

5th grade Summer Reading List

Dear Parents,

We are so excited about our summer reading lists, which include many wonderful selections with something for everyone! Students are expected to read at least four books; one from each section and includes the MUST READ. These books will be used at the start of the school year.

A wonderful source for more books is the American Library Association's Annual List of Notable books: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb>.

Must Read: Everyone reads -This will be used at the start of the year with our World Religions unit.

A Time to Dance - Padma Venkatraman (Author) Set in India, this novel in verse is about a Veda, a teenager who has spent her life training to be a classical Bharatanatyam dancer when tragedy hits. This story is about a young woman dealing with a life-changing loss, with the drama of teenage relationships, and with her own growing spirituality.

Historical Fiction: Choose ONE

Catherine, Called Birdy by [Karen Cushman](#) (Author) An insider's look at the life of Birdy, 14, the daughter of a minor English nobleman. The year is 1290 and the vehicle for storytelling is the girl's witty, irreverent diary.

The Midwife's Apprentice by [Karen Cushman](#) (Author) A spellbinding novel set in medieval England. The girl known only as Brat has no family, no home, and no future until she meets Jane the Midwife and becomes her apprentice.

Realistic Fiction: Choose ONE

Rain Reign, by Ann M. Martin (Author) Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms. She's thrilled that her own name is a homonym, and she purposely gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign, Rein), which, according to Rose's rules of homonyms, is very special.

Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez (Author) After Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, his family hires migrant workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure

Same Sun Here by Neela Vaswani and Silas House (Authors) Meena and River have a lot in common: fathers forced to work away from home to make ends meet, grandmothers who mean the world to them, and faithful dogs.

Non-Fiction: Graphic Novels Choose ONE

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, and Steven Scott(Authors) A true story about Japanese internment from the eyes of a young George Takei (Star Trek).

I Was Their American Dream: A Graphic Memoir- by Malaka Gharib (Author) A tale of growing up and into what makes a person feel whole. A story about race, culture, and acceptance.