

Suggested Summer Reading List for
Incoming 5th Grade

Babylon Memorial Grade School 2010

Appelt, Kathi *The Underneath*

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

Avi *Poppy* (sequels)

Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocas, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.

Bishop, Nic *Nic Bishop Spiders* (others)

Using his trademark close-up photography, the author introduces readers to the strangely beautiful world of arachnids, providing information on spider body parts, life cycles, webs, and more.

Bode, N.E. *The Somebodies* (sequels)

Continuing her magical adventures, Fern travels with Howard to an underground city to save the Anybodies from the horrible Blue Queen, who sucks the souls out of books.

Broach, Elise *Masterpiece*

Marvin, a beetle, and his family live in the home of eleven-year-old James and his family. When James' birthday party fails miserably, Marvin surprises James with an elaborately intricate pen and ink drawing Marvin has created. Trouble is the drawing is mistaken for James' work, which sets off action that leads to a fast-paced mystery featuring an unlikely friendship, the discovery of art forgery, and thievery.

Clements, Andrew *Nightmare at the Book Fair* (and others)

Fifth-grader Trip Dinkelman, who does not like to read very much, is hit on the head by a book fair case and becomes a character in a series of different books including a horror story, an adventure, and a fantasy.

DiCamillo, Kate

The Magician's Elephant

Augustus Duchene sees a fortune teller that leads him on an adventurous journey involving an elephant and a magician in order to find his long lost younger sister.

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

Fleischman, Paul

The Half-A-Moon Inn

The strange proprietress of an inn holds a mute boy captive.

Freedman, Russell

The Adventures of Marco Polo

Marco Polo shook Europe with descriptions of the world he'd seen on his epic journey to the court of Kublai Khan. But was Marco Polo the world's most accomplished explorer? Had he really seen the "Roof of the World" in Central Asia, and the "City of Heaven" in far-off China?

Giff, Patricia Reilly

A House of Tailors

When thirteen-year-old Dina emigrates from Germany to America in 1871, her only wish is to return home as soon as she can, but as the months pass and she survives a multitude of hardships living with her uncle and his young wife and baby, she finds herself thinking of Brooklyn as her home.

Gutman, Dan

The Homework Machine (sequels)

When three classmates of 5th grade computer geek, Brandon, find out that he has invented a machine that does homework in his own handwriting, they all use it secretly to disastrous consequences.

A Baseball Card Adventure (and others)

A series of books where Joe travels back in time and meets famous players.

Hahn, Mary Downing

Time for Andrew: A Ghost Story (others)

When he goes to spend the summer with his great-aunt in the family's old house, eleven-year-old Drew is drawn eighty years into the past to trade places with his great-great-uncle who is dying of diphtheria.

Hobbs, Will

Wild Man Island (and other adventures)

After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he manages to survive, encounters unexpected animal and human inhabitants, and looks for traces of the earliest prehistoric immigrants to America.

Horvath, Polly*The Pepins and Their Problems*

The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow that creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.

Ibbotson, Eva*Haunting of Granite Falls*

When twelve-year-old Alex's Scottish castle of Carra is sold, dismantled, and moved to Texas, the ghosts that raised him from a child have difficulty relocating.

Klise, Kate*Dying to Meet You* (first of series)

A cranky, burned-out children's mystery writer moves into a dilapidated, old Victorian house, searching for peace and quiet to help him get over writer's block; unbeknownst to him, the house is already occupied by a boy, his cat, and the ghost of the house's original owner.

Kraske, Robert*Marooned: The Strange but True Adventures of Alexander Selkirk, the Real Robinson Crusoe*

The story of Scottish mariner Alexander Selkirk and his experiences while marooned on a South Pacific island for four years.

Lin, Grace*The Year of the Dog*

Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog to her own life.

MacLachlan, Patricia*Edward's Eyes*

Edward is one of a large and close family that loves baseball, music, books, and one another. When he unexpectedly dies, his parents donate his organs and his wonderful eyes go to a perfect recipient.

Martin, Ann*The Doll People* (series)

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

Morgan, Clay*The Boy Who Spoke Dog*

After being marooned on an island near New Zealand, Jack, an orphaned cabin boy from San Francisco, becomes allied with a group of dogs who protect the local sheep from wild dogs.

Potter, Ellen*Olivia Kidney* (sequels)

Twelve-year-old Olivia explores her new apartment building and finds a psychic, talking lizards, a shrunken ex-pirate, an exiled princess, ghosts, and other unusual characters.

Selznick, Brian

*The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in
Words and Pictures*

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. 2008 Caldecott Winner!

Stead, Rebecca

When You Reach Me

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980's television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seem to defy laws of time and space. Newbery Winner!

Stewart, Trenton Lee

The Mysterious Benedict Society

Four children are secretly spies as students in the Learning Institute for the Enlightened. They have to avoid being brainwashed by Mr. Curtain, one of the owners of the school. This is a mystery you will be eager to see unfold.

Taylor, Theodore

Ice Drift

Two Inuit brothers must fend for themselves while stranded on an ice floe that is adrift in the Greenland Strait.