

Dear K-5 Families,

One of our literacy goals this past year has been to foster a true love of reading. We therefore implemented a daily DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) time into our K-5 classes. After lunch, the students and teachers in these classes relaxed and enjoyed some free reading time. Watching our kids curl up in a comfy spot, or enjoying a book with a friend - what joy it has brought to our building each day!

This goal continues as we enter into the summer months. We want the kids to read. And read. And read some more. It should be text of their choosing and their ability as they develop a love of reading. One strategy to figure out readability is the 5 finger test (see below).

Attached you will find a list of *suggestions* and *ideas*. However, scope out your bookcases, check out your local library, and just keep reading!

You will also find a reading log to fill out. The children should fill in what they've been enjoying each week and an opinion of the book. Make sure to fill this out - there's a prize when you return to school in September.

Have a great summer!

Five Finger Test for Readability:

To check the reading level of your book, take this simple test:

1. Open the book to the middle and choose any page to read.
2. Read the page.
3. Put out 1 finger for every word you do not know or cannot pronounce.
4. If you have 5 fingers out, the book is too difficult to read without help.
5. If you do not get any fingers up, but are reading very slowly and sounding out almost every word, you might not enjoy the book since all your reading energy is going into decoding.

Here's the finger guide:

- 1 Finger: This book is o.k. for you.
- 2 Fingers: Still good.
- 3 Fingers: Could be a bit hard for you to understand.
- 4 Fingers: Will be too difficult to read and understand.
- 5 Fingers: Choose another book.

Pre-Readers Summer Reading List

Summer Picture Book Reading List for Pre-Readers

- *The Book with No Pictures* by B.J. Novak
- *Fairy Fairy Tales* by Esme Raji Codell
- *You're Finally Here* by Melanie Watt
- *Doodleday* by Ross Collins
- *Duck! Rabbit!* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
- *Edwin Speaks Up* by April Stevens and Sophie Blackall
- *Captain Buckleboots on the Naughty Step* by Jonathan Emmett, illustrated by Poly Bernatene
- *Goldilocks and Just One Bear* by Leigh Hodgkinson
- *Captain Buckleboots on the Naughty Step* by Mark Sperring
- *The Bear's Song* by Benjamin Chaud

Summer Picture Book Reading List for Pre-Readers: Funny Picture Books

- *There Are Cats in This Book* by Viviane Schwarz
- *Chickens to the Rescue* by John Himmelman
- *Guess Again!* by Mac Barnett
- *The Butt Book* by Artie Bennett
- *Here Comes the Big Mean Dust Bunny* by Jan Thomas
- *This Is a Moose* by Richard T. Morris, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
- *It's All About Me-Ow* by Hudson Talbott
- *You Will Be My Friend* by Peter Brown
- *King Hugo's Huge Ego* by Chris Van Dusen
- *Very Little Red Riding Hood* by Heapy & Heap
- *Sophie's Fish* by A.E. Cannon, illustrated by Lee White
- *No Bears* by Meg McKinlay, illustrated by Leila Rudge
- *Z for Moose* by Kelly Bingham, illustrated by Paul O. Zeliinsky
- *Unicorn Thinks He's Pretty Great* by Bob Shea
- *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig* by Eugene Trivizas, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury
- *Those Dam Squirrels* by Adam Rubin, illustrated by Daniel Salmieri
- *Battle Bunny* by Jon Scieszka and Mac Barnett, illustrated by Matt Myers

Pre-Readers Summer Reading List

Summer Picture Book Reading List for Pre-Readers: Picture Books with Life Lessons

- *When Blue Met Egg* by Lindsay Ward
- *You're Mean, Lily Jean!* by Frieda Wishinsky
- *Millicent and Meer* by Richard Byrne
- *Hello Goodbye and a Very Little Lie* by Christianne C. Jones
- *The Almost Fearless Hamilton SquidLegger* by Timothy Basil Ering
- *The Incredible Book Eating Boy* by Oliver Jeffers
- *Hippos Can't Swim and Other Fun Facts* by Laura Lyn DiSiena and Hannah Eliot, illustrated by Pete Oswald
- *The Art Collector* by Jan Wahl
- *Tuesday Tucks Me In: The Loyal Bond between a Soldier and his Service Dog* by Former Captain Luis Carlos Montalvan, USA with Bret Witter, photographs by Dan Dion
- *Chopsticks* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

1st Grade Summer Reading List

Beginning Readers

This list of beginning readers are books with only **a few words per page**, perfect for kids going into first grade who are just beginning to read.

If you're looking for **silly books**, read:

- *See Pip Point* by David Milgrim
- *What is Chasing Duck?* by Jan Thomas
- *I Really Like Slop* by Mo Willems (any of Elephant and Piggie books are fantastic!)
- *Ed and Ted and Ted's Dog Fred* by Andy Griffiths

If you like stories about **real life and friendship**, try:

- *Who Is That, Cat the Cat?* by Mo Willems
- *We Are Growing* by Laurie Keller
- *Big Cat* by Ethan Long
- *The Cookie Fiasco* by Dan Santat

If you like **adventure stories**, try:

- *Itty Bitty Kitty Firehouse Fun* by Joan Holub
- *Trucktown* by Jon Scieszka
- *Blip!* by Barnaby Richards (VERY easy)

If you like **animal stories**, try reading:

- *Slow, Slow Sloths* by Bonnie Bader
- *Little Big Horse* by Dave Horowitz
- *We Dig Worms* by Kevin McCloskey

Easiest Chapter Books

Easy chapter books have pictures with words. The easiest chapter books have just **a few sentences per page**.

- *Fly Guy* by Tedd Arnold
- *Aggie the Brave* by Lori Ries
- *Moldylocks and the Three Beards* by Noah Z. Jones
- *Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog* by Cynthia Rylant
- *Pinch and Dash Make Soup* by Michael J. Daley
- *Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel
- *Monkey and Elephant Get Better* by Carole Lexa Schaefer
- *Penny and Her Marble* by Kevin Henkes
- *Bink & Gollie Best Friends Forever* by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee
- *Meet Mo and Jo: The Boulder Brothers* by Sarah Lynn
- *Ling and Ting Not Exactly the Same* by Grace Lin
- *Dodsworth in New York* by Tim Egan
- *Rabbit and Robot The Sleepover* by Cece Bell
- *Narwhal: Unicorn of the Sea* by Ben Clanton
- *Haggis & Tank: All Paws on Deck* by Jessica Young

1st Grade Summer Reading List

Easy Chapter Books for First Grade

Easy chapter books have bigger text with pictures every few pages. These books listed range from middle of first grade to beginning of second grade reading levels.

If you like **funny books**, read:

- *Monkey Me* by Timothy Roland
- *Kung Pow Chicken* by Cindi Marko
- *Phonics Comics* by various
- *Junie B. Jones Smells Something Fishy* by Barbara Park

If you like **realistic books**, read:

- *Dory Fantasmagory* by Abby Hanlon
- *Benny and Penny in Just Pretend* by Geoffrey Hayes (graphic novel)
- *Nate the Great* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

If you like **adventure and fantasy books**, try:

- *The Princess in Black* by Shannon Hale and Dean Hale
- *Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot #1* by Dav Pilkey
- *Notebook of Doom #1* by Troy Cummings
- *Rise of the Earth Dragon #1* by Tracey West

2nd Grade Summer Reading List

If you like funny books, you'll love:

- *Bad Kitty* by Nick Bruel
- *Mr. Pants* by Scott McCormick
- *Mal and Chad* by Stephen McCranie
- *Captain Underpants* by Dav Pilkey
- *Lulu and the Brontosaurus* by Judith Viorst
- *Misadventures of Salem Hyde* by Frank Cammuso
- *Mercy Watson* by Kate DiCamillo

If you like mythical creatures, you'll love:

- *My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish* by Mo O'Hara
- *Never Girls* by Kiki Thorpe
- *Dragon Slayer's Academy* by Kate McMullan
- *Rainbow Magic Fairies* by Daisy Meadows

If you like adventure stories, you'll love:

- *Zita the Spacegirl* by Ben Hatke
- *Magic Tree House* by Mary Pope Osborne
- *Three-Ring Rascals* by Kate Klise

- *Galaxy Zack* by Ray O'Ryan
- *Recipe for Adventure* by Giada De Laurentiis

If you like mysteries, you'll love:

- *The Haunted Library* by Dori Hillestad Butler
- *The Whodunit Detective Agency* by Martin Widmark
- *A to Z Mysteries* by Ron Roy
- *Cam Jansen* by David A. Adler
- *The Big Bad Detective Agency* by Bruce Hale

If you love realistic stories, you'll like:

- *Calvin Coconut* by Graham Salisbury
- *Stink* by Megan McDonald
- *Ivy and Bean* by Annie Barrows
- *Noodle: The Puppy Place* by Ellen Miles
- *Daisy Dawson is On Her Way* by Steve Voake

3rd Grade Summer Reading List

If you like funny books, you'll love:

- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*
- *Big Nate*
- *The Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja*
- *Timmy Failure*
- *The Terrible Two*
- *Myth-O-Mania*
- *Lunch Lady*
- *Zeke Meeks*
- *Matilda*
- *Wayside School*

If you like friendship stories, you'll love:

- *Ivy and Bean*
- *Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie*
- *Never Girls*
- *Everyday Angel*
- *The Year of*
- *The Vanishing Coin (Magic Shop Series)*

If you like adventure books, you'll love:

- *I Survived*
- *American Girl Mysteries*
- *Secret Agent Jack Stahwart*

If you like animal books, you'll love:

- *Jenny and the Cat Club*
- *The Critter Club*
- *The Rescue Princesses*
- *Rainbow Street Shelter*
- *Horse Diaries*
- *Puppy Place*

If you like fantasy books, you'll love:

- *The Unfairest of Them All*
- *The Familiars*
- *Sammy Feral's Diaries of Weird*
- *Tuesdays at the Castle*
- *Of Giants and Ice*
- *The Olympians*
- *The Princess Academy*
- *Whatever After*
- *Faeries' Promise*
- *The Imaginary Veterinarian*
- *Spiderwick Chronicles*

4th Grade Summer Reading List

If you like fantasy books, you'll love:

- *The Menagerie*
- *Emily Windsnap*
- *In a Glass Grimmly*
- *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*
- *The Land of Stories*
- *Harry Potter*
- *Ever After High*
- *Nightmares!*
- *Amulet series*
- *The Seven Tales of Trinket*

If you like slightly weird books, you'll love:

- *School of Fear*
- *A Series of Unfortunate Events*
- *Ivy Pocket*
- *Artemis Fowl*
- *A Whole Nother Story*
- *Odditorium*
- *My Sister the Vampire*
- *Flora and Ulysses*
- *Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place*

- *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat*

If you like adventure stories, you'll love:

- *Extreme Adventures series*
- *Mouseheart*
- *The Kingdom Keepers*
- *The Genius Files*
- *The G-Man Super Journal Awesome Origins*
- *Eddie Red Undercover*
- *Holes*

If you like realistic stories, you'll love:

- *All Four Stars*
- *Because of Mr. Terupt*
- *Gaby, Lost and Found*
- *Penderwicks*
- *Almost Home*
- *The One and Only Ivan*

If you like funny books, you'll love:

- *The Croc Ate My Homework*
- *Origami Yoda*
- *Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja*

If you like historical fiction, you'll love

- *Stella by Starlight*
- *One Crazy Summer*
- *The Quilt Walk*

If you like mystery, you'll love:

- *Enola Holmes mysteries*
- *Sherlock, Lupin & Me: The Dark Lady*
- *Nick and Tesla's High Voltage Danger Lab*

5th Grade Summer Reading List

If you like fantasy adventures, you'll love:

- Chronicles of Narnia
- Odd and the Frost Giants
- Starcatchers
- Five Kingdoms
- Thrones of Bones Frostborn
- Sea of Trolls
- The Secret Zoo
- The Land of Stories
- Erec Rex
- Legacy of the Claw (Animas #1)
- Dragon Slippers

If you like animal adventures, you'll love:

- The Last Dogs
- Warriors
- Redwall
- Mouseheart
- The Last Dogs
- The One and Only Ivan
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH

If you like adventures, you'll love

- Urban Outlaws
- Loot
- The Outcasts: Brotherband Chronicles
- Stranded

- Spy School
- Wonderstruck
- Alex Rider
- The Cloak Society
- Surrounded by Sharks

If you like mysteries, you'll love:

- 39 Clues
- Suzanna Snow Mystery
- The Graveyard Book

If you like historical fiction, you'll love

- The War That Saved My Life
- Running Out of Night
- A Long Walk to Water (memoir)
- The Blackhope Enigma
- Heart of a Samurai
- The Lost Kingdom
- Kat, Incurable
- Number the Stars

If you like realistic fiction, try reading:

- Crossover
- Adventures of Beanboy
- 8th Grade Superzero
- Out of My Mind
- The Absolute Value of Mike