

## **IMPORTANT Memorandum**

TO: Rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their Families  
FROM: Mrs. Armas  
RE: Summer ideas  
DATE: June 2020

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Friends,

Wow! What a year! We made it. I know you're ready to be successful 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

By maintaining an active literacy life over the summer, you ensure the best start to grade five in September! Remember, it's important to read books that are at your "just right" level – not too hard and not too easy....

### **Use the five finger test!**

- 1.) open a book to any page**
- 2.) start reading**
- 3.) hold up a finger every time you see a word you do not know**
- 4.) look at your hand**

**0-1 finger up = too easy**

**2-3 fingers up = JUST RIGHT**

**4 fingers up = okay to try**

**5 fingers up = too hard**

See the attached list of books to find some you'll enjoy reading. **Check out this website for more reading suggestions: [www.cbcbooks.org](http://www.cbcbooks.org)**

For extra language arts and grammar practice, check out the online practice workbook at **[mhschool.com/reading/treasure\\_workbooks/national/g4/grammar\\_pb.pdf](http://mhschool.com/reading/treasure_workbooks/national/g4/grammar_pb.pdf)**

If you'd like to purchase any practice workbooks for the summer, I like the publisher Spectrum. They have separate ones for grade 5 language arts, reading, and writing. They are reasonably priced and readily available.

It's been a joy to have guided you on your literacy journey this year. I'll always remember how special you are, and the fascinating adventure we shared learning at-home. Charlie will always remember you too!

Have a safe and happy summer!

Love,

Mrs. Armas 😊

## Rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading suggestions (In order from easiest to most challenging)

### Fiction

Aliens Ate My Homework Coville, Bruce  
Help! I'm Trapped In...(series) Strasser, Todd  
Bunnicula (series) Howe, James  
Dear Mr. Henshaw Clearly, Beverly  
House in the Big Woods (series) Wilder, Laura I  
James And The Giant Peach Dahl, Roald  
Just Juice Hesse, Karen  
Mr. Popper's Penguins Atwater, Richard  
The War with Grandpa Smith, Robert  
Superfudge, Fudge-a-Mania, Double Fudge Blume, Judy  
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing Blume, Judy  
There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom Sachar, Louis  
Amos (series) Paulsen, Gary  
Because Of Winn-Dixie DiCamillo, Kate  
Brian's Winter Paulsen, Gary  
Charlie and The Chocolate Factory Dahl, Roald  
Charlotte's Web White, E.B.  
Living Thing Rylant, Cynthia  
Frindle Clements, Andrew  
Hatchet (series) Paulsen, Gary  
How To Eat Fried Worms Fleischman, Sid  
Shiloh Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds  
The Whipping Boy Fleischman, Sid  
The Witches Dahl, Roald  
The Genius Files, Dan Gutman  
The Indian in the Cupboard (series) Banks, Lynne Reid  
Aldo Applesauce (series) Hurwitz, Johanna  
My Teacher...(series) Coville, Bruce  
Harry (series) Sheldon, Dyan  
Bridge to Terabithia Paterson, Katherine  
The Dollhouse Murders Wright, Betty Ren  
From The Mixed-Up Files Of Mr. Basil E. Frankweiler Konigsburg, E.L.  
The Great Gilly Hopkins Paterson, Katherine  
How Many Days to America? Bunting, Eve  
In The Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson Lora, Bette  
Letters from Rifka Hesse, Karen  
Lily's Crossing Giff, Patricia Reilly  
On My Honor Bauer, Marion D.  
The Pinballs Byars, Betsy  
Poppy Avi  
An Angel For Solomon Singer Rylant, Cynthia  
Bud, Not Buddy Curtis, Christopher Paul

Blubber Blume, Judy  
Then Again, Maybe I Won't Blume, Judy  
Joey Pigza Swallowed The Key Gantos, Jack  
The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe (series) Lewis, C. S.  
The BFG Dahl, Roald  
Lyddie Paterson, Katherine  
Tucket's Ride Paulsen, Gary  
Words Paulsen, Gary  
Report to the Principal's Office Spinelli, Jerry  
Ella Enchanted Levine, Gail Garson  
Flipped Van Draanen, Wendelin  
Julie of the Wolves George, Jean C.  
My Side of the Mountain George, Jean C.  
Number the Stars Lowry, Lois  
A Single Shard Park, Linda Sue  
Tangerine Bloor, Edward  
The View From Saturday Konigsburg, E.L.

### **Non-Fiction**

Black Diamond: The Story of Negro Baseball Leagues McKissack, Patricia  
Finding the Titanic Ballard, Robert  
Great Black Heroes: Five Notable Inventors Hudson, Wade  
If You Lived At The Time Of ... Various Authors  
If Your Name Was Changed At Ellis Island Levine, Ellen  
A Medieval Feast Alike  
Sarah Morton's Day Waters, Kate  
Walking The Road To Freedom Ferris, Jeri  
All For The Better Mohr, Nicholasa  
Amelia Earhart: Young Aviator Gormley, Beatrice  
And Then What Happened, Paul Revere? Fritz, Jean  
Can't You Make Them Behave, King George? dePaola, Tomie  
Can it Rain Cats and Dogs? Question And Answers About The Weather Berger, Melvin  
Flight: The Journey Of Charles Lindbergh Burleigh, Robert  
The Great Migration Lawrence, Jacob  
Mummies Made In Egypt Alike  
Mummies! Secrets Of the Dead Griffey, Harriet  
Sadako And the Thousand Paper Cranes Coerr, Eleanor  
The Amazing Impossible Erie Canal Harness, Cheryl  
A Boy Called Slow Bruchac, Joseph  
Do Tornadoes Really Twist? Berger, Melvin  
A More Perfect Union Maestro, Betsy  
My Life in Dog Years Paulsen, Gary  
One Day In The Tropical Rain Forest George, Jean C.  
Out Of Darkness Freedman, Russell

Sideways Arithmetic From the Wayside School Sachar, Louis  
Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus? Fritz, Jean  
Love That Dog Creech, Sharon  
The Man Who Was Poe Avi  
Something Upstairs Avi  
Sees Behind Trees Dorris, Michael  
The Sign Of The Beaver Speare, Elizabeth G.  
Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story Of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy Reit, Seymour  
Boy: Tales Of Childhood Dahl, Roald  
Earthquakes Simon, Seymour  
Freedom Train Sterling, Dorothy  
Frozen Man Getz, David  
Lightning Kramer, Stephen  
Muscles: Our Muscular System Simon, Seymour  
Shh! We're Writing The Constitution Fritz, Jean  
Woodsong Paulsen, Gary  
The Watsons Go To Birmingham - 1963 Curtis, Christopher Paul  
Wringer & Who Put the Hair in my Toothbrush ? Spinelli, Jerry  
Insects Bird, Bettina  
Knots in My Yo-Yo String Spinelli, Jerry  
Mandela Cooper, Floyd  
Ordinary Genius: The Story of Albert Einstein McPherson, Stephanie S.  
A Place Called Heartbreak Myers, Walter Dean  
The Silk Route Major, John S.  
The Tarantula in My Purse George, Jean C.  
Volcano: The Eruption and Healing Of Mount St. Helens Lauber, Patricia  
The Witchcraft of Salem Village Jackson, Shirley

**Additional recommendations (various levels)**

Jasper Dash and the Flame-Pits of Delaware written by M. T. Anderson  
The Magician's Elephant written by Kate DiCamillo  
The Outlandish Adventures of Liberty Aimes written by Kelly Easton  
The Dream Stealer written by Sid Fleischman  
Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking, and Other Natural Disasters written by Lenore Look  
Thumb and the Bad Guys written by Ken Roberts  
Mudville written by Kurtis Scaletta  
Leaving the Bellweathers written by Kristin Clark Venuti  
Ghost Girl: A Blue Ridge Mountain Story by Delia Ray  
Bad Girls by Cynthia Voigt  
Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson  
Shark Life: True Stories about Sharks & the Sea written by Peter Benchley  
How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming  
written by Lynne Cherry and Gary

Pocket Babies and Other Amazing Marsupials by Sneed B. Collard  
Science Warriors: The Battle Against Invasive Species written by Sneed B. Collard  
The Down-to-Earth Guide to Global Warming by Laurie David and Cambria Gordon  
Poop: A Natural History of the Unmentionable written by Nicola Davies  
What's Eating You?: Parasites—The Inside Story written by Nicola Davies  
ER Vets: Life in an Animal Emergency Room by Donna M. Jackson  
Evolving Planet: Four Billion Years of Life on Earth written by Erica Kelly and Richard Kissel  
Outside and Inside Killer Bees by Sandra Markle  
Outside and Inside Mummies by Sandra Markle  
Snakes: Biggest! Littlest! written by Sandra Markle  
Oh, Rats!: The Story of Rats and People written by Albert Marrin

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