



SUMMER READING FOR INCOMING 5TH GRADERS (2026)

Required Reading for ALL incoming 5th graders: The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo (4.7)

Students should be prepared to complete a small project assignment and/or assessment on the required reading book when they return to school. If the book is read at the beginning of the summer, students should take notes and/or re-read it before returning to school.

Please choose two other books from the following list (one fiction and one nonfiction). You may choose another book that is not from this list, however, it needs to be within your AR level (check at arbookfinder.com). You will be able to take AR quizzes on books you read once you return to school.

Fiction:

1. Football Genius by Tim Green (4.8)
2. A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park (5.0)
3. Island of Blue Dolphin by Scott O'Dell (5.4)
4. The Academy by TZ Layton (5.5)
5. Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry (6.2)
6. The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Jester (6.7)
7. Gregor the Overlander series by Suzanne Collins (4.7-5.0)

Non-Fiction:

1. We Are the Ship by Kadir Nelson (5.8)
2. What was D-Day? By Patricia Brennan Demuth (5.8)
3. The Story of Simone Biles by Rachelle Burk (5.3)
4. I Survived...(Book Series, choose one in your reading range)
5. The White House by Debra Hess (5.8)
6. Truths and Myths About (Book series, choose one in your reading range)