesop	<i>Aesop's Fables</i>
Aldis, Dorothy	<i>Nothing is Impossible</i>
Aliki	<i>The Listening Walk, Manners and other titles</i>
Anderson, Charles	<i>Blaze and the Forest Fire</i>
Andersen, Hans Christian	<i>The Emperor's New Clothes</i>
Barkelern, Jill	<i>Brambley Hedge Books</i>
Barker, Cecily Mary	<i>The Flower Fairy</i>
Barrett	<i>Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing</i>
Baynes, Pauline	<i>Let There Be Light</i>
Beskov, Else	<i>Pelle's New Suit</i>
Brighton , Catherine	<i>Mozart: Scenes from the Childhood of the Great</i>
Burgess, Thorton	<i>Old Mother West Wind and others</i>
Burton, Virginia Lee	<i>The Little House, Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel, Katy and the Big Snow</i>
Cassandrae	<i>Life When Jesus Was a Boy</i>
Cazet	<i>Frosted Glass</i>
Clements/Beirer	<i>Brave Norman</i>
Davidson, Margaret	<i>Helen Keller</i>
Dorros, Arthur	<i>Ant Cities, Me and My Shadow and other non-fiction titles</i>
Fatio, Louise	<i>The Happy Lion</i>
Field, Rachel	<i>Prayer for a Child</i>
Flack, Marjorie	<i>The Story About Ping, Angus and the Ducks</i>
Fox, Mem	<i>Time for Bed Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge, Whoever You Are</i>
Frost, Robert	<i>You Come Too: Favorite Poems...</i>
Gag, Wanda	<i>Millions of Cats</i>
Galdone, Paul	<i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff and others (Also Stephen Pinckney's version)</i>
Gelsert, Arthur	<i>Oink</i>
Gurley, Nan	<i>Twice Yours, A Parable of God's Gifts</i>

Hall, Donald	<i>The Oxcart Man</i>
Handforth, Thomas	<i>Mei Li</i>
Hayward, Carolyn	<i>B is for Betsy and others</i>
Hirschi, Ron	<i>Winter, If You Grew Up Series and other titles</i>
Hoff, Syd	<i>Danny and the Dinosaur</i>
Hutchins, Pat	<i>Don't Forget the Bacon, Rosie's Walk</i>
Keats, Jack Ezra	<i>Jennifer's Hat, Snowy Day and other titles</i>
Kellogg, Steven	<i>Johnny Appleseed, Pinkerton and Friends and other titles</i>
Kipling, Rudyard	<i>How the Camel Got His Hump, The Elephant's Child</i>
Kurelek, William	<i>Prairie Boy's Summer and other titles</i>
Lasker, David	<i>The Boy Who Loved Music (Haydn)</i>
Lear, Edward	<i>The Owl and the Pussycat</i>
Lester, Alison	<i>Imagine</i>
Lindbergh, Reeve	<i>Benjamin's Bam, The Day the Goose Got Loose</i>
Lionni, Leo	<i>Frederick</i>
Lobel, Arold	<i>Frog and Toad Are Friends and other titles</i>
Longfellow, Henry	<i>The Children's Own Longfellow</i>
Lucado, Max	<i>You are Special, Just the Way You Are, All Titles</i>
Minarik, Else	<i>Little Bear's Friend and other titles</i>
Newberry, Clare	<i>Marshmallow, April's Kitten</i>
Novak, M.	<i>Newt</i>
Numeroff, Laura Joffe	<i>If You Give a Mouse A Cookie and other titles</i>
Oakley, Graham	<i>The Church Mouse</i>
Ormerod, Jan	<i>Be Brave Billy</i>
Pienkowski, Jan	<i>Weather</i>
Prelutsky/Lobel	<i>The Random House Book of Poetry</i>
Preston	<i>Squawk to the Moon</i>
Purdy, Carol	<i>Least of All and other titles</i>
Quackenbush, Robert	<i>Here a Plant, There a Plant</i>
Salten, Felix	<i>Bambi</i>
Slobodkina, Esphyr	<i>Caps for Sale</i>

Steig	<i>Amos and Boris and other children's titles</i>
Stein	<i>Sylvester and the Magic Pebble</i>
Stevens, Janet	<i>The Princess and the Pea</i>
Travers, Pamela	<i>Mary Poppins</i>
Tresselt, Alvia	<i>A Thousand Lights and Fireflies, Mitten and other titles</i>
Viorst, Judith	<i>Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day</i>
Watty, Piper	<i>The Little Engine That Could</i>
Wiese, Marjorie and Kurt	<i>The Story about Ping</i>
Williams, Vera	<i>A Chair for My Mother</i>