

# Summer Reading Suggestions

## For Students Entering 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Have you read these classic children's books?

A Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson  
Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry  
The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden  
Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary  
The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis  
Matilda by Roald Dahl  
Mr. Popper's Penquins by Richard Atwater  
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brien  
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry  
Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
The Trumpet of the Swans by E.B. White  
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle

### New in 2015

All the Answers by Kate Messner  
Growing Up Pedro by Matt Tavares  
A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord  
The Way to Stay in Destiny by Augusta Scattergood



### Intriguing Informational Books

Citizen Scientists by Loree Griffin Burns  
Neighborhood Sharks by Katherine Roy (MSBA)  
Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum by Meghan McCarthy  
The Sea Turtle Scientist by Stephen B. Swinburne  
Stubby the War Dog by Ann Bausum (MSBA)  
Titanic: Voices from the Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson  
When Lunch Fights Back by Rebecca L. Johnson (MSBA)

# Fiction

**Absolutely Truly** by Heather Vogel Frederick (MSBA)

Twelve-year-old Truly Lovejoy's family moves to a small town to take over a bookstore. Soon, she has to solve two mysteries involving a missing book and an undelivered letter.

**A Crooked Kind of Perfect** by Linda Urban

Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.

**Eddie Red Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile** by Marcia Wells (MSBA)

Sixth grader Edmund Xavier Lonnot, codename "Eddie Red," has a photographic memory and talent for drawing anything he sees. When the NYPD is stumped by a mastermind art thief, Eddie becomes their secret weapon to solve the case"

**Esperanza Rising** by Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

**Gregor the Overlander** by Suzanne Collins

When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.

**Half a Chance** by Cynthia Lord (MSBA)

Lucy, with her mother and her photographer father, has just moved to a small rural community in New Hampshire, and with her new friend Nate she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest, but pictures sometimes reveal more than people are willing to see.

**The Homework Machine** by Dan Gutman

Four fifth-grade students each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

**Hoot** by Carl Hiaasen

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

**How to Steal a Dog** by Barbara O'Connor

Georgina, desperate to improve her family's situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward.

**Island** (trilogy) by Gordon Korman

Six children try to survive on a desert island in the Pacific Ocean after a storm destroys their boat.

**The Kingdom Keepers** series by Ridley Pearson

Finn Whitman, an Orlando teen, is hired to be hologramed as a Disney World park "guide" but soon finds himself being transported into the Magic Kingdom in the dead of night to help fight a group of Disney villains, led by Maleficent, who want to take over Disney World--and maybe more.

**The Million Dollar Shot** by Dan Gutman

Eleven-year-old Eddie gets a chance to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot at the National Basketball Association finals.

**Missing on Superstition Mountain** by Elise Broach

When brothers Simon, Henry, and Jack move with their parents to Arizona, they are irresistibly drawn to explore the aptly named Superstition Mountain, in spite of warnings that it is not safe.

**Phineas L. Macquire Blasts Off** by Frances O’Roark Dowell

Hoping to earn money to attend Space Camp, fourth-grade science whiz Phineas MacGuire gets a job as a dog walker, then enlists the aid of his friends Ben and Aretha to help with experiments using the dog’s "slobber."

**Running Out of Time** by Margaret Peterson Haddix

When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840 village, it's up to 13 year old- Jessie to escape the village and save the lives of the dying children.

**Savvy** by Ingrid Law

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

**Spy Camp** by Stuart Gibbs

As almost thirteen-year-old Ben, a student at the CIA's academy for future intelligence agents, prepares to go to spy summer camp, he receives a death threat from the evil organization SPYDER.

**Touch Blue** by Cynthia Lord

When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child, to increase the school's population.

**We Are Not Eaten by Yaks** by C. Alexander London

As the children of two world-famous explorers, eleven-year-old twins Celia and Oliver prefer television-watching to adventure-seeking until their father takes them to Tibet to help search for their long-lost mother.

**A Week in the Woods** by Andrew Clements

The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.

**Wonderstruck** by Brian Selznick

Twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek his father in New York City, and meets Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

**The Zoo at the Edge of the World** by Eric Kahn Gale (MSBA)

Marlin, a stutterer, can talk smoothly and freely with the jungle animals that populate his father's zoo in South America--until a mysterious man-eating black jaguar that his father catches and brings back home talks back.

*MSBA= Books from 2015/2016 Maine Student Book Award list*

**Use this space below to write down titles of books you hope to read this summer. Be sure to ask friends, teachers, and your librarian for book suggestions!**

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