



SUMMER READING LIST For Students Entering Grade 5

FICTION

* Challenging text

Radio Rescue by Lynne Barasch

In 1923 a boy learns Morse code and follows his dream of becoming a licensed ham radio operator.

*Matilda Bone by Karen Cushman

Apprenticed to a medieval bonesetter, Matilda struggles to reconcile her privileged upbringing with the coarse ways of the common folk.

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

India Opal is lonely in her new home until a scraggly, smiling stray mutt enters her life.

Joey Pigza Loses Control by Jack Gantos

Formerly hyperactive Joey visits his dad and discovers an adult version of himself.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

During the Depression era in hard-hit Flint, Michigan, a determined homeless boy sets out to find his family. A Newbery Award winner with soul.

The Secret of Platform 13 by Eva Ibbotson

When a beastly woman kidnaps a magical island's prince, it's up to a strange band of rescuers to find him.

The Adventures of a Pioneer Girl, Caddie Woodlawn by Carolyn Ryrie Brink

The adventures of Caddy in the "wild west."

The Year of Miss Agnes by Kirkpatrick Hill

Frederika has seen many teachers come and go in her small Alaskan village but then Miss Agnes arrives.

The Honest to Goodness Truth by Patricia MacKissack

Ruthie May is determined to tell only the truth and alienates her friends, classmates and a neighbor in the process.

Kate and the Beanstalk by Mary Osborne Pope

A saucy girl outwits a slimy-looking giant.

*The Graduation of Jake Moon by Barbara Park

Embarrassed by his grandfather's increasingly erratic behavior, Jake learns about Alzheimer's disease and the real meaning of care giving.

The Princess Test by Gail Carson Levine

A sickly peasant girl unwittingly competes for the role of princess.

*Space Race by Sylvia Waugh

Patrick and his father are enroute to their spaceship and a prearranged return flight from Earth to their distant planet when they are separated.

Love That Dog by Sharon Creech

Boy's growing appreciation of poetry as he comes to grips with the loss of his dog.

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Gannett

A classic story about a boy and his blue and yellow-striped baby dragon.

NON-FICTION

America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle by David Adler

Story about the first woman to swim the English Channel, breaking records and shattering stereotypes.

Shipwrecked: The True Adventures of a Japanese Boy by Rhoda Blumberg

The incredible story of a Japanese teen rescued from a deserted island. Encompasses 19th century whaling history in New Bedford.

The Blues Singers: Ten Who Rocked the World by Julius Lester

Homage is paid to traditional African-American music.

*George Washington: The Founding of a Nation by Albert Marrin

An honest, accessible portrait of a far-sighted man whose life was inextricably bound to the birth of our nation.

Stories of Famous Americans (series) by Jean Fritz

Factual stories that introduce readers to figures and events that are national.

*The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins by Barbara Kerley

A dramatic biography that brings the work of the 19th century dinosaur artist to life.

Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by Doreen Rappaport

Spare text and carefully chosen quotes are matched with art by Bryan Collier.

Davy Crockett by Marianne Johnston

Describes the life and legend of frontier hero Davy Crockett.

Casey Jones by Marianne Johnston:

The legend of Casey Jones, the most famous train engineer in history.

CLASSICS

Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

The Incredible Journey

Old Yeller by Fred Gibson

Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry

Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George

The Slave Dancer by Paula Fox

POETRY

Awful Ogre's Awful Day by Jack Prelutsky

Short poems describing the Awful Ogre's day.

It's Raining Pigs and Noodles by Jack Prelutsky

Collection of humorous poems.

Toasting Marshmallows by Kristine O'Connell George

A child savors the sights, sounds, and smells of a family camping trip.

Mammalabilia by Douglas Florian

Wordplay and shameless punnery to the order of mammals. Mammalabilia.

Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein

Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein

A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems by Paul B. Janeczko

Word play and puzzling meanings.

A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers by Nancy Willard

Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices by Paul Fleischman

Also John Ciardi, Gwendolyn Brooks, Eve Merrimam, Langston Hughes, Dakos, Douglas Florian, David McCord

FAVORITE SERIES

Cam Jansen by David Adler
Sports Series by Matt Christopher
Dear America by various authors
Boxcar Children by Warner
Tales of Narnia by C. S. Lewis
Little House books by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Time Warp Trio by Scieszka

*Red Wall by Brian Jacques
*The Borrowers by Mary Norton
Wayside School by Louis Sachar
* Wizard of Earthsea trilogy by Ursula LeGuin
*Sammy Keyes by Wendolyn Vac Draamen
*The Dark is Rising by Susan Cooper

FAVORITE AUTHORS

Beverly Cleary
Jack Prelutsky
Jon Scieszka
Shel Silverstein
William Steig
Laura Ingalls Wilder
Donald Sobol
C. S. Lewis
Lloyd Alexander
Joan Aiken
Judy Blume

Katherine Paterson
Lois Lowry
Roald Dahl
J. K. Rowling
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Sharon Creech
James Howe
Jerry Spinelli
Elizabeth Speare
Gail Carson Levine
Jane Yolen

Avi
E.B. White
Frank Baum
Jean Craighead George
E. C. Konigsburg
Scott O'Dell
Jules Verne
J. R. Tolkein
Astrid Lindgren
Karen Cushman
Jack Gantos

READ ALOUDS

Mary Poppins by P. L. Travers
Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery
Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Graham
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl

Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator by Roald Dahl
The Voyages of Doctor Doolittle by Hugh Lofting
King of the Wind by Margeurite Henry

MAGAZINES

Ranger Rick Magazine – *Amazing facts, photos, and outdoor adventures.*
Sports Illustrated for Kids – *Interviews with sports heroes, comics, action photos.*
Nickelodeon Magazine – *Popular culture, movies, TV, games, puzzles.*