



Choose books for the grade the student will be entering in the Fall of 2025.

Books that are **bold** are required for Summer Reading.

1st Grade

Required Reading: [I Don't Want to Be a Frog](#) by Dev Petty and Mike Boldt

Students should also choose **one** of the following books:

- [It's Not Easy Being a Bunny](#) by Marilyn Sadler
- [Bear and Duck](#) by Katy Hudson
- [A Splendid Friend, Indeed](#) by Suzanne Bloom

2nd Grade (3 Books Total)

Required Reading: **Amelia Bedelia** by Peggy Parish (the original book)

Students should also choose **two books** from any of the following series (one from each genre):

Fiction (choose one book from any of the following series)

- [Black Lagoon Adventure Series](#) by Mark Thaler (any book in the series)
- [Fly Guy](#) by Tedd Arnold (any book in the series)
- [Henry and Mudge](#) by Cynthia Rylant (any book in the series)
- [Magic Treehouse](#) by Mary Pope Osborne (any book in the series)
- [Mercy Watson](#) by Kate DiCamillo (any book in the series)

Nonfiction (choose one book from any of the following series)

- [Fly Guy Presents](#) by Tedd Arnold (any book in the series)
- [Ordinary People Change the World - I Am](#) by Brad Meltzer (any book in the series)
- [Who Would Win?](#) by Jerry Pallotta (any book in the series)

3rd Grade

Required Reading: Choose **TWO** books from the following list:

- [My Father's Dragon](#) by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- [Flora and Ulysses](#) by Kate DiCamillo
- [Judy Moody](#) by Megan McDonald (any book in the series)
- [Geronimo Stilton](#) by Geronimo Stilton (any book in the series)
- [My Weird School](#) by Dan Gutman (any book in the series)
- [Wayside School](#) by Louis Sachar (any book in the series)

4th Grade (2 Books Total)

Required Reading: [Rules](#) by Cynthia Lord

Students should also choose **one** of the following from any genre:

Realistic Fiction

- [The Lemonade War](#) by Jacqueline Davies
- [Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo: Who's Afraid of Fourth Grade?](#) By Nancy Krulik
- [Mason Dixon: Fourth Grade Disasters](#) by Claudia Mills
- [Summer Pony](#) by Jean Slaughter Doty
- [Liberty Porter, First Daughter](#) by Julia DeVillers
- [The Hundred Dresses](#) by Eleanor Estes
- Any Book in the [Jake Maddox](#) sports series
- Any book in the historical [American Girl](#) series (Kaya, Addy, Samantha, Molly, Kit, Rebecca, Melody, Claudie, Josefina, Courtney, Julie, Nanea).

Fantasy

- [The One and Only Ivan](#) by Katherine Applegate
- [Wish Tree](#) by Katherine Applegate
- [The Girl Who Drank the Moon](#) by Kelly Barnhill
- [Fourth Grade Fairy](#) by Eileen Cook
- [Charlie and the Chocolate Factory](#) by Roald Dahl
- [The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe](#) by C.S. Lewis
- [Tuesdays at the Castle](#) by Jessica Day George (this is a series!)

Humor

- [Trapped in a Video Game](#) by Dustin Brady
- [The World According to Humphrey](#) by Betty B. Birney
- [The Smartest Kid in the Universe](#) by Chris Grabenstein
- [Max Einstein](#) (Any book in the series) by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein
- [The 13 Story Treehouse](#) by Andy Griffiths

Adventure/Mystery

- [The Genius Files](#) Dan Gutman
- [The Homework Machine](#) by Dan Gutman
- [Word of Mouse](#) by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein
- [Any Classic Nancy Drew](#) by Carolyn Keene
- [The Virginia Mysteries: Summer of the Woods](#) by Steven K. Smith

Biography/Nonfiction

- [Who was Daniel Boone?](#) by Sydelle Kramer
- [What is Nintendo?](#) by Gina Shaw
- [Who Was Mother Teresa?](#) By Jim Gigliotti

5th Grade (2 Books Total)

Required Reading: [Out of My Mind](#) by Sharon Draper

Students should also choose **one** of the following:

Realistic Fiction

- [Because of Mr. Terupt](#) by Rob Buyea
- [Fish in a Tree](#) by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

- [*Left Out*](#) by Tim Green
- [*Bridge to Terabithia*](#) by Katherine Paterson
- [*Wonder*](#) by R.J. Palacio
- [*The Contract*](#) Series by Derek Jeter
- [*Hello, Universe*](#) by Erin Entrada Kelly

Fantasy

- [*The Guardians of Ga'Hoole: The Capture*](#) by Kathryn Lasky
- [*Warriors: Into the Wild*](#) by Erin Hunter
- [*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*](#) by J.K. Rowling
- [*Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*](#) by Rick Riordan
- [*Keeper of the Lost Cities*](#) by Shannon Messenger
- [*Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan*](#) by John Flanagan

Humor

- [*Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life*](#) by James Patterson
- [*My Life as a Book*](#) by Jake Tashjian
- [*Attack of the Girlzillas*](#) by Jenny Meyerhoff
- [*Funny Girl*](#) by Betsy Bird

Biography/Nonfiction

- [*Who is Jane Goodall?*](#) by Roberta Edwards
- [*Who was Stephen Hawking?*](#) by Jim E. Gigliotti
- [*Who was Helen Keller?*](#) by Gare Thompson

6th Grade (2 Books Total)

Required Reading: [*Where The Mountain Meets The Moon*](#) by Grace Lin

Choose one to read from the list below:

Mystery/Suspense

- [*Ali Cross*](#) by James Patterson
- [*Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer*](#) by John Grisham (any in the series)
- [*Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation*](#) by Stuart Gibbs
- *Alex Rider: [*Storm Breaker*](#)* by Anthony Horowitz
- [*The Westing Game*](#) by Ellen Raskin
- [*When You Reach Me*](#) by Rebecca Stead
- [*Enola Holmes Mysteries*](#) by Nancy Springer

Realistic Fiction

- [*Braced*](#) by Alyson Gerber
- [*Walk Two Moons*](#) by Sharon Creech
- [*Rain Reign*](#) by Ann M. Martin
- [*Front Desk*](#) by Kelly Yang
- [*Blended*](#) by Sharon Draper
- [*Out of my Heart*](#) by Sharon Draper (sequel to *Out of my Mind*)
- [*So B. It*](#) by Sarah Weeks

Historical Fiction

- [*The Watsons Go to Birmingham*](#) by Christopher Paul Curtis

- [*The War that Saved my Life*](#) by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- [*Someone named Eva*](#) by Joan Wolf
- [*Words on Fire*](#) by Jennifer Nielsen
- [*Becoming Muhammad Ali*](#) by James Patterson and Kwame Alexander
- [*With the Might of Angels*](#) by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Fantasy

- [*The Wingfeather Saga: On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness*](#) by Andrew Peterson
- [*The Bookwanderers*](#) by Anna James
- [*Tomorrow Girls*](#) by Eva Gray
- [*Pax*](#) by Sara Pennypacker
- [*Land of Stories: The Wishing Well*](#) by Chris Colfer
- [*House of Secrets*](#) by Chris Columbus
- [*The Unicorn Quest*](#) by Kamila Benko
- [*A Wrinkle in Time*](#) by Madeleine L'Engle
- [*Things Not Seen*](#) by Andrew Clements
- [*The Iron Trial*](#) by Holly Black and Cassandra Clare
- [*Wing & Claw: Forest of Wonders*](#) by Linda Sue Park

Humor

- [*The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*](#) by Tom Angleberger
- [*The Brilliant World of Tom Gates*](#) by L. Pichon
- [*Diary of a 6th grade ninja*](#) by Marcus Emerson
- [*Max and the MidKnights*](#) by Lincoln Pierce
- [*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*](#) by Chris Grabenstein

Jr. High

Required Reading for incoming 7th Grade: [*The Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankenweiler*](#) by E.L. Konigsburg.

Required Reading for incoming 8th Grade: [*Restart*](#) by Gordon Korman

Students should be prepared to engage in class discussions and activities on the required reading. There will be activities and assignments over the books the first week of school!

Additionally, students should choose **ONE** of the following suggestions. Please contact Ms. Dauenhauer at ldauenhauer@stmm.org with any questions.

Incoming 7th Graders:

Take notes on the books you read (chapter summaries, important plot events) to help with future assignments. You don't need to write any essays (yet) just keep 5-10 notes somewhere safe so you don't forget about what you read!

Incoming 8th Graders

Answer the 5 Core Questions for each book.

What did you like about the book?

What would have made it better for you?

What is a "back-of-book summary" for the book?

What themes did you discover in the book?

What is your "one sentence review" of the book?

Fiction:

[Counting by 7s](#) by Sloan
[Out of My Heart](#) by Sharon Draper (Sequel to *Out of My Mind*)
[Soof](#) by Sarah Weeks (Sequel to *So. B. It*)
[Football Genius](#) by Tim Green
[Summer Ball](#) by Mike Lupica
[The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl](#) by Stacy McAnulty
[The Five People You Meet In Heaven](#) by Mitch Albom
[I Know What You Did Last Summer](#) by Lois Duncan
[The Summer We Forgot](#) by Caroline George

Fantasy/Sci-fi/Dystopian Fiction:

[The Selection](#) by Kiera Cass
[Divergent](#) by Veronica Roth
[Legend](#) by Lu
[I am Number Four](#) by Pittacus Lore
[The 5th Wave](#) by Rick Yancy
[Z for Zachariah](#) by Robert C. O'Brien
[The Dark Tide](#) by Dennis L. McKiernan
[Steelheart](#) by Brandon Sanderson

Historical Fiction:

[Chains](#) by Laurie Halse Anderson
[Fever 1793](#) by Laurie Halse Anderson
[Johnny Tremain](#) by Forbes
[The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg](#) by Rodman Philbrick
[The Brooklyn Nine: A Novel in Nine Innings](#) by Alan Gratz
[Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of the "Children's Ship"](#) by Deborah Heiligman
[Homeless Bird](#) by Gloria Whelan

Non-Fiction

[No Summit Out of Sight](#) by Romero
[I Am Malala \(Young Readers Edition\)](#) by Yousafzai
[Women of Courage: Corrie Ten Boom](#) by Sam Wellman
[God's Smuggler](#) by Brother Andrew
[We Beat the Street: How a Friendship Pact Led to Success](#) by Davis, Jenkins, Hunt, Draper
[Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team](#) by Steve Sheinkin
[I Will Always Write Back](#) by Martin Ganda and Caitlin Alifirenka
[The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind \(Young Readers Edition\)](#) by William Kamkwamba
[Signs of Survival](#) by Hartman and Greene