



Prince William County Public Schools

Summer Reading Program

Suggested Reading List

Elementary – Fifth Grade

The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Recommendation is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing their independent reading skills to support critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and citizenship. Student participation in the challenge is voluntary. Students who choose to participate will read books they self-select. Students that read during the summer can grow and explore new experiences to support life-long reading habits.

The following titles are suggestions to help foster a love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian, are also acceptable.

PWCS Summer Reading Recommendation Suggested Reading List

Fifth Grade

Author	Title	Pub. Date	Annotation
Angleberger, Tom	<i>Strange Case of Origami Yoda</i> or any book in the <i>Origami Yoda</i> series. Additional series include <i>Qwikpick Papers</i> and <i>Inspector Flytrap</i> by the same author	2010	Sixth grader Dwight has an origami Yoda puppet he claims tells the future. To survive middle school Tommy and his friends need all the help they can get.
Birney, Betty	<i>World According to Humphrey</i> or any book in the <i>According to Humphrey</i> series	2004	Humphrey the hamster has a lot of adventures in Room 26 and during weekends when he goes home with a different student each week.
Bowen, Fred	<i>Out of Bounds</i> or any book in the <i>Fred Bowen Sport</i> series	2015	Nate's soccer team faces a competitive championship against their rivals, the Monarchs. Nate's aunt helps them see how good sportsmanship is more than winning.
Cleary, Beverly	<i>Ramona the Brave</i> or any juvenile fiction books by this author	1975	Ramona is enthusiastic about life but with a teacher who doesn't understand her, a tattletale classmate, and a scary dog who follows her on the walk home from school, she has a hard time acting like the big girl everyone expects her to be.
Dahl, Roald	<i>The BFG</i> or any juvenile fiction book by this author	1982	The BFG is no ordinary giant. Sophie is carried away into his magical world when she catches him blowing dreams into the bedrooms of children.
Davies, Jacqueline	<i>Lemonade War</i> or any book in the <i>Lemonade War</i> series	2009	Fourth-grader Evan Treski is people-smart. He's good at talking with people. However, dealing with his younger sister Jessie proves much more difficult. The two go to war with competing lemonade stands.
Duprau, Jeanne	<i>City of Ember</i> or any book in the <i>Book of Ember</i> series	2003	The city of Ember, built for human survival is slowly breaking down. Soon Ember could be engulfed by darkness.
Friedman, Laurie	<i>Mallory vs. Max</i> or any book in the <i>Mallory</i> series	2005	When Mallory's parents agree to get her brother, Max, a dog, Mallory is not happy. It's even worse when they get a puppy who gets all the attention.
Gallagher, Diana	<i>Friends Forever</i> or any book in the <i>Complicated life of Claudia Cristina Cortez</i> series	2008	Claudia and her friends aren't the cheerleading type, but Monica decides to try out for the squad. Can Claudia support her friend, even if she knows Monica won't make the team?
Gibbs, Stuart	<i>Spy School</i> or any book in the <i>Spy School</i> series. Additional series includes <i>Moon Base Alpha</i> series by this author.	2012	Can an undercover nerd become a superstar agent? Ben Ripley sure hopes so—and his life may depend on it! Ben Ripley may only be in middle school, but he's already pegged his dream job: C.I.A. or bust
Greenwald, Tommy	<i>Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading</i> or any book in the <i>Charlie Joe Jackson</i> series	2012	When his friend Timmy McGibney decides that he's tired of covering for him, Charlie Joe finds himself resorting to desperate measures to keep his perfect record intact.

Hatke, Ben	<i>Zita the Spacegirl</i> or any book in the <i>Zita the Spacegirl</i> series	2011	When her best friend is abducted by aliens, Zita leaps to the rescue and finds herself on a strange planet. On her quest to rescue her friend she takes on the role of intergalactic hero.
Kibushi, Kazu	<i>The Stonekeeper</i> or any book in the <i>Amulet</i> series	2013	Man-eating demons, a mechanical rabbit, a talking fox, a giant robot---and two ordinary children on a mission. After the death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves dangerous.
Korman, Gordon	<i>Swindle</i> or any book in the <i>Swindle</i> series. Other series include <i>Hypnotists</i> , <i>Masterminds</i> , <i>Titanic</i> , <i>Everest</i> and others by this author!	2009	The book that started it all. Griffin is cheated out of a million-dollar baseball card by a sleazy collector. And the only way to get it back is to steal it back.
Messner, Kate	<i>Rescue on the Oregon Trail</i> or any book in the <i>Ranger in Time</i> series	2015	One day, Ranger, a search-and-rescue dog, finds a mysterious first aid kit in the garden and is transported to the year 1850, where he meets a young boy named Sam Abbott traveling the Oregon Trail.
National Geographic	<i>Weird but True</i> or any book in the <i>Weird but True</i> series	2009	<i>Weird but True</i> is based on <i>National Geographic Kids'</i> popular page of quirky, fun facts that many readers turn to first. Why? Well did <i>you</i> know that... Peanut butter can be converted into a diamond? The world's oldest pet goldfish lived to be 43 years old? The world's longest soap bubble was 4 school buses long?
Paschkis, Julie	<i>Flutter & Hum: Animal Poems = Aleteo y Zumbido: Poemas de Animales</i> or any juvenile poetry book of your choice	2015	All sorts of animals flutter and hum, dance and stretch, and slither and leap their way through this joyful collection of poems in English and Spanish.
Patterson, James	<i>I Funny</i> or any book in the <i>I Funny</i> series. Other series include <i>House of Robots</i> and <i>Middle School</i> series by this author.	2012	Jamie Grimm is a middle schooler who wants to become the world's greatest standup comedian---even if he doesn't have a lot to laugh about. He's new in town and stuck living with his aunt, uncle, and their evil son Stevie, a bully who doesn't let Jamie's wheelchair stop him from messing with Jamie as much as possible.
Selfors, Suzanne	<i>Sasquatch Escape</i> or any book in the <i>Imaginary Veterinary</i> series	2013	Ben Silverstein is prepared for a boring summer. But then his grandpa's cat shows up with what appears to be a wounded baby dragon. Ben and his new friend Pearl take the dragon to Dr. Woo's Worm Hospital, a strange veterinary hospital.
Smith, Jeff	<i>Out from Boneville</i> or any book in the <i>Bone</i> series	2005	After being run out of Boneville, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone, are separated and lost in a vast uncharted desert. One by one they find their way into a deep, forested valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures.
Snicket, Lemony	<i>Bad Beginning</i> or any book in the <i>Series of Unfortunate Events</i> series	1999	Dear Reader, I'm sorry to say that this book is extremely unpleasant. It tells an unhappy tale about three very unlucky children. Even though they are charming and clever, the Baudelaire siblings lead lives filled with misery and woe. From the first page when they receive terrible news, and on through the entire story, disaster lurks at their heels. One might say they are magnets for misfortune.
Tarshis, Lauren	<i>I Survived the Bombing of Pearl Harbor, 1941</i> or any book in the <i>I Survived</i> series	2011	Eleven-year-old Danny Crane is alone on his favorite beach in Hawaii when the world is torn apart and World War II officially hits the United States. Does he have what it takes to find his way home in the midst of the bombs, the smoke, and the destruction of the day that will live in infamy?

Tashjian, Janet	<i>My Life as a Book</i> or any book in the <i>My Life</i> series	2011	When Derek's parents decide to send him to Learning Camp, his dreams of a fun summer come to an end. Ever since he's been labeled a reluctant reader, his mom has pushed him to read "real" books other than Calvin & beloved Hobbes.
Tayleur, Karen	<i>Famous! the awesome life of David Mortimer Baxter</i> or any books in the <i>David Mortimer Baxter</i> series	2009	David Mortimore Baxter's web of lies has gotten him into trouble before. Now his parents are threatening to take away his dog, Boris, if he doesn't tell the truth, and only the truth. Woof!
Telgemeier, Raina	<i>Kristy's Great Idea</i> or any book in the <i>Babysitter's Club</i> series	2006	Kristy gets an idea for a baby-sitter's club with her best friends Mary Anne and Claudia, but baby-sitting isn't the only thing happening. Stacy, their newest friend seems to be hiding a secret
Turnage, Sheila	<i>Three Times Lucky</i> or any <i>Mo & Dale</i> mystery	2013	Mo LoBeau washed ashore in a hurricane as a baby. Now, in 6 th grade she and her best friend set out to uncover the truth about a murder in the hopes of saving the only family she has ever known.
Watson, Jude	<i>How to Steal a Fortune</i> or any book in the <i>Loot</i> series	2015	On a foggy night, cat burglar Archibald McQuinn falls from a rooftop into wet pavement. He manages to get out two words to his son, "Find jewels." But March learns that his father is not talking about loot. He's talking about his twin sister Jules.
Watson, Tom	<i>Stick Dog</i> or any book in the <i>Stick Dog</i> series	2013	Follow Stick Dog as he goes on an epic quest for the perfect burger. With hilarious text and stick-figure drawings, reluctant readers will eat this one up!
Williams-Garcia, Rita	<i>One Crazy Summer</i> or any book in the <i>Gaither Sisters</i> series	2011	Eleven-year-old Delphine has mothered her two younger sisters ever since their mother left them 7 years ago. When they go to spend the summer with her, she is nothing like they imagined. They learn much about their family, country, and themselves during one crazy summer.
Winkler, Henry	<i>Day of the Iguana</i> or any book in the <i>Hank Zipzer</i> series. Additional series includes <i>Here's Hank</i>	2003	Hank's science project isn't going as planned when he decides to take apart the cable box to slow down the scrawl and accidentally gives his sister's pet iguana a great place to lay eggs. How is Hank going to get out of this one?
	Any book from past or present Virginia Readers' Choice		
	Any book from a children's award winners list		