

Summer Reading: Entering 5th Grade

Summer is the perfect time to do lots of reading. Your local bookstore and public library are good places to browse the shelves. Please read the following three books: *Love That Dog* and two books from the "suggested titles" list. SMPA will provide students with the required reading book but families are responsible for obtaining the remaining two books. Families are encouraged to look for books at their local library. **BOOKS DO NOT NEED TO BE PURCHASED**

Assignment: Complete the attached worksheet for each book and be prepared to hand them in the first day of school. Summer reading is a test grade and is mandatory.

Required Reading:



***Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech**

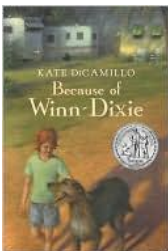
This book is about the bond between a boy and his dog. The main character comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him. He surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.

Suggested Titles (Select two books from this list)



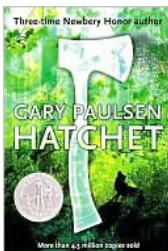
***Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan**

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.



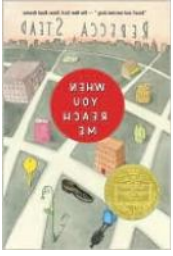
***Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo**

Ten-year-old Opal, lonely in the Florida town where she has just moved with her preacher father, instantly takes a shine to a scraggly stray dog she encounters in the local Winn-Dixie supermarket. The pooch, named for their meeting place, becomes a trusted companion with whom Opal can share her thoughts and fears, and her hurt, confused feelings about the mother who left the family when Opal was three.



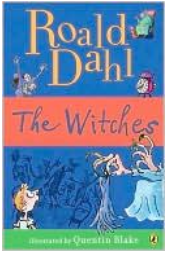
***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.



When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

By sixth grade, Miranda and her best friend, Sal, know how to navigate their New York City neighborhood. But things start to unravel. Sal gets punched by a kid on the street for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. And then a mysterious note arrives, scrawled on a tiny slip of paper and Miranda slowly realizes that whoever is leaving them knows things no one should know.



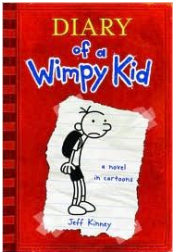
The Witches Roald Dahl

A young boy and his Norwegian grandmother, who is an expert on witches, together foil a witches' plot to destroy the world's children by turning them into mice.



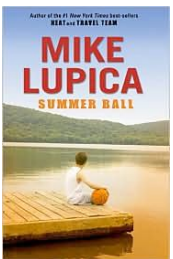
The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson

An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be friendly



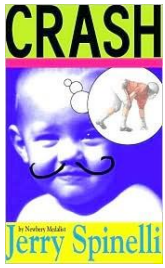
Diary of a Wimpy Kid

It's a new school year, and Greg Heffley finds himself thrust into middle school, where undersized weaklings share the hallways with kids who are taller, meaner, and already shaving. The hazards of growing up before you're ready are uniquely revealed through words and drawings as Greg records them in his diary.



Summer Ball by Mike Lupica

Danny led his travel team five to a national championship, but he isn't gloating: He knows that his reputation has only made him a bigger target. At Right Way basketball camp, he's not only the smallest kid but also perhaps the least confident. In the fierce competition, he'll have to step up just to stay in the game. A perfect slam dunk.



Crash by Jerry Spinelli

Crash Coogan has been tormenting his skinny Quaker neighbor for years, but when a stroke leaves Crash's beloved grandfather severely disabled, he begins to realize that there are more important things in life than being a sports star.



Gregor the Overlander: Suzanne Collins (SERIES: The Underland Chronicles)

Gregor the Overlander is guided by prophecies that take him on adventures through the amazing subterranean world under New York City. When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.