

Summer Reading Lists

Harvest Elementary School

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Summer Reading Suggestions

<http://www.Education-World.com>

❖ Public Library Information:

➤ **Huntsville Public Library**

- **Main Branch Location – 915 Monroe Street**
- **Main Web Address - <http://hpl.lib.al.us/>**
- **Monrovia Branch Location - 254 Allen Drake Drive**
- **Monrovia Web Address - <http://hpl.lib.al.us/monrovia>**

The **kindergarten** list is for children who have just completed **kindergarten**.

The **1st Grade list** is for children who have just completed **1st grade**.

The **2nd Grade list** is for children who have just completed **2nd grade**.

The **3rd Grade list** is for children who have just completed **3rd grade**.

The **4th Grade list** is for children who have just completed **4th grade**.

The **5th Grade list** is for children who have just completed **5th grade**.

Kindergarten Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

Astronauts Are Sleeping by Natalie Standiford, Allen Garns (illus.)

Inspired by a description of astronauts asleep aboard the space shuttle, ASTRONAUTS ARE SLEEPING is a bedtime book that is at once a reverie and a visual tour de force. A bright, eager voice describes three sleeping astronauts whizzing around the earth in a space capsule and asks the thought-provoking question, "What do the astronauts see in their dreams?" Magnificent pastels show planets that are breathtaking, astronauts who are alive, and a galaxy that is lush, deeply textured, and beautiful to look at. And happily, readers do discover what the astronauts are seeing in their dreams: They are seeing their homes on earth and memories of their happy childhoods.

The Chicken Sisters by Laura Joffe Numeroff, Sharleen Collicott (illus.)

When the big bad wolf moves into town, he thinks the three chicken sisters next door will be easy prey. But his tactics backfire when he comes face to face with the eccentric threesome, who knit, bake, and sing him to distraction, sending him running home to his mother.

The Leaf Men by William Joyce

The brave good bugs march off to save the garden. First, they must fight the evil Spider Queen before summoning the Leaf Men to save the day...but what about the mystery of the Long-Lost Toy? Here is ancient elfin magic, epic adventure, and a bugle salute to the power of memory, loyalty, and love as resounding as Robin Hood's call to his Merry Men!

Prairie Primer A to Z by Caroline Stutson, Susan Condie Lamb (illus.)

Join a young boy for a year on the prairie. From A to Z, each letter brings to life elements of days gone by -- "J" for Jacks, "K" for Knickers, and "L" for Lunch pails packed for school. With a lyrical text and rich illustrations, this is a wonderful way to learn the alphabet and a heartwarming tribute to life at the start of the 20th century.

The Scrambled States of America by Laurie Keller

At the first annual states party, Virginia and Idaho hatch a plan to swap spots so each can see another part of the country. Before the party is over, all the states decide to switch places. In the beginning, every state is happy in its new location. But soon things start to go wrong. Will the states ever unscramble and return to their proper places? This clever story -- starring all 50 states -- is chock-full of introductory facts and madcap humor. Young readers can identify their favorite states by color, size, and shape. Learning about geography has never been as easy -- or as much fun.

Visiting the Art Museum by Laurene Krasny Brown, Marc Brown (illus.)

This wonderful offering from Laurene Krasny Brown and her husband -- and kids' fave -- Marc Brown presents a highly palatable introduction to art. The fun, silly illustrations with reproductions of real works intermingled invite readers to follow a family through an art museum. On this tour they see examples of various art styles from primitive through 20th century pop art.

Other Suggestions:

Chicka Chicka ABC by Bill Martin, John Archambault, Lois Ehlert (illus.)

Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin by Lloyd Moss, Marjorie Priceman (illus.)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw, Margot Apple (illus.)

My Many Colored Days by Dr. Seuss, Steve Johnson (illus.), Lou Fancher (illus.)

Market Day by Eve Bunting, Holly Berry (illus.)

1st Grade Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

by Judith Viorst, Ray Cruz (illus.)

From the moment Alexander wakes up and finds gum in his hair, everything goes wrong! His brothers both get prizes in their cereal boxes, his best friend demotes him to third-best friend, there are lima beans for dinner, and there is kissing on TV. All kids experience this kind of day and will be glad to find they are not alone!

The Bears' Picnic

by Stan Berenstain, Jan Berenstain

The Berenstain Bears endure countless trials before finding a suitable picnic spot.

Bedtime for Frances

by Russell Hoban, Garth Williams (illus.)

It may be bedtime for Frances, but that doesn't mean Frances is ready to go to bed -- not by a long shot. First she must have a glass of milk and make certain Mother and Father have each kissed her good night (twice). Then she is ready to imagine there is a tiger in her room, and a giant, and ... each time Frances thinks up something new, off she goes to tell her ever-patient, if increasingly weary, parents. The familiar delaying tactics of Frances the song-singing badger have delighted fans young and old for more than three decades. Combining sympathetic understanding with gentle humor, Russell Hoban created in Frances a character at once immediately recognizable and eminently likable. In this new edition, the warmth of full color enriches Garth Williams's original artwork, bringing a fresh look to an enduring favorite.

Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys, and Their Monkey Business

by Esphyr Slobodkina

A cap peddler wakes from a nap to find all his caps are gone -- a bunch of naughty monkeys have taken them up a tree. Angrily shaking his finger at the monkeys, the peddler demands his caps back, but the monkeys only shake their fingers and say "Tsz, tsz, tsz." No matter what the peddler does, the monkeys only imitate him. Finally, the peddler is so enraged he throws his cap on the ground -- and all the monkeys follow suit!

Franklin Rides a Bike

by Paulette Bourgeois, Brenda Clark (illus.)

At the beginning of spring, Franklin and all his friends have training wheels on their bikes. But soon Franklin is the only one who can't ride without them. Every time he tries he falls down, and he's beginning to get discouraged. His mom finally convinces him to keep with it, and Franklin finally rides on his own.

Freckle Juice

by Judy Blume, Sonia O. Lisker (illus.)

Nicky has freckles -- they cover his face, his ears, and the whole back of his neck. Once, sitting behind him in class, Andrew counted 86 of them, and that was just a start! If Andrew had freckles like Nicky, his mother would never know if his neck was dirty. One day after school, Andrew works up enough courage to ask Nicky where he got his freckles. And, as luck would have it, who should overhear him but giggling, teasing Sharon. She offers Andrew her secret freckle juice recipe -- for 50 cents. That's a lot of money, but Andrew is desperate. At home he carefully mixes the strange combination of ingredients. Then the unexpected happens. ...

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

by Laura Joffe Numeroff, Felicia Bond (illus.)

What happens if you give a mouse a cookie? Why, he'll need a glass of milk to go with it! He'll also need a straw, a napkin, a mirror -- each item prompts the need for another. When the mouse is hanging a picture from a refrigerator (how did he get there?), he's reminded that he's thirsty and needs a glass of milk (uh-oh). With this milk, it's absolutely necessary to have a cookie, of course! Bond's wonderful illustrations enliven this modern-day classic.

1st Grade Reading List, continued

Harvest Elementary School

The Listening Walk

by Paul Showers

We're going on a Listening Walk. Shhhhhh. Do not talk. Do not hurry. Get ready to fill your ears with a world of wonderful, surprising sounds. In this colorfully illustrated book a little girl and her father take a quiet walk and identify the sounds around them. This beautiful lesson in appreciating the extraordinary qualities found in the rhythm of everyday life entices readers to pay more attention to the world surrounding them.

The Little Engine That Could

by Watty Piper, George Hauman (illus.), Doris Hauman (illus.)

When the other engines refuse, the Little Blue Engine tries to pull a stranded train full of toys and good food over the mountain. This classic never loses its appeal or fails to teach its lesson.

Make Way for Ducklings

by Robert McCloskey

This Caldecott Award-winning classic about Mr. and Mrs. Mallard and their brood of ducklings has been a favorite since 1941. When Mrs. Mallard and her eight ducklings are stuck at a busy street in downtown Boston, their policeman friend Michael rushes in to stop traffic and make way for them. McCloskey's sepia illustrations are priceless, and a statue of Mrs. Mallard and her ducklings can be found in the Boston Common today.

Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia

by Peggy Parish, Wallace Tripp (illus.)

Amelia Bedelia, who knows very little about baseball, stands in for a sick player during a game. The result, as usual with literal-minded Amelia Bedelia, is hilarious.

Quick as a Cricket

by Audrey Wood, Don Wood (illus.)

A joyful celebration of a child's growing self-awareness. This classic children's book is a teacher's favorite, with outstanding illustrations by Don Wood.

Ten Apples Up on Top!

by Theodore LeSieg (Dr. Seuss), Roy McKie (illus.)

A lion, a dog, and a tiger are having a contest -- can they get ten apples piled up on top of their heads? You better believe it! This first counting book works as a teaching tool as well as a funny story.

There's an Alligator Under My Bed

by Mercer Mayer

This sequel to *There's a Nightmare in My Closet* brings back that story's imaginative young hero for an even funnier nighttime adventure. All kids will identify with the realistic alligator who just happens to live you know where.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs

by Jon Scieszka, Lane Smith (illus.)

In this highly acclaimed version, Alexander T. Wolf tells his never-before-heard version of the story. Is he the bad guy history has portrayed him as, or was the big, bad wolf framed? This outrageously funny version of a familiar nursery tale will leave readers grinning all the way to their chinny chin chin.

2nd Grade Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

The Adventures of Taxi Dog

by Debra Barracca, Sal Barracca, Mark Buehner (illus.)

Jim, a New York City taxi driver, rescues a stray dog and dubs his new pet Maxi. Maxi accompanies Jim in his taxi and meets all sorts of people. With each new passenger, Maxi makes a new friend -- and even helps Jim get tips! The text is written in a bouncing rhyme, and Buehner's paintings capture Maxi's doggy personality and Jim's geniality. Can you find the cat in every picture?

Amelia Bedelia (I Can Read Book Series)

by Peggy Parish, Fritz Siebel (illus.)

Meet Amelia Bedelia, the unflappable maid who does everything literally. With her purse on her arm and hat firmly on her head, Amelia Bedelia follows instructions to a T: Change the towels? Nothing a pair of scissors can't do! Dust the furniture? That's when the perfumed dusting powder really comes in handy. Dress the chicken for dinner -- well, do you want a boy chicken or a girl chicken? Amelia Bedelia's well-meaning gaffs cause readers to chuckle but her employer to fume -- it's a good thing she's such a good cook!

The Case of the Spooky Sleepover, Jigsaw Jones Mystery #4

by James Preller

Ralphie Jordan can't sleep. Something is making spooky noises in his room at night. It's a perfect case for Jigsaw Jones, who pieces together all the ghostly clues.

Chicken Soup with Rice, A Book of Months

by Maurice Sendak

"Each month is gay, each season is nice, when eating chicken soup with rice." It's nice in January, April, June, and December -- here's the every-month dish for everyone to remember.

Flat Stanley

by Jeff Brown, Steve Bjorkman (illus.)

Stanley Lambchop is a nice, average boy. He leads a nice, ordinary life. Then one day a bulletin board falls on him, and suddenly Stanley is flat. This turns out to be very interesting. Stanley gets rolled up, mailed, and flown like a kite. He even gets to stop crime. He's flat, but he's a hero!

The Giving Tree

by Shel Silverstein

A little boy befriends a tree. Loving and generous, the tree provides everything she can for him -- fruit, shade, a place for a swing -- throughout the boy's life. He, in turn, takes from the tree without noticing the sacrifices she makes. It isn't until he's old and infirm and gratefully rests on her stump that he understands all she has done. This powerful parable is fitting for all age groups.

The Great Kapok Tree A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest

by Lynne Cherry

A man walks into a lush rain forest and starts chopping down a huge kapok tree. Lulled by the heat, he sits down and soon falls asleep. The forest dwellers approach, each whispering in his ear a reason to keep the tree standing. Suddenly, the man wakes up, and for the first time notices the beauty all around him. Will he still chop down the tree? The beauty of Cherry's art helps to convey an important message in this environmental tale.

Is Your Mama a Llama?

by Deborah Guarino, Steven Kellogg (illus.)

A young llama is curious -- are all his friends' mamas llamas? Each animal tells Lloyd facts about its mother, and Lloyd -- along with young readers -- guesses what kind of animal each mother is. The rhyming text and illustrations give hints, and preschoolers will enjoy yelling out the answers, which are revealed by turning the page.

Junie B. Jones Smells Something Fishy, Junie B. Jones Series #12

by Barbara Park, Denise Brunkus (illus.)

Frustrated because the rules for her class's Pet Day will not let her take her dog to school, Junie B. Jones considers taking a raccoon, a worm, a dead fish, and other unusual replacements.

2nd Grade Reading List, continued

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Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse

by Kevin Henkes

Lilly the mouse adores her teacher, Mr. Slinger -- until he takes away the purple plastic purse she was proudly showing off to her class. Lilly is so angry she draws a nasty picture of Mr. Slinger and slips it in his bag. At the end of the day, Lilly gets her purse back and inside is a sympathetic note and a bag of treats. As in all his other books, Henkes shows an incredible sensitivity to children's feelings.

Martha Blah Blah

by Susan Meddaugh

When the current owner of the soup company breaks the founder's promise to have every letter of the alphabet in every can of soup, Martha, the talking dog, takes action.

Mrs. Katz and Tush

by Patricia Polacco

In this special Passover story, Larnel Moore, an African-American boy, and Mrs. Katz, an elderly Jewish woman, develop an unusual friendship through their mutual concern for an abandoned cat named Tush. Together they explore the common themes of suffering and triumph in each of their cultures.

Stellaluna

by Janell Cannon, Jewell Cannon

Stellaluna, a little brown bat, is accidentally dropped by her mother. The helpless baby falls smack into a nest of fledglings and is immediately accepted as one of the family. Stellaluna tries to fit in but keeps acting unbirdlike, hanging upside down and wanting to fly at night. By chance Stellaluna is reunited with her mother and finally learns to be a proper bat.

Tonight on the Titanic, Magic Tree House Series #17

by Mary Pope Osborne, Sal Murdocca (illus.)

The Magic Tree House whisks Jack and Annie away to the decks of that ill-fated ship, the Titanic. There they must help two children find their way to a lifeboat -- while they are in danger of becoming victims of that tragic night themselves.

You Can't Eat Your Chicken Pox, Amber Brown

by Paula Danziger, Tony Ross (illus.)

Amber Brown has survived third grade -- even though her best friend, Justin, moved away. Now she's heading to London with her Aunt Pam -- and then to Paris. Before she gets there, Amber finds out she has chicken pox. Amber Brown is a kid with problems. Now that she can't go to Paris, how will she convince her dad to move back in with her mom?

Zelda and Ivy

by Laura McGee Kvasnosky

Zelda and Ivy are sisters with a flair for the dramatic. Whether they're performing a circus act, fashioning their tails in the latest style, or working wonders with "fairy dust," their exploits are described with wit and charm in a very special trio of stories exploring the intimate dynamic between an older and younger sister.

3rd Grade Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

The Best School Year Ever

by Barbara Robinson

The Herdmans are the most famous kids at Woodrow Wilson School. In fact, they are the most famous kids in the whole town -- and they are the worst kids in the history of the world. They are dirty, rotten, lazy, and ornery. They tell lies and smoke cigars and set fire to things. They stay away from school whenever they want to and won't learn anything when they are there. Every September the students and teachers gear up for another year of dealing with the Herdmans. But no matter what precautions are taken, these modern-day outlaws still manage to cause hilarious mayhem year-round. Their wild behavior always leads to disaster for someone, but somehow all six of them continually escape blame. Could there be something good about this horrible clan after all? Also recommended: *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*.

Brother Eagle, Sister Sky, A Message from Chief Seattle

by Susan Jeffers

During the 1850s, the white man negotiated to buy some land from the Northwest nations. Chief Seattle, head of the Suquamish and Duwamish Indians, spoke to the white man in his native tongue about the importance of preserving the earth. His speech, translated and lushly illustrated by Susan Jeffers, eloquently conveys the message that we must respect the Earth and all it has on it. This speech has been the inspiration for many environmental movements.

Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective (Encyclopedia Brown Series #1)

by Donald J. Sobol

A Civil War sword ... a watermelon stabbing ... missing roller skates ... a trapeze artist's inheritance ... and an eyewitness who's legally blind! These are just some of the ten brain-twisting mysteries that Encyclopedia Brown must solve by using his famous computerlike brain. Try to crack the cases along with him -- answers to all the mysteries are found in the back of the book!

Go Free or Die, A Story About Harriet Tubman

by Jeri Ferris, Karen Ritz (illus.)

A biography of Harriet Tubman, the black woman whose cruel experiences as a slave in the South led her to seek freedom in the North for herself and for others through the Underground Railroad.

How to Eat Fried Worms

by Thomas Rockwell, Emily A. McCully (illus.)

Billy makes a bet with his friends that he can eat 15 worms in 15 days. Even with a free choice of condiments -- from peanut butter to horseradish -- Billy wonders if he can really do it.

The Keeping Quilt

by Patricia Polacco

When Patricia Polacco's great-great-grandmother came to America from Russia, she made a quilt out of the family's old clothes. This quilt became a cherished symbol of love passed down from mother to daughter for almost a century -- and was used for a variety of purposes. Heartwarming pictures of the quilt welcoming new babies and celebrating weddings -- even being used as a Sabbath tablecloth -- tie together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family and chronicle their enduring love and faith. In this tenth-anniversary edition, Polacco has expanded her beloved story with new pages of text and paintings to include her own two children using the quilt in the same ways that their ancestors did.

Mr. Popper's Penguins

by Richard Atwater, Florence Atwater, Robert Lawson (illus.)

It is hard enough for Mr. Popper to support himself, Mrs. Popper, Bill, and Janie Popper. The addition of 12 penguins to the family makes it impossible to make both ends meet. Then Mr. Popper has a splendid idea -- the talented penguins will be a sensation on the stage. And so they are.... A classic of American humor, this Newbery Honor-winning story of a gentle housepainter and his high-stepping penguins has delighted children for generations.

Poppy

by Avi, Brian Floca (illus.)

As ruler of Dimwood Forest, Ocax the hoot owl has promised to protect the mice occupying an abandoned farmhouse as long as they ask permission before "moving about." Poppy, a timid deer mouse, is a loyal, obedient subject -- until she sees Ocax devour her fiancé. To prove that the intimidating ruler is a phony, Poppy embarks on a dangerous and eye-opening quest, which ends with her one-on-one battle with Ocax.

3rd Grade Reading List, continued

Harvest Elementary School

Poppy and Rye

by Avi, Brian Floca (illus.)

Heartbroken over the death of her fiancé Ragweed, Poppy, a deer mouse, journeys west through the vast Dimwood Forest to bring the sad news to Ragweed's family. But Poppy and her prickly porcupine pal, Ereth, arrive only to discover that beavers have flooded the serene valley where Ragweed lived. Together Poppy and Ragweed's brother, Rye, brave kidnapping, imprisonment, and a daring rescue to fight the beavers. At the same time, Rye -- who has lived in Ragweed's shadow -- fights to prove himself worthy of Poppy's love.

Ramona Quimby, Age 8

by Beverly Cleary, Alan Tiegreen (illus.)

Ramona feels quite grown-up taking the bus by herself, helping big sister Beezus make dinner, and trying hard to be nice to pesky Willa Jean after school. Turning eight years old and entering the third grade can do that to a girl. So how can her teacher call her a nuisance?

Sarah, Plain and Tall

by Patricia MacLachlan

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. This tender, reassuring story is a Newbery Medal winner and a timeless classic.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

by Judy Blume, Roy Doty (illus.)

Living with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter feel like a fourth-grade nothing. Fudge is never far from trouble. He's a two-year-old terror who gets away with everything -- and Peter's had enough. When Fudge walks off with Dribble, Peter's pet turtle, it's the last straw.

Walking the Road to Freedom

by Jeri Ferris

This is the important and inspiring story of a woman who called herself Sojourner Truth. Using only the power of her voice, she spoke out against slavery throughout New England and the Midwest.

What Are You Figuring Now?, A Story About Benjamin Banneker

by Jeri Ferris, Amy Johnson (illus.)

A biography of the African-American farmer and self-taught mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor for the new capital city of the United States in 1791, who also calculated a successful almanac notable for its preciseness.

Additional Books:

Charlotte's Web

by E. B. White

Miss Nelson Is Missing!

by Harry Allard, James Marshall (illus.)

The BFG

by Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake (illus.)

4th Grade Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

Claudia and the Phantom Phone Calls (The Baby-Sitters Club Series #2)

by **Ann M. Martin**

Claudia decides to investigate when she and the other members of the Baby-Sitters Club receive mysterious phone calls while out on assignments. Also recommended: Baby-Sitters Club: Little Sister Series and the Baby-Sitters Club Series

The Cricket in Times Square

by **George Selden, Garth Williams (illus.)**

Business has not been good at the Bellini's newspaper stand in the Times Square subway station. Tucker the mouse, who lives in a drainpipe near the newsstand, wishes he could help. One night, Mario Bellini hears a beautiful sound -- it is Chester, a cricket from Connecticut who has been accidentally brought to New York City and plays music with his wings. After Mario convinces his parents to let him keep Chester, Tucker, his friend Harry the cat, and the cricket come up with a plan to help the Bellinis keep their newsstand: Chester can give concerts!

Earthquake Terror

by **Peg Kehret**

When an earthquake hits the isolated island in northern California where his family has been camping, 12-year-old Jonathan Palmer must find a way to keep himself, his partially paralyzed younger sister, and their dog alive until help arrives.

The Indian in the Cupboard

by **Lynne Reid Banks, Brock Cole (illus.)**

The first book in this bestselling series begins with young Omri receiving an old family wooden medicine cupboard as a birthday gift. Given to him by his mother in order to house his plastic toy soldiers, the cupboard has a magical power: It can bring Omri's toys to life. When his toy Indian comes alive and befriends him, Omri finds himself involved in all kinds of adventure and excitement.

Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang

by **Mordecai Richler, Fritz Wegner (illus.)**

Jacob Two-Two says everything twice. But the grocer thinks Jacob's being rude when he asks for something twice, and before he knows it, Jacob has been arrested and whisked away to Slimer's Isle. How Jacob outsmarts the jailer and saves the children of Slimer's Isle makes for outrageously funny reading.

My Teacher Is an Alien

by **Bruce Coville, Mike Wimmer (illus.)**

Susan can tell that her new substitute teacher is really weird. She doesn't know how weird until she catches him peeling off his face -- and realizes Mr. Smith is really an alien! Now it's up to Susan and her friends to get rid of the extraterrestrial visitor.

Native American Doctor, The Story of Susan LaFlesche Picotte

by **Jeri Ferris**

This is the inspiring biography of the young Omaha Indian woman who became the first Native American woman to graduate from medical school.

Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade

by **Barthe DeClements**

Jenny knows one thing for sure -- Elsie Edwards is a fat thief who steals people's lunch money to buy candy. So when the book club money disappears, why is the whole class punished? Nothing's fair! But soon Jenny realizes some things aren't fair for Elsie, either. Elsie is on a strict diet, but when she starts losing weight, her mother won't buy her new clothes. Instead, she plans to send Elsie to boarding school. Suddenly everyone wants to help Elsie. Nothing's fair in fifth grade -- but sometimes things get better!

The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog

by **John R. Erickson, Gerald L. Holmes (illus.)**

While investigating a vicious murder on his ranch, Hank finds himself the No. 1 suspect. Resigning in a fit of despair, he heads for the hills to become an outlaw -- where a band of ruthless coyotes is happy to teach him the trade. Or are they? They seem to be on his side...until they unveil their plan for a raid on Hank's ranch! Hank knows he can't beat them. Will he be forced to join them?

4th Grade Reading List, continued

Harvest Elementary School

Owls in the Family

by Farley Mowat, Robert Frankenberg (illus.)

Owls Wol and Weeps turn a household upside down, outwit a dog with the dignity of Mutt, and shake up a neighborhood.

Search for the Shadowman

by Joan Lowery Nixon

Twelve-year-old Andy Bonner isn't thrilled with his teacher's assignment to explore family history. When he starts asking questions about his ancestors, he is startled to discover a black sheep in the family tree. No one wants to reveal what happened in his family's past. But Andy is determined to break the silence. Casting his net widely, from the Internet to the local cemetery, Andy helps everyone realize it's never too late to seek justice.

A Share of Freedom

by June Rae Wood

Freedom Jo is a smart-mouthed 13-year-old with an alcoholic mother, a little brother, Jackie, whom she adores -- and no idea who her father is. Afraid of being separated from Jackie after a binge lands their mother in an alcoholism-treatment program, Freedom runs away with him, hoping to hide out until their mother comes home. Her plan precipitates a chain of events that leads to the discovery of her father's identity.

Sideways Stories from Wayside School

by Louis Sachar, Julie Brinckloe (illus.)

There'd been a terrible mistake. Wayside School was supposed to be built with 30 classrooms all next to each other in a row. Instead, they built the classrooms one on top of the other ... 30 stories tall! (The builder said he was very sorry.) That may be why all kinds of funny things happen at Wayside School -- especially on the 30th floor. You'll meet Mrs. Gorf, the meanest teacher of all; terrible Todd, who always gets sent home early; and John, who can only read upside down -- along with all the other kids in the crazy mixed-up school that came out sideways. But you'll never guess the truth about Sammy, the new kid ... or what's in store for Wayside School on Halloween!

Time for Andrew, A Ghost Story

by Mary Downing Hahn

When he goes to spend the summer with his great-aunt in the family's old house, 11-year-old Drew is drawn 80 years into the past to trade places with his great-great-uncle, who is dying of diphtheria.

Additional Books:

The Mouse and the Motorcycle

by Beverly Cleary, Louis Darling (illus.)

Fudge-a-Mania

by Judy Blume

Stuart Little

by E. B. White

My Side of the Mountain

by Jean Craighead George

5th Grade Reading List

Harvest Elementary School

Chasing Redbird **by Sharon Creech**

Zinnia Taylor lives in Bybanks, Kentucky, with too many brothers and sisters -- a mess of "tadpoles" and "pumpkins" is what her uncle Nate calls them. When Zinny discovers a mysterious, overgrown trail that begins on her family's farm, she's determined to clear it, from start to finish. For she's finally found a place of her own, a place where she can go, away from her family, to hear herself think. But what Zinny didn't realize is that the mysteries of the trail are intertwined with her own unanswered questions and family secrets, and that the trail -- and her passion to uncover it -- is leading her on a journey home. CHASING REDBIRD is a powerful, beautifully crafted story about a young girl discovering that life is a tangle of mysteries, surprises, and everyday occurrences -- a journey that often needs unravelling and that sometimes must be traveled alone.

Dear Mr. Henshaw **by Beverly Cleary, Paul O. Zelinsky (illus.)**

When fourth grader Leigh Botts asks Mr. Henshaw to write to him personally, he gets more than he bargained for. Mr. Henshaw's letters are full of questions, and Leigh is getting tired of answering them. But as he continues his correspondence with his favorite author, he not only gets plenty of tips on writing, but he also finds a wise and thoughtful friend to whom he can tell his troubles.

From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler **by E. L. Konigsburg**

The enchanting story of the unappreciated Claudia Kincaid, "boring straight-A Claudia" (oldest child and only girl and almost too old for half-fare tickets), who runs away with her little brother Jamie to live in the Metropolitan Museum, FILES is a sentimental favorite with a remarkable heroine. Crammed with fascinating details -- strategies for hiding in a museum, techniques for bathing in a fountain, the smell of a 16th-century bed (musty), and tantalizing peeks at the Met and its treasures -- it's a grand adventure. More important, FILES is the story of Claudia's quest to define herself. In the fulfillment of that quest, her own resourcefulness is bolstered by a statue that may or may not be by Michelangelo; a brother who proves to be a fabulous ally; and the wise, prickly Mrs. Frankweiler herself.

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson **by Bette Bao Lord, Marc Simont (illus.)**

Shirley Temple Wong sails from China to America with a heart full of dreams. Her new home is Brooklyn, New York. America is indeed a land full of wonders, but Shirley doesn't know any English, so it's hard to make friends. Then a miracle -- baseball -- happens. It is 1947, and Jackie Robinson, star of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is everyone's hero. Jackie Robinson is proving that a black man, the grandson of a slave, can make a difference in America. And for Shirley as well, on the ball field and off, America becomes the land of opportunity.

Matilda **by Roald Dahl, Quentin Blake (illus.)**

Matilda Wormwood started reading books at the age of four, but her crooked father and bingo-playing mother regard book reading as a waste of time -- and much prefer watching TV. In fact, they take no notice of their genius daughter at all! Only Miss Honey, Matilda's lovely and gentle teacher, recognizes her special gifts. Yet Miss Honey has problems of her own: Her aunt is the tyrannical Miss Trunchbull, an evil headmistress who bullies children and parents alike -- and has taken Miss Honey's house and money. Can Matilda use her extraordinary talents to seek revenge -- and make all of the wrong-doing grown-ups pay? Also recommended: *James and the Giant Peach*.

Mick Harte Was Here **by Barbara Park**

How could someone like Mick die? He was the kid who freaked out his mom by putting a ceramic eye in a defrosted chicken, the kid who did a wild dance in front of the whole school -- and the kid who, if only he had worn his bicycle helmet, would still be alive today. But now Phoebe Harte's 12-year-old brother is gone, and Phoebe's world has turned upside down. With her trademark candor and compassion, beloved middle-grade writer Barbara Park tells how Phoebe copes with her painful loss in this story filled with sadness, humor -- and hope.

5th Grade Reading List, continued

Harvest Elementary School

My Daniel

by Pam Conrad

Wandering through the Natural History Museum with her grandchildren, Julia Creath feels the presence of her dead brother, Daniel. She remembers a time when fossil fever hit everyone, old and young -- a time when people would even kill for those old bones under the ground. Julia becomes the Nebraska farm girl she once was, as she weaves together the story of the great dinosaur rush -- an adventurous tale of love and treachery, but most of all the story of her own childhood, and of the older brother she loved more than anything. Daniel had a dream: to save their family farm by finding a dinosaur. It was a dream that Julia shared -- and that she alone would see come true.

The View from Saturday

by E. L. Konigsburg

It was a surprise to a lot of people when Mrs. Olinski's team won the sixth-grade Academic Bowl contest at Epiphany Middle School. It was an even bigger surprise when they beat the seventh grade and the eighth grade, too. And when they went on to even greater victories, everyone began to ask: How did it happen? Mrs. Olinski, returning to teaching after having been injured in an automobile accident, found that her Academic Bowl team became her answer to finding confidence and success. What she did not know, at least at first, was that her team knew better than she did the answer to why they had been chosen. This is a tale about a team, a class, a school, a series of contests and, set in the midst of this, four jewel-like short stories -- one for each of the team members -- that ask questions and demonstrate surprising answers.

Wait Till Helen Comes, A Ghost Story

by Mary Downing Hahn

Molly and Michael dislike their spooky new stepsister Heather but realize that they must try to save her when she seems ready to follow a ghost child to her doom.

Walk Two Moons

by Sharon Creech

Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle, proud of her country roots and the "Indian-ness in her blood," travels from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric grandparents. Along the way, she tells of the story of Phoebe Winterbottom, who received mysterious messages, who met a "potential lunatic," and whose mother disappeared. Beneath Phoebe's story is Salamanca's own story and that of her mother, who left one April morning for Idaho, promising to return before the tulips bloomed. Sal's mother has not, however, returned, and the trip to Idaho takes on a growing urgency as Salamanca hopes to get to Idaho in time for her mother's birthday and bring her back, despite her father's warning that she is fishing in the air. This richly layered Newbery Medal-winning novel is in turn funny, mysterious, and touching.

The Warm Place

by Nancy Farmer

When Ruva, a young giraffe, is captured and sent to a zoo in San Francisco, she calls upon two rats, a street-smart chameleon, a runaway boy, and all the magical powers of the animal world to return to "the warm place" that is home.

Additional Books:

Shiloh, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Frindle, by Andrew Clements, Brian Selznick (illus.)

Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry

Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank

Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell

Holes, by Louis Sachar