

Summer Reading Assignment and Book Suggestions



Incoming 5th Graders
Brookside School

Fifth Grade Summer Assignment

June 2023

Dear Incoming Fifth Graders,

Summer vacation is just around the corner. In fourth grade, you have practiced the habits and skills of good readers. To help you prepare for fifth grade, it is important that you continue to read this summer so you can advance in your journey towards academic success and becoming strong independent readers. Vacation is the perfect time for visiting with family and friends, traveling, relaxing, and curling up with a good book.

There are two things we are going to ask you to do this summer. Although we hope you will read many books, **your first job** is to select two never-read-before books that you wish to read. We have attached a list of suggested titles in case you need some assistance in finding stories that catch your interest. Please choose books that appeal to you. There is no sense wasting precious reading time on a book that you do not like! Please read and enjoy these books. Enjoy being the operative word because we would like you to be prepared to talk about these books during our first week together. One way you can get ready to do this is by tracking your thinking or jotting notes. Please see the attached sheet for some **optional** response ideas to help you complete this part of the assignment.

Our second request is for you to have someone take a picture of you reading this summer. We plan to create a bulletin board celebrating your reading, and would like to wallpaper the space with pictures of you and your classmates engaged in our favorite pastime. If you are traveling this summer, we would love a fun location photo. If you are staying close to home, a photo of your special reading spot is perfect. Keeping in mind that we read for many different purposes, you can be creative with your photo. For instance, one student read Yankee statistics in a newspaper last summer, and Mr. Akin read a take out menu before he ordered dinner for his family.. There are endless possibilities. **You can either bring the photo to school in September or when you get your schedule and know your language arts teacher, YOU CAN EMAIL THE PHOTO to Mr. Akin OR Ms. Goldsmith before the first day of school.** If you don't get around to taking a picture this summer no worries.

Our email addresses are: jakin@allendalek8.com and sgoldsmith@allendalek8.com.

Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

Mr. Akin and Ms. Goldsmith

**Incoming Fifth Grade Reading Response Guidelines
Summer Assignment 2022**



Directions: Select two books to use for this assignment, preferably new never-read-before books. Select books that you will love, and want to share with your classmates. Remember, it is perfectly acceptable to abandon a book that isn't your cup of tea (idiom – we will spend time interpreting figurative language next year)! Your goal is to get other kids interested so they will want to read your book too!

Optional suggestions for responding to your reading.:

- 1) Write down the complete title, author's name and a brief summary on a sheet of paper or a large index card. Remember, a summary should include important details about the setting, the main character, the main problem, and solution or resolution.
- 2) Write a letter to the author critiquing the book.
- 3) Write a letter to a character in the book.
- 4) Select your favorite scene from the book and rewrite in graphic novel form.
- 5) Create a book advertisement poster. Include character names, setting description, and a teaser about the plot. (Don't give away the ending). This can be done by hand or digitally.
- 6) Write a new ending to the book.
- 7) Think of a new name for the book and design a book cover using your idea.
- 8) Choose your own activity. If you want to run it by me, I'll be checking my email periodically.

Before the beginning of the school year when you know your language arts teacher, send your picture to either Mr. Akin or Ms. Goldsmith. The picture is our favorite part of your summer assignment.

Our email addresses are: jakin@allendalek8.com and sgoldsmith@allendalek8.com.

5th Grade Book Suggestions (Updated 5/2023)

Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate (Any Katharine Applegate)

Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper

Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos

The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown

Pax by Sara Pennypacker

The Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling

When Life Gives you Lemons, Make Peach Pie by Erin Soderberg Downing

Good Dog by Dan Gemeinhart

Front Desk by Kelly Yang (Any in the series)

The Smartest Kid in the Universe Chris Grabenstein

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein (any Chris Grabenstein books)

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street by Karina Yan Glaser (any in series)

The Penderwick Series by Jeanne Birdsall

The Strange Case of Origami Yoda (any in series) by Tom Angleberger

Spy School (or any book in the Spy School or Fun Jungle series) by Stuart Gibbs

City Spies Series by James Pointi

Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Summer Vacation (any in series) by Tommy Greenwald

Warriors (any book in this series) by Erin W. Hunter

The Unicorn Rescue Society Series by Adam Gidwitz

The Sisters Grimm (Any Fairy Tale Detective Series) by Michael Buckley

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (*Any Rick Riordan book*)

The Losers Club by Andrew Clements (*Any Andrew Clements*)

Flora and Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo (Any Kate DiCamillo)

Mercy Suarez Changes Gears by Meg Medina

Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin by Lisa Shurtliff

Any Baseball Card Adventures by Dan Gutman

Any Sports Fiction by Mike Lupica

Mrs. Bixby's Last Day By John David Anderson

The Unteachables by Gordon Korman (*Any Gordon Korman books*)

Wish by Barbara O'Connor

A Field Guide to Getting Lost by Joy McCullough

Any "I Survived" books by Lauren Tarshis

Any Wings of Fire Series by Tui T. Sutherland

Wonder by PJ Palacio

Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea