



Summer Reading List

Rising 5th Grade

2026-2027 School Year



Experts agree that children who read during the summer months gain reading skills while those who do not often slide backwards (RIF). Children should read for at least 20 minutes each day.

Read at least 3 of the following books this summer (in addition to lots of self-selected reading) & use the accompanied reading log to track your reading.

Students should note the following: title, author, what you liked/disliked about the book, and the most exciting, funniest, or saddest parts.

Required Reading – Choose at least 2 of the following books:

<u>Out of My Mind</u>	Sharon Draper
<u>The City of Ember</u>	Jeanne DuPrau
<u>Rules</u>	Cynthia Lord
<u>Al Capone Does My Shirts</u>	Gennifer Choldenko
<u>Hoot</u>	Carl Hiaasen
<u>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</u>	C.S. Lewis
<i>(Or any of the books from the Chronicles of Narnia)</i>	
<u>I Am Malala: Young Readers Edition</u>	Malala Yousafzai

Choose at least 1 more from the following:

<u>A Single Shard</u>	Linda Sue Park
<u>A Kind of Spark</u>	Ellie McNicoll
<u>When You Trap a Tiger</u>	Tae Keller
<u>A Night Divided</u>	Jennifer Nielsen
<u>Savvy</u>	Ingrid Law
<u>Other Words for Home</u>	Jasmine Warga
<u>Bridge to Terabithia</u>	Katherine Paterson
<u>Hatchet</u>	Gary Paulsen
<u>Poppy</u>	Avi



Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading Activities



- **Complete the reading log for each of the books that you read this summer.**
- Then, **choose your favorite book you read this summer and complete ONE of the activities below.** This will be a classwork grade, due Friday of the first week of school.

Activity Directions: - Write the title and author of your favorite summer book and your name at the top of your paper. (You may type the written parts if you want.)

1. Write a letter to the author telling him/her what you liked most about the book and what you learned from the book. Ask the author 2-3 questions as well. (10 sentences or more)

OR

2. Draw a comic strip that summarizes the 8 most important events in the story. Your comic strip should be a set of 8 or more illustrations with at least 8 detailed captions that explain the most important events of the story's plot. Please write the events in the order in which they happened.

OR

3. Illustrate/draw a different book cover than the one the book actually has. Use color. The illustration should be half or a full page. Write 5 or more sentences to explain why you drew the cover the way you did.

OR

4. Think about how the events, characters, and/or theme(s) in the story can be connected to your Christian faith or what Jesus would say and do. Write 8 sentences or more that explain this connection. Make sure you explain why the events, characters, or theme(s) you are writing about are related to something we can do as followers of Christ.

OR

5. Think of a song you know that would really match this book. Maybe the song really goes with the events or characters or the lesson the reader learns. Write the title of the song and the singer or band. Then, explain why this song would be on a playlist for this novel. Write 8 or more sentences. (If you want, you can create your own song instead!)