

FIFTH GRADE

Suggested Summer Reading

Help your rising 5th grader stay engaged with learning! Studies show that students experience a loss of reading skills over the summer months. Below is a suggested reading list developed by reader's advisory experts at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library to keep your child reading for the fun of it all summer long. Your child can also read their way to fun and prizes by joining your public library's summer reading program. Find out more by visiting your library or going online: www.cmlibrary.org/summerread

The Strange Case of Origami Yoda

Angleberger

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their classmate Dwight.

Loki's Wolves

Armstrong

Matt Thorsen, a direct descendent of the order-keeping god Thor, and his classmates Fen and Laurie, must fight monsters to stop the end of the world.

The Red Blazer Girls

Beil

Three Catholic-schooled seventh-graders team up to help an elderly neighbor solve a puzzle her father left for her twenty years ago.

America is Under Attack: September 11, 2001

Brown

Narrates the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, from the plane hijackings to the collapse of the World Trade Center.

No Passengers Beyond This Point

Choldenko

Three children must move in with relatives in Colorado when they lose their home, but strange things begin to happen when they reach their destinations.

Chuck Close: Face Book

Close

An autobiography of the artist's life, describing the creative processes he uses in the studio and his struggles with his disabilities.

House of Secrets

Columbus

Cordelia, Brendan, and Eleanor Walker, aged fifteen to eight, must rely on a mysterious book to face the Wind Witch and her father, the Storm King, who have kidnapped Dr. and Mrs. Walker and brought them to a strange world of magic.

Deadly! The Truth About the Most Dangerous Creatures on Earth

Davies

Introduces some of the most dangerous animals in the world, including cheetahs, sharks, owls, bears, and jellyfish.

The Search for Wondla

DiTerlizzi

Living in isolation with a robot on what appears to be an alien world populated with bizarre life forms, a twelve-year-old human girl called Eva Nine sets out on a journey to find others like her.

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City of Ember*DuPrau*

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

Belly Up*Gibbs*

Twelve-year-old Teddy investigates when a popular Texas zoo's star attraction--Henry the hippopotamus--is murdered.

Technology: A Byte-Size World!*Green*

Learn about all the gadgets and gizmos that you like to play with and use every day.

The Donner Dinner Party*Hale*

The Reed family struggles to survive the wagon train journey from Illinois to California as members of the ill-fated Donner Party.

Handbook for Dragon Slayers*Haskell*

Thirteen-year-old Princess Matilda joins her servant Judith and an old friend, Parz, in hunting dragons.

Middle School is Worse Than Meatloaf*Holm*

Told through notes, grocery receipts, and a vast array of other items, this story follows Ginny as she accidentally dyes her hair pink, throws live frogs in class, and loses the lead role in ballet to her ex-best friend.

Titanic: Voices from the Disaster*Hopkinson*

Tells the tale of the sinking of the Titanic using the narratives of the witnesses and survivors to the disaster.

Ungifted*Korman*

Due to an administrative mix-up at his school, Donovan, the school prankster is transferred to an academy for gifted and talented students.

Lincoln Tells a Joke: How Laughter Saved the President (and the Country)*Krull*

A unique look at Abraham Lincoln's sense of humor and how it helped him through difficult times.

A Wrinkle in Time*L'Engle*

Thirteen-year-old Meg Murry, her little brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin are guided by unearthly strangers as they go on a journey through space and time to search for Meg's and Charles' scientist father.

Lions of Little Rock*Levine*

Follows the friendship of two girls during the integration of schools in Little Rock during 1958.

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Touch Blue*Lord*

Eleven-year old Tess may have to change schools and move from the only home she has known if things on the island where she lives don't go according to plan.

Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans*Nelson*

Discusses the history of African Americans, from colonial days through the civil rights movement.

A Long Walk to Water*Park*

Two eleven-year old children, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985, struggle in different ways to survive in Sudan.

Bluffton: My Summers With Buster*Phelan*

In the summer of 1908, Henry encounters a vaudeville troupe and a boy his own age named Buster Keaton who has rare slapstick talents.

Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*Sheinkin*

Recounts the scientific discoveries that enabled atom splitting, the military intelligence operations that occurred in rival countries, and the work of brilliant scientists hidden at Los Alamos.

Bone: Out from Boneville*Smith*

In the first volume of a graphic novel series, Fone Bone and his cousins must save their homeland from odd and evil characters.

When You Reach Me*Stead*

Miranda begins to receive notes with messages that detail things no one should know; now the messages make her think that she can prevent a tragic death if she is not too late.

Smile*Telgemeier*

An autobiography in graphic novel format describes how the author lost two of her front teeth in an accident when she was twelve and the subsequent struggles to obtain a perfect smile.

Scaly, Spotted, Feathered, Frilled: How Do We Know What The Dinosaurs Really Looked Like?*Thimmes*

Through illustrated full-color images, unravels the mystery of how we bring to life creatures that no one has ever seen before.

100 Cupboards*Wilson*

After his parents are kidnapped, twelve-year-old Henry York moves to small-town Kansas, where he and his cousin discover hidden doors in his attic room that seem to open onto other worlds.