



Summer Reading - 2015

Upper Elementary

Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 3rd/4th grade reading level.

Your Summer Reading Goal:

READ FOUR OR MORE BOOKS!

“Harvard University assistant education professor James Kim has found that students who read four or more at-level books over the summer do better than those who did not when they return to school in the fall. “ – Scholastic Magazine

Top Suggestions!

Check them off as you read! See how many you can finish this summer!

___ *Wonder* – R. J. Palacio

August Pullman was born with a facial deformity that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face.

___ *The One and Only Ivan* – Katherine Applegate

***2013 Newbery Medal Winner!**

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

___ *Flora and Ulysses* – Kate DiCamillo

***2014 Newbery Medal Winner!**

A girl named Flora and a squirrel named Ulysses, whose life was saved by Flora after he was involved in an incident with a vacuum cleaner, team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak.

___ *You Wouldn't Want to Be Series* – Varies

This best-selling series engages readers of all levels by making them part of the story. Readers will become the main character and can revel in the gory and dark sides of life throughout important moments in history.

___ *The Septimus Heap Series* – Angie Sage

Septimus Heap, the seventh son of the seventh son, and Jenna, the little girl Septimus's father found in the snow the night Septimus was born and taken away, are threatened by the evil wizard DomDaniel, who intends to finish off the entire royal line.

___ *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* - C.S. Lewis

Two brothers and two sisters enter the magical land of Narnia through an enchanted wardrobe and find themselves caught up in the battle between Aslan, the lion King of Narnia, and the White Witch, who holds the land in her power.

___ *The Series of Unfortunate Events* – Lemony Snicket

After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that the distant relative who is appointed their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune.

___ *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* – Brian Selznick

When Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toymaker, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Additional Suggested Titles

Check them off as you read! See how many you can finish this summer!

___ **11 Birthdays – Wendy Mass**

After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

___ **Mission Unstoppable – Dan Gutman**

On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

___ **Because of Winn-Dixie – Kate DiCamillo**

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

___ **Gregor the Overlander – Suzanne Collins**

When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving humans, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.

___ **The Lemonade War – Jacqueline Davies**

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands.

___ **A Wrinkle in Time - Madeleine L'Engle**

Meg Murry and her friends embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg's father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

___ **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Roald Dahl**

Each of five children lucky enough to discover a ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory takes advantage of the situation in his own way.

___ **Regarding the Fountain – Kate Klise**

When the principal asks a fifth-grader to write a letter regarding the purchase of a new drinking fountain for their school, he finds that all sorts of chaos results.

___ **Pippi Longstocking – Astrid Lindgren**

Tommy and Annika have a new neighbor: red-haired, freckle-faced Pippi Longstocking, who has upside-down braids and no parents to tell her what to do. The three children have the most rollicking adventures on their own, with horses and monkeys, the circus, and more!

___ **From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler – E. L. Konigsburg**

Claudia Kincaid and her brother run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in order to teach their parents a lesson and embark upon a mystery involving a priceless work of art and the strange old woman who sold the piece to the museum.

___ **The Cricket in Times Square – George Selden**

Follows the adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.

___ **Holes – Louis Sachar**

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

___ **Harriet the Spy – Louise Fitzhugh**

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

___ **The Doll People - Ann M. Martin**

A family of dolls that has lived in the same house for years is taken aback when a family of dolls arrives and doesn't follow The Doll Code of Honor.

___ **How to Train Your Dragon – Cressida Cowell**

Chronicles the adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third as he tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan, the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans, by catching and training a dragon.

___ **How to Eat Fried Worms – Thomas Rockwell**

Tells a story about a boy who sets out to eat fifteen worms in fifteen days in order to win a bet.

We also recommend Caldecott and Newbery Award Books

You can visit the [ALA website](#) for a complete list.

[Caldecott Medal & Honor Books](#)

[Newbery Medal & Honor Books](#)