

Hello Upper Elementary,

Happy summer! I am excited to share with you our summer reading list. Please choose at least two books that you'd like to read this summer, one from this list and one from your own choosing. You may request them from your local library, order them online, or buy them at your local bookstore.

When choosing your books, I encourage you to read for pleasure, learning, and broadening your perspectives on the world and humanity. Choose two different genres of books. There is so much out there! Historical fiction, mysteries, fantasy, science fiction, biographies, graphic novels... Try choosing at least one book that you wouldn't typically read. Don't feel pressured to stick to your grade level- if there is a book that interests you, go for it!

For one of the books you choose, you will write a book report. This year we are using a Summer Book Report form that will ask you questions about the author, the genre, vocabulary you learned, and why you chose the book. You will also be writing a few paragraphs (3 for rising 4th years and 4 for rising 5ths and 6ths) from a selection of questions that you may choose from.

You will be reading your book report paragraphs to the class the first week of school. Take the time to practice reading your work at home so that you feel prepared to share your report with your classmates.

Also this year, a math packet is being sent home for skill review. It will cover many skills learned over the past year as well as fact practice. I encourage you to do a little bit at a time and not wait to do it all at once (no procrastinators!); that would defeat the purpose of review! Math packets are to be handed in on the first day of school.

Have a beautiful summer,

Note to parents: Our classroom has a wide range of maturity levels and reading levels. While the books on this list have been researched and many read by myself, I encourage each family to look over the books listed and help their child decide what books are most appropriate at this time.

Upper El Summer Reading List 2025

Recommended for 4th Years

- ❖ The One and Only Ivan - Katherine Applegate
- ❖ The Million Dollar Shot - Dan Gutman
- ❖ Sign of the Beaver - Elizabeth George Speare
- ❖ Turtle in Paradise by Jennifer L. Holm
- ❖ Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary (series)
- ❖ How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell
- ❖ No Talking by Andrew Clements
- ❖ Ramona Quimby by Beverly Cleary (series)
- ❖ Flush, Hoot, Scat, or Chomp by Carl Hiaasen (companion books)
- ❖ Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin
- ❖ Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick
- ❖ Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein (series)
- ❖ Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman (series)
- ❖ The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan (39 Clues series)
- ❖ The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart (series)
- ❖ Runaway Ralph by Beverly Cleary
- ❖ Stuart Little by E.B. White
- ❖ The BFG by Roald Dahl
- ❖ Castle in the Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop (series)
- ❖ The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer (series)
- ❖ The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
- ❖ If You Lived at the Time of the American Revolution by Kay Moore (series)
- ❖ Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World by Jennifer Armstrong True Stories by various authors (series by Usborne)
- ❖ Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink
- ❖ Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- ❖ The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
- ❖ I Survived (series) - Lauren Tarshis

Recommended for 5th Years

- ❖ Wonder - R. J. Palacio
- ❖ The Only Girl in School - Natalie Standiford
- ❖ The Penderwicks - Jeanne Birdsall
- ❖ Loki's Wolves - K. L. Armstrong
- ❖ El Deafo - Cece Bell
- ❖ Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing - Judy Blume
- ❖ The Name of This Book is Secret - Pseudonymous Bosch

- ❖ Because of Mr. Terupt - Rob Buyea
- ❖ The Lemonade War - Jacqueline Davies
- ❖ Thor's Serpents - K. L. Armstrong
- ❖ Superfudge - Judy Blume
- ❖ Spy School - Stuart Gibbs
- ❖ Where the Mountain Meets the Moon - Grace Lin
- ❖ Rules - Cynthia Lord

- ❖ The Lightning Thief - Rick Riordan
- ❖ The Mysterious Benedict Society (series) - Trenton Lee Stewart
- ❖ Booked - Kwame Alexander
- ❖ Echo Mountain - Lauren Wolk
- ❖ Holes - Louis Sachar
- ❖ Inside Out and Back Again - Thanhha Lai
- ❖ My Side of the Mountain - Jean Craighead George
- ❖ Other Words for Home - Jasmine Warga
- ❖ The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster
- ❖ Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming
- ❖ Archimedes and the Door of Science by Jeanne Bendick
- ❖ The Remarkable Rough-Riding Life of Theodore Roosevelt and the Rise of Empire America by Cheryl Harness

Recommended for 6th Years

- ❖ Little Women - Louisa May Alcott
- ❖ The Door of No Return - Kwame Alexander
- ❖ The Last Cuentista - Donna Barba Higuera
- ❖ The Call of the Wild - Jack London
- ❖ The Dark is Rising - Susan Cooper
- ❖ Island of the Blue Dolphins - Scott O'Dell
- ❖ Chains - Laurie Halse Anderson
- ❖ Midnight Without a Moon - Linda Williams Jackson
- ❖ Ghost - Jason Reynolds
- ❖ Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - Mildred D Taylor
- ❖ The Graveyard Book - Neil Gaiman
- ❖ Wolf Hollow - Lauren Wolk
- ❖ The 50 States - Gabrielle Balkan
- ❖ Beetle Boy - MG Leonard
- ❖ Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (or any in the series) J. K. Rowling
- ❖ Where the Red Fern Grows - Wilson Rawls
- ❖ Anne of Green Gables (series) - LM Montgomery

- ❖ A Wrinkle in Time - Madeline L'Engle
- ❖ Amal Unbound - Aisha Saeed
- ❖ Jack London and the Klondike Gold Rush by Peter Lourie
- ❖ The Woman Who Split the Atom: The Life of Lise Meitner by Marissa Moss
- ❖ Seen and Unseen by Lauren Tamaki (Illustrator); Elizabeth Partridge
- ❖ Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl
- ❖ Everything Sad is Untrue by Lucinda Dyer