



Suggested Summer Reading for rising Fourth and Fifth Graders

During the summer you will read at least three books. One book will be a required reading book for your grade. The other two books should be chosen from this reading list. Please be sure to choose a book that will be both interesting and challenging for you. Please record the title and author of each book on the attached sheet that you will bring with you on the first day of school. Have fun reading!

Fourth Grade Required Reading Book

Blume, Judy

TALES OF A FOURTH GRADE NOTHING

Fourth grader Peter Hatcher must deal with his younger brother Fudge. But how long can he put up with Fudgie's disgusting cuteness, his constant meddling with Peter's stuff, and other grave offenses, one of which is almost too much to bear?

Fifth Grade Required Reading Book

E.L. Konigsburg

FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER

Claudia Kincaid and her brother escape their monotonous life in suburbia by running away to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. "This captivating story is fresh and crisply written with uncommonly real and likeable characters and genuine dialogue and humor." – *Booklist*.

Then: Choose at least two books from the following list:

Abrahams, Peter DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Thirteen-year-old Ingrid Levin-Hill has the typical issues of an adolescent: school, boys, and parental pressures. However, when a sequence of unusual events occurs, she will need to employ her athletic abilities and acting skills to learn the truth about them. A 2005 Book Sense pick.

Alexander, Lloyd THE BOOK OF THREE

This first book in Lloyd Alexander's five-book series introduces most of the characters we come to know and love in later books. One of the world's greatest writers of children's fantasy.

Armstrong, William H. SOUNDER

Set in the South, this is a poignant story of a dog, his master and master's family, whose lives are forever changed by one incident. 1970 Newbery Medal winner.

Avi CRISPIN: THE CROSS OF LEAD

This is an action-packed historical narrative that follows the frantic flight of a 13-year-old peasant boy across 14th century England. 2003 Newbery Medal winner.

Avi THE FIGHTING GROUND

This is the compelling story of a thirteen-year-old boy who joins in the Revolutionary War against the British. ALA Notable Book.

Balliett, Blue CHASING VERMEER

Sixth graders Petra Andalee and Calder Pillay find themselves at the center of an international art scandal. They must decipher the clues to solve the crime.

Banks, Lynn Reid THE INDIAN IN THE CUPBOARD

It all starts with a birthday present Omri doesn't even want – a small plastic Indian of no use to him at all. But when an old wooden cupboard and a special key bring the unusual toy to life, Omri's Indian becomes his most important secret: precious, dangerous, wonderful, and above all, magical.

**Blume, Judy DOUBLE FUDGE; FUDGE-A-MANIA;
SUPERFUDGE**

These stories follow more hilarious adventures in the lives of Peter Hatcher and his crazy younger brother, Fudge.

Brand, Christianna NURSE MATILDA: THE COLLECTED TALES

This Mary Poppins-like novel follows the adventures of Nurse Matilda and the very naughty children of Mr. and Mrs. Brown.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson A LITTLE PRINCESS

Growing up in Bombay, India and now attending a British boarding school, young Sara Crewe is treated like a little princess, until the day when suddenly all that she has come to love in this world is cruelly taken away from her.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson THE SECRET GARDEN

Ten-year-old Mary Lennox comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

Butterworth, Oliver THE ENORMOUS EGG

When Nate Twitchell's hen lays an enormous egg, everyone can't wait to see what will hatch out of it.

Cleary, Beverly DEAR MR. HENSHAW

The story of a young boy named Leigh, struggling to come to terms with his parents impending divorce. At the urging of his teacher, Leigh begins a pen pal relationship with his favorite author, Mr. Henshaw. 1984 Newbery Medal winner.

Cleary, Beverly HENRY HUGGINS

Nothing ever happens to Henry Huggins until a stray dog named Ribsy comes into his life. Pretty soon, Henry and Ribsy are wreaking havoc on the city bus, getting a ride in a police car with sirens wailing, and winning a prize at the dog show.

Cushman, Karen CATHERINE CALLED BIRDY

Catherine, a maiden in the Middle Ages, has a father who is determined to marry her to a rich man.

Cushman, Karen THE MIDWIFE'S APPRENTICE

In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world. 1996 Newbery Medal winner.

Dahl, Roald CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Charlie Bucket finds the winning ticket and embarks upon a fabulous adventure in Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

DiCamillo, Kate THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX

The story of a mouse born with his eyes open; he soon falls in love with the most beautiful princess in all of the land. 2004 Newbery Medal winner.

DiCamillo, Kate BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE

Good things happen to Opal Buloni because of her big, ugly dog Winn Dixie.

Edwards, Julie Andrews MANDY

Ten-year-old orphan Mandy escapes the life in the orphanage when she discovers a deserted cottage.

Erickson, John R. THE ADVENTURES OF HANK THE COWDOG

When Hank becomes an outlaw and joins a band of coyotes, he is forced to choose between right and wrong.

Farley, Walter THE BLACK STALLION

Shipwrecked on a deserted island, Alec Ramsey finds and trains a wild Arabian stallion.

Fitzhugh, Louise HARRIET THE SPY

Harriet writes down everything about everybody in her little notebook, but when her notebook ends up in the wrong hands, Harriet must find a way to put her friendships and her life back in order.

Funke, Cornelia INKHEART

As Meggie's father, Mo, reads aloud from a book, they suddenly find themselves within the story. They must find a way to get back to the real world while escaping the evil characters of the story. 2004 Book Sense pick.

Gipson, Fred OLD YELLER

A powerful story set in the Texas hill country about a 14-year-old boy and the stray dog that he comes to love.

Grahame, Kenneth THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

Follow the adventures of four animal friends who live along the river in the English countryside.

Jacques, Brian REDWALL

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.

E.L. Konigsburg THE VIEW FROM SATURDAY

Mrs. Olinski's sixth graders vie for the Academic Bowl championship. Newbery Medal winner.

L'Engle, Madeleine A WRINKLE IN TIME

Meg Murray's search for her father leads to much truth. 1963 Newbery Medal winner.

L'Engle, Madeleine A WIND IN THE DOOR

The chief characters of *A Wrinkle in Time*, Meg and Calvin O'Keefe, are enlisted again to fight evil, this time in the shape of the Echthroi, which are spreading through the universe.

Lewis, C.S. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

Series of fantasy adventures in the land of Narnia as seen through the eyes of four London children.

London, Jack CALL OF THE WILD

The adventures of an unusual dog, a St. Bernard/Scotch Shepard mix, that is forcibly taken to the Klondike gold fields where he eventually becomes the leader of a wolf pack.

Lowry, Lois NUMBER THE STARS

Ten-year-old Annemarie and her family harbor her best friend, Ellen Rosen, on the eve of the detention of Jews in Denmark by the Nazi troops and help smuggle Ellen's family out of the country. 1990 Newbery Medal winner, ALA notable book.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds SHILOH

The adventures of Marty Preston, an eleven-year-old with a soft spot in his heart for a shy, skinny, abused dog named Shiloh. 1992 Newbery Medal winner.

Paolini, Chris ERAGON

While exploring the forest, 15-year-old Eragon discovers an odd blue gemstone—a dragon egg, fated to hatch in his care. A 2004 Book Sense pick.

Paterson, Katherine BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

Told with beauty and poignancy this story deals with soul mates, the magic of deep friendship, and the unimaginable loss of a loved one. 1978 Newbery Medal winner.

Paterson, Katherine THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS

Tough and determined Gilly wants a family and a place to call home. Shuffled between foster homes, she finds herself in yet another foster family situation. Will this be a new family for Gilly or will she sabotage her situation?

Paulsen, Gary HATCHET

A young boy survives a plane crash and must survive alone in the Canadian wilderness.

Robinson, Barbara THE BEST SCHOOL YEAR EVER

The six horrible Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, cause mayhem throughout the course of the school year.

Rockwell, Thomas HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS

The story of Billy who, because of a bet, is in the uncomfortable position of having to eat 15 worms in 15 days.

Rowling, J.K. HARRY POTTER SERIES

Follow the magical adventures of the young wizard Harry and his friends Ron and Hermione at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Sacher, Louis HOLES

Stanley Yelnats spends all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep at a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake. Is this merely punishment or are the boys digging holes because the warden is looking for something? 1991 Newbery Medal winner.

Sacher, Louis WAYSIDE SCHOOL IS FALLING DOWN

Humorous episodes from the class on the 30th floor of Wayside School where students learn to tango, face the cafeteria's dreaded Mushroom Surprise, and study a hobo during show and tell.

Selden, George THE CRICKET IN TIMES SQUARE

Chester, a cricket, befriends a mouse, a cat, and a small boy as they help a newsstand business succeed in Times Square. A Newbery Honor Book.

Sewell, Anna BLACK BEAUTY

A horse tells the story of its life in 19th century England and its treatment under many different masters.

Smith, Doris Buchanan A TASTE OF BLACKBERRIES

When a young boy dies unexpectedly, his best friend must face the tragedy alone.

Snicket, Lemony A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

Follow the Baudelaire orphans as they encounter one misery after another. While it's true that the events that unfold in Snicket's novels are bleak, and things never turn out as you'd hope, these delightful, funny, linguistically playful books are reminiscent of Roald Dahl, Charles Dickens, and Edward Gorey.

Spinelli, Jerry MANIAC MAGEE

"The history of a kid," says Jerry Spinelli, "is one part fact, two parts legend, and three parts snowball." And for this kid, four parts of fun. This humorous yet poignant tall tale concerns a superathletic teenager who bridges his town's racial gap. 1991 Newbery Medal winner.

Spinelli, Jerry STARGIRL

Part fairy godmother, part outcast, part dream-come-true, the star of Spinelli's novel shares many of the mythical qualities as the protagonist of his Maniac Magee. Spinelli poses searching questions about loyalty to one's friends and oneself and leaves readers to form their own answers.

Streatfield, Noel BALLET SHOES; THEATER SHOES

Adopted children, Pauline, Petrova, and Posy discover the paths to their futures as they join the Children's Academy of Dancing and Stage Training in London.

Streatfield, Noel DANCING SHOES

After her mother's death, Rachel and her adopted sister Hilary are taken in by Aunt Cora, who runs a dancing school where Rachel's spoiled cousin Dulcie is the star pupil.

White, E.B. CHARLOTTE'S WEB

The heart-wrenching story of a young girl named Fern, her pig Wilbur, and their adventures on the family's farm.

White, E.B. STUART LITTLE

The story of an outcast mouse named Stuart who finds himself "adopted" by the Little family.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRARIE

This is the story of Laura Ingalls Wilder as she and her family move to the plains of Oklahoma in Indian country.

Williams, Margery THE VELVETEEN RABBIT

By the time the Velveteen Rabbit is dirty, worn out, and about to be burned, he has almost given up hope of ever finding the magic called Real.

Winthrop, Elizabeth THE CASTLE IN THE ATTIC

William receives a model of a castle as a gift from his housekeeper. When the magical castle seems to come alive, William sets off on a fantastic adventure. Winner of the California Young Reader Medal and the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children's Book Award.