

### **Entering 8th Grade Summer Reading List**

Little Women / Louisa May Alcott

Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young women in nineteenth-century New England.

The Swiss Family Robinson / J.D. Wyss

Relates the fortunes of a shipwrecked family as they adapt to life on an island with abundant animal and plant life.

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea / Jules Verne

The classic novel in which a French professor and his companions, trapped aboard a fantastic submarine with the mad Captain Nemo, come face to face with exotic ocean creatures and strange sights hidden from the world above.

Anne of Green Gables / L.M. Montgomery

An adventurous young orphan goes to live on a farm with an elderly brother and sister.

The Call of the Wild / Jack London

The 1903 story about the adventures of Buck, a part St. Bernard, part Scotch shepherd, that is forcibly taken to the Klondike goldfields where he eventually becomes the leader of a wolf pack.

Hiding Place / Corrie Ten Boom

During WWII, Corrie Ten Boom and her family were caught hiding Jews in a secret room in their house and sent to Nazi concentration camps. This moving story relates the horrors they experienced but also demonstrates the glory of God in their courage to pass on the message of Christ's love, even to their tormentors.

### **Entering 7th Grade Summer Reading List**

Call It Courage / Armstrong Sperry

Based on a Polynesian legend, this is the story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe.

A Journey to the Center of the Earth / Jules Verne

Three men dare to adventure into a subterranean world full of danger and beauty. They discover many unusual things on their trip to the Earth's mysterious core.

The Jungle Books / Rudyard Kipling

The adventures of a young boy, Mowgli, who is reared by a pack of wolves, and the wild animals of the jungle. Also includes other short stories set in India.

Treasure Island / Robert Louis Stevenson

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mary has come from India, orphaned, spoiled, sickly and determined that she will not like living with her uncle, Mr. Craven. When Mary discovers a garden that has been locked up for ten years, she begins caring for it with the aid of her new friend Dicken. The garden and Mary experience a great transformation.

Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt

This is the moving tale of a boy's coming-of-age during the Civil War. Young Jethro Creighton never actually goes to war himself, but he grapples with the difficult responsibilities, moral dilemmas, and personal losses that it causes. In the process, he comes to terms with some of the war's harsh realities.

### **Entering 6th Grade Reading List**

Island of the Blue Dolphins / Scott O'Dell

Records the courage and self-reliance of an Indian girl who lived alone for eighteen years on an isolated island off the California coast when her tribe emigrated and she was left behind.

Walk Two Moons / Sharon Creech

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

Bridge to Terabithia / Katherine Paterson

Tells the story of artistic farm boy Jesse, and imaginative free spirit Leslie, a new classmate who quickly becomes Jesse's closest companion. The two spend hours creating and playing in a magical world they call Terabithia, a land of monsters, trolls, ogres, and giants and rule as king and queen. This friendship helps Jess cope with the tragedy that makes him realize what Leslie taught him.

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart's desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be champion hunters.

From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler / E.L. Konigsburg

Claudia's parents don't understand her and her friends are boring. She decides to run away for a short time -- just long enough for everyone to really miss her. She decides to take up residence in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. What Claudia doesn't count on is being involved in an art mystery at the museum. She is determined to discover the sculptor of a magnificent statue. She learns that the former owner is Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler and sets off to solve the mystery.

### **Entering 5th Grade Reading List**

Hatchet / Gary Paulsen

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

Black Beauty / Anna Sewell

Black Beauty is a novel told in the first person (or "first horse") as an autobiographical memoir told by a highbred horse named Black Beauty--beginning with his carefree days as a colt on an English farm, to his difficult life pulling cabs in London, to his happy retirement in the country.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH / Robert O'Brien

Rats who can read? In this lively tale, a widowed field mouse discovers that the reclusive colony of fellow rodents who live below the rosebush are no ordinary animals. When her family is imperiled by the farmer's tractor, she is advised to "go to the rats." A compelling mix of fantasy and science fiction keeps the pages turning.

Shilo / Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Marty Preston, a small-town Southern boy, must rescue a young beagle from his abusive owner and recluse Judd Travers.

Heidi / Johanna Spyri

A spirited little orphan girl gets dumped abruptly into her gruff, hermit grandfather's care, then later gets retaken and delivered as a companion for an injured girl. The grandfather sells his most cherished personal belongings as he sets off to find his little granddaughter.

*3rd grade continued on next page*

Brian's Winter / Gary Paulsen

A young boy named Brian is forced to stay alone in the wilderness through the winter after he is in a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness. This book is a companion book to Hatchet and the plot is "what would happen if Brian had not been rescued by the plane in Hatchet."

### **Entering 4th Grade Reading List**

Because of Winn Dixie / Kate DiCamillo

Although she lives in the Friendly Corners Trailer Park, ten-year-old Opal has no friends. She and her preacher father have moved to Naomi Florida for her father's new job. Opal acquires a unique friend, a large brown stray that she names for the store Winn-Dixie. The dog proves to have exquisite taste in people. A totally lovable dog and likable characters are part of this humorously gentle, warm, enthralling story about all sorts of friendships.

Mr. Popper's Penguins / Richard Atwater

Mr. Popper is a humble house painter living in Stillwater who dreams of faraway places like the South Pole. When an explorer responds to his letter by sending him a penguin named Captain Cook, Mr. Popper and his family's lives change forever. Soon one penguin becomes twelve, and the Poppers must set out on their own adventure to preserve their home.

Little House on the Prairie / Laura Ingalls Wilder

The Big Woods was getting too crowded. So Pa sold the little log house and built a covered wagon. They were moving to Indian country! They traveled all the way from Wisconsin to Oklahoma, and there Pa built the little house on the prairie.

Stuart Little / E.B. White

Stuart Little is no ordinary mouse. Born to a family of humans, he lives in New York City with his parents, his older brother George, and Snowbell the cat. Though he's shy and thoughtful, he is also a true lover of adventure. Stuart's greatest adventure comes when his best friend, the beautiful little bird named Margalo, disappears from her nest. Determined to track her down, Stuart ventures away from home for the very first time in his life. He finds adventure aplenty. But will he find his friend?

Charlotte's Web / E.B. White

E. B. White tells the memorable story of Wilbur, a little pig who becomes famous with the help of his clever friend Charlotte and their chatty animal neighbors.

Hundred Dresses / Eleanor Estes

Wanda wears the same faded blue dress to school every day-yet she says she has one hundred beautiful dresses at home, "all lined up." The other girls don't believe it, and when Peggy starts a daily game of teasing Wanda about the hundred dresses, everyone joins in. Maddie, Peggy's best friend, goes along with the game, but she secretly wonders whether she can find the courage to speak up in Wanda's defense.

The Borrowers / Mary Norton

This story is about a family of small people who live in the floorboards of an old house. They "borrow" things like pins and potatoes from humans.

### **Entering 3rd Grade Reading List**

#### Rabbit Hill / Robert Lawson

The story takes place at a place and an area called Rabbit Hill in the country near a crossroads in Westport, Connecticut. The animal inhabitants are suffering as the house nearby has been abandoned for several years and the untended gardens, the animals' source of food, have withered to nothing. Then "New Folks" move in to the house. Are the New Folks hunters, or friendly gardeners who will share their crops with the animals?

#### Pippi Longstocking / Astrid Lindgren

Pippi's mother is dead, and her father disappeared at sea, so Pippi lives alone in a house at the edge of a small town. Lucky for her she has lots of money and is very tough and independent. She doesn't go to school (well, she tries once, but it doesn't work out too well), and spends her time with her pet monkey and horse, and playing with the well-behaved children next door. In a series of related short stories, Pippi makes even the most ordinary days exciting.

#### Boxcar Children #1 / Gertrude Chandler Warner

Henry, Violet, Jesse, and Benny do not want to live with their grandfather after their parents die. They are pretty sure he is a mean old man, and that is the last thing they want to be around, so they run away. They settle into a cozy little boxcar, and make it home.

#### Encyclopedia Brown / Donald J. Sobol

Leroy Brown, aka Encyclopedia Brown, is Idaville neighborhood's ten-year-old star detective. With an uncanny knack for trivia, he solves mysteries for the neighborhood kids through his own detective agency.

#### Paddington / Michael Bond

One day, the Brown family find a bear from Darkest Peru at Paddington Station in London. They decide to take him in and name him Paddington. That is when Paddington's new life and his adventures start.

#### Ramona / Beverly Cleary

The Ramona books are a series of eight humorous children's novels by Beverly Cleary that center on Ramona Quimby, her family and friends.

#### Arthur series/ Marc Brown

Marc Brown's books tell about Arthur's experiences at home, at school, and at camp. These include losing his first tooth, getting glasses, running a pet sitting service, and writing a story for school. The stories are well written and illustrated and promote kindness, responsibility, and cooperation. But, wait a minute, Arthur is not a child; Arthur is an aardvark!

#### Flat Stanley series / Jeff Brown

Jeff Brown's famous story about Flat Stanley, the boy whose flatness allows him to travel by mail, fly like a kite, and catch sneak thieves, has been a favorite for kids across America for more than forty-five years.

#### Magic Treehouse series /Mary Pope Osborne

Jack and Annie, a brother and sister who discover a magical tree house filled with books. The magic tree house has whisked Jack and Annie on many more adventures through time to different places around the world. They have even gone to mythical places not found in this world!

Summer Book Report (Grades 5-8)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ / Author \_\_\_\_\_

Date you started book: \_\_\_\_\_

Date you finished book: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating:   ★           ★★           ★★★           ★★★★           ★★★★★

Write in complete sentences.

When and where did the story take place?

Who was your favorite character and why?

How did the story begin?

What is the major problem that the main character has to overcome?

How did the story end?

What was the best part of the book and why?

Describe one thing that you didn't like about the book.

What is your opinion of this story? Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?

Summer Book Report (Grades 3-4)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date you started book: \_\_\_\_\_

Date you finished book: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark  student read  parent (or other person) read to/with student

Rating:    ★            ★★            ★★★            ★★★★            ★★★★★

I read \_\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_.  
It's a story about...

Draw and color your favorite scene.

Where does the book take place?

What was the best part of the book?  
Why?

Who was your favorite character?  
Why?

Would you recommend this book to a friend?

Yes                      No