
2021-2022 SUMMER READING LIST 4TH/5TH GRADE

****SUMMER READING IS REQUIRED! STUDENTS MUST SELECT ONE OF THE TITLES BELOW. ALL PROJECTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD***

4TH GRADE BOOK TITLES

1. *How Tia Lola Came To Visit* by Julia Alvarez

Moving to Vermont after his parents split, Miguel has plenty to worry about! Tía Lola, his quirky, *carismática*, and maybe magical aunt makes his life even more unpredictable when she arrives from the Dominican Republic to help out his Mami. Like her stories for adults, Julia Alvarez's first middle-grade book sparkles with magic as it illuminates a child's experiences living in two cultures.

2. *Stepping Stones* by Lucy Knisley

This contemporary middle-grade graphic novel about family and belonging from *New York Times* bestselling author Lucy Knisley is a perfect read for fans of *Awkward* and *Be Prepared*.

Jen is used to not getting what she wants. So suddenly moving the country and getting new stepsisters shouldn't be too much of a surprise.

Jen did not want to leave the city. She did not want to move to a farm with her mom and her mom's new boyfriend, Walter. She did not want to leave her friends and her dad. Most of all, Jen did not want to get new "sisters," Andy and Reese.

3. *Inside out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai

Hà has only ever known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, and the warmth of her friends close by. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Hà and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope—toward America.

4. *Jars of Hope: How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children During the Holocaust* by Jennifer Rozines Roy

Amid the horrors of World War II, Irena Sendler was an unlikely and unsung hero. While many people lived in fear of the Nazis, Irena defied them, even though it could have meant her life. This gripping true story of a woman who took it upon herself to help save 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Holocaust is not only inspirational—it's unforgettable.

5th GRADE BOOK TITLES

1. *KINDA LIKE BROTHERS* by Coe Booth

It was one thing when Jarrett's mom took care of foster babies who needed help. But this time it's different. This time the baby who needs help has an older brother -- a kid Jarrett's age named Kevon. Everyone thinks Jarrett and Kevon should be friends -- but that's not gonna happen. Not when Kevon's acting like he's better than Jarrett -- and not when Jarrett finds out Kevon's keeping some major secrets. Jarrett doesn't think it's fair that he has to share his room, his friends, and his life with some stranger. He's gotta do something about it -- but what? From award-winning author Coe Booth, *KINDA LIKE BROTHERS* is the story of two boys who really don't get along -- but have to find a way to figure it out.

2. *Jars of Hope: How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children During the Holocaust* by Jennifer Rozines Roy

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3. *Diary of a 5th Grade Outlaw* by Gina Loveless

Fifth grade has just started, and the school bully, Nadia, already rules recess with an unfair Playground Tax. Robin refuses to be pushed around, but all she can think about is winning back her best friend, Mary Ann, after a disastrous fallout over the summer. To do so, she will have to stand up to Nadia, face the wrath of Assistant Principal Johnson, and become a legendary outlaw at Nottingham Elementary—all while forming a merry band of new friends along the way.

4. *Shadow Jumper* by J.M. Forster

A story about friendship, family, loss, bravery and overcoming adversity. Jack Phillips's allergy to sunshine confines him to the shadows, leaving him lonely and at risk of life-threatening burns every time he steps into the light. Shadow jumping on the rooftops at dusk makes him feel alive. And free. But Jack's condition is suddenly worse than ever and only his missing scientist dad can save him. As Jack and his new friend, Beth, begin their frantic search and delve into his dad's past for clues, they have no idea what they are about to uncover. Shocking rumours and dark secrets bombard them at every turn. jump to find it?

Project Options:

- **Comic Book:** Create a comic book based on the novel you selected. Each page should be set up in a comic book format with illustration and captions. Your comic book should retell the main ideas of the story, including the main conflict and how the problem was solved.
- **Diorama:** Using a small box, such as a show box, design and build a diorama of your favorite scene from your book. Be prepared to discuss why you chose the scene and how it is important to the novel you chose.
- **Book Report:** Write a report about your book. Be sure to describe the setting, main characters, plot, and your opinion.
- **Movie:** Film yourself acting out your favorite scene with a friend or family member. Have fun with costumes, props. And set design!