

Welcome to the 2021 Summer Reading Challenge!

Future 5th grade students,

Summer is finally here! After nine months of hard work, you can relax with your family and enjoy all that a lazy summer afternoon has to offer. We would like to challenge you, though, to keep your brains sharp this summer. Students entering 5th grade are required to read a novel from the provided list in its entirety by the first day of school. The following summer reading list provides a wide range of literature. Please choose a book from this list that interests you.

In addition to the required reading, students also have the option of completing a fun “Reading Bingo” card! This is completely optional, but will be a fun way to pass some of those long summer hours. Students will receive a small treat for completing at least 3 bingos. If a student completes a blackout (every box on the card is completed), that student will receive a Sonic Slush as a reward! *Every box completed **must be initialed by a parent** to receive credit.* Any completed bingo cards, along with written articles, summaries, etc., will be turned in on the first day of school.

I hope you have a restful and blessed summer vacation. Be safe, and we will see you in August.

Love,

Mrs. Bloom

5th grade English

Entering Fifth Grade Required Summer Reading List

You are required to read only! Book reviews will be completed during the first week of school.

Choose ONE of the following:

Little Women/Little Men (Louisa May Alcott) Set in the 1860's, a mother and four daughters struggle to support themselves as their father is away serving as a chaplain in the Civil War. *Little Men* focuses on boys in the Plumfield Estate School.

Twenty and Ten (Claire Huchet Bishop) Based on a true story...during the Nazi occupation of France, twenty ordinary French kids in a boarding school agree to hide ten Jewish children. Then German soldiers arrive...

The Wheel on the School (Miendart DeJong) Why do the storks no longer come to the little Dutch fishing village of Shora to nest? It was Lina, one of the six schoolchildren who first asked the question, and she set the others to wondering. And sometimes when you begin to wonder, you begin to make things happen!

The Phantom Tollbooth (Norton Juster) For Milo, everything is a bore. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he has nothing better to do. But on the other side, things become exciting...a funny book.

Number the Stars (Lois Lowry) It's 1943 and life in Copenhagen is filled with food shortages and the Nazi soldiers marching through town. When the Jews of Denmark are "relocated," Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be one of the family. Soon Annemarie is asked to go on a dangerous mission to save Ellen's life. A serious, thought-provoking book.

Reb and the Redcoats (Constance Savery) The Revolutionary War is seen through the eyes of a British family to whom an American prisoner of war has been entrusted. Technically, the young prisoner is in Uncle Lawrence's custody, but the children soon forge a forbidden friendship.

Pollyanna (Eleanor Porter) When orphaned 11-year-old Pollyanna comes to live with austere and wealthy Aunt Polly, her philosophy of gladness brings happiness to her aunt and other members of the community. A happy read.

The Railway Children (Edith Nesbit) The comfortable lives of three well-mannered siblings are greatly altered when, one evening, two men arrive at the house and take their father away. With the family's fortunes considerably reduced in his absence, the children and their mother are forced to live in a simple country cottage near a railway station.

The Borrowers (Mary Norton) Under the kitchen floor is the world of the Clocks, who simply "borrow" from the "human beans" who live above them. It's a comfortable life, but boring if you're a kid. Only Pod is allowed to venture into the house above, because the danger of being seen by a human is too great. Borrowers who are seen by humans are never seen again!

Gentle Ben (Walt Morey) The Alaskan wilderness is a lonely place for Mark Andersen, especially after the death of his older brother, Jamie. But in time Mark finds someone else to love--Ben, an Alaskan brown bear so huge that no one else dares come near him.

Lassie Come Home (Eric Knight) Lassie is Joe's prize collie and constant companion. But when Joe's father loses his job, Lassie must be sold. Three times she escapes from her new owner, and three times she returns home to Joe, until finally she is taken to the remotest part of Scotland—too far a journey for any dog to make alone.

Gone Away Lake (Elizabeth Enright) Once upon a time the swamp was a splendid lake, and the fallen houses along its shore an elegant resort community. But though the lake is long gone and the resort faded away, the houses still hold a secret life: two people who have never left Gone Away...and who can tell the story of what happened there.

The Peterkin Papers (Lucretia Hale) The Peterkins sit out in the sun for hours and fail to go for a ride because they've forgotten to unhitch the horse, they play the piano from the porch through the parlor window because the movers left the keyboard turned that way, they decide to raise the ceiling to accommodate a too-tall Christmas tree, and so on... A humorous book.

The Sign of the Beaver (Elizabeth George Speare) A survival story set in the 1700s. Thirteen year-old Matt is more than a little apprehensive when his father leaves him alone to guard their new cabin in the wilderness. When a stranger steals his gun, Matt realizes he has no way to shoot game or to protect himself.

You may choose any **Marguerite Henry** book. Apart from *Brighty of the Grand Canyon*, which is about a donkey, these are wonderful stories of horses, some with boys, others with girls, some set in Europe, and some in our own country.

The Twenty-One Balloons (William Pene du Bois) Professor William Waterman Sherman decides to take a year off and spend it crossing the Pacific Ocean in a hot-air balloon. But when he is found after just three weeks floating in the Atlantic among the wreckage of twenty hot-air balloons, naturally, the world is eager to know what happened.

Dog Jack (Florence W. Biros) Jack, a stray mongrel dog, wanders into a Pittsburgh fire station and becomes the mascot of the 102nd regiment of the Pennsylvania Volunteers. Based on a true story.

Of Courage Undaunted (James Daugherty) An exciting true story of the Lewis and Clark Expeditions.

In the Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson (Betto Bao Lord) A Chinese girl immigrates to New York in 1947 and assimilates into a strange culture of tough kids, stickball, and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

B	I	N	G	O
Read aloud 15 road signs to an adult 	Read outside for an hour	Read for 15 minutes	Find three rivers on a map	Draw a picture of a scene from a chapter book you read
Read 3 picture books	Read a book by your favorite author	Read in a tent or fort 	Read directions on how to do something	Read a poem
Read a book or movie review	write a letter to a friend		Read a book or article about your dream job	Read two comics from a newspaper
Read a book that's been made into a movie	Read a science fiction or fantasy book.	Write a summary of an article	Find three major bodies of water on a map 	Read a Newberry Award winning book
Write an alternate ending to a book you read	Find Europe on a map	Read a biography	Read an article from online	Read a magazine article