

Rising Fifth Grade 2020 Summer Reading Assignment

What better way to spend a summer day than with a good book! We will all be reading as many books as we can and will talk about them when we see each other at the end of the summer. Happy reading!

Any biography about a saint or a famous person in history.

Cody, Matthew. *Powerless* (2007). This is a story of friendship among a group of boys who use their superpowers to do good deeds in their town. This is a delightful book!

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Mighty Miss Malone* (2012). Set during the Great Depression, this is a story about twelve-year-old Deza Malone. A smart student, she has been told by teachers that she is destined for greatness. Deza embarks on a family adventure filled with humor and unexpected twists. This Newberry Medal winner is sure to be an entertaining summer book!

Dahl, Roald. *The BFG* (1982). If you like giants, you will love this story.

Erskine, Kathryn. *Mockingbird* (2010). In Caitlin's world, everything is black or white, good or bad . . . until the death of her brother. Her world turns from black and white to beautiful shades of color.

Fehler, Gene. *Never Blame the Umpire* (2010). When Kate experiences tragedy, her mother's faith helps Kate see the beauty and goodness of God.

Gipson, Fred. *Old Yeller* (1956). A boy and a big yellow dog form a deep friendship. Action, adventure, and true heartache. A classic.

E.L. Konigsburg. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, (1967).

Law, Ingrid. *Savvy* (2008). Fantasy, magic! A quick and enjoyable read! The sequel, *Scumble*, is also quite engaging and fun.

London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild* (1903). Buck has always been a peaceful animal, until one day he is kidnapped and made to work as a sled dog in the harsh Yukon Territory. Can this dog find a way to trust men again or will he revert to his ancient canine instincts? Full of action and adventure!

Mass, Wendy. *The Candymakers* (2010). A charming story with mystery. It's a real cliff-hanger!

Medina, Meg. *Milagros, Girl From Away* (2014). Meg Medina creates a fantastical world in which a young girl uncovers the true meaning of family, the significance of identity, and the power of a mother's love.

North, Sterling. *Rascal* (1963). This heartwarming and delightful memoir of a boy's friendship with a wild animal, and his growing awareness of the world around him, has become a treasured classic.

Paolini, Christopher. *Eragon* (2003). When Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself.

Rawls, Wilson. *Summer of the Monkeys* (1976). A reward for finding the monkeys that escaped from a circus motivates Jay Berry Lee to brave the wilds of the Cherokee Ozarks. He faces many dangers and challenges. If you love adventure in the great outdoors, you will love this book!

Riordan, Rick. *The Lightning Thief* (2006). Percy Jackson can't quite believe that there really are mythological characters. It's worth reading just for the chapter titles - Chapter 1: I Accidentally Vaporize My Pre-algebra Teacher. You may read other books in this series as well.

Sachar, Louis. *Holes* (1999 Newbery Medal Winner). Just why are those boys digging holes in the hot sun? An incredible tale of bad luck and fate unfolds in this award-winning book.

Schmidt, Gary D. *Straw into Gold* (2009). This is a magical tale of fantasy and adventure in which two boys must solve a riddle in seven days; their lives depend on it.

Sewell, Anna. *Black Beauty* (1877). Written in the first person from the horse's perspective, this book reveals the plight of the workhorse in the 19th Century. Perfect for horse lovers!

Soto, Gary. *Baseball in April and Other Stories* (2000). This award-winning collection of short stories by a Mexican-American author has something for everyone.

Speare, Elizabeth George. *Witch of Blackbird Pond* (1958). Kit Tyler is accused of witchcraft while trying to be a friend! Read on to find out what happens to Kit.

Speare, Elizabeth George. *The Sign of the Beaver* (1983). Matt, a twelve-year-old boy, is stranded in the wilderness without his family. He encounters a kind man who turns out to be a thief and befriends an Indian boy as he waits for the return of his family. The ending is both happy and sad. This is a great book for young people who enjoy adventure and unexpected endings.

Sterling, Dorothy. *Freedom Train* (1954). This biography of Harriet Tubman, a champion of the Underground Railroad, is sure to interest students who love history. Harriet Tubman lived to serve and save others. Her story is full of danger, excitement, and sacrifice.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. *Treasure Island* (First published in 1882; numerous versions republished). Treasure and pirates - a great combination.

Swanson, James. *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* (2009). Fast, fun, and full of intrigue. A true story and a challenging read, but well worth it!