

Fifth Grade Suggested Reading List

In Centennial School District, we enthusiastically encourage our students to read in and out of school all year long. As a learning community, we endorse the Pennsylvania Department of Education's recommendation that elementary children read at least 25 books a year. We have included authors, titles, and series on this list that will appeal to your child.

Please encourage your child's non-fiction passions by guiding him or her to books on a favorite topic. Wide reading about true things helps create minds that are open and prepared for inquiry in science and social studies. Poetry gives children access to exquisite language, and biographies inspire and help us to understand the world around us. Fiction fires the imagination and engenders a life-long love of reading.

While it is important that your child read some books independently, it is essential that you continue to **read with your child** throughout elementary school. As an adult reader, you can model thinking strategies, demonstrate reading with fluency and expression, introduce new words and ideas, and help your child make connections between books and the world. Teachers, reading specialists, teacher-librarians, and public librarians are all at your service in determining the very best books to share with your child.

Author	Title
BIOGRAPHY	
Bridges, Ruby	Through My Eyes
Coerr, Eleanor	Sadako
Armstrong, William	Sounder
FICTION	
Avi*	The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
Burnett, Frances*	The Secret Garden
Byars, Betsy	Summer of the Swans
Clements, Andrew*	The Report Card
Cooper, Susan*	The Boggart
Creech, Sharon*	Walk Two Moons
Curtis, Christopher*	Bud, Not Buddy
DeFelice, Cynthia*	The Ghost of Cutler Creek
DiCamillo, Kate*	Because of Winn Dixie
Fleischman, Sid	The Whipping Boy
Gantos, Jack	Joey Pigza**
George, Jean Craighead	My Side of the Mountain
Gutman, Dan	The Edison Mystery**
Gutman, Dan	Shoeless Joe & me**
Hahn, Mary Downing*	Wait Til Helen Comes
Henry, Marguerite	Misty of Chincoteague**
Kehret, Peg	Earthquake Terror
L'Engle, Madeline	A Wrinkle in Time**
Lewis, C.S.	The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe**

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Author	Title
Lowry, Lois*	Number the Stars
Namioka, Lensey	Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear
Nixon, Joan Lowery*	In the Face of Danger
O'Dell, Scott*	Island of the Blue Dolphins
Park, Barbara	Mick Harte Was Here
Paterson, Katherine*	Bridge to Teribithia
Paulson, Gary	Hatchet**
Peck, Robert Newton	A Year Down Yonder
Rowling, J. K.	Harry Potter**
Rylant, Cynthia*	Missing May
Ruckman, Ivy*	Night of the Twisters
Sachar, Louis*	Holes
Snickett, Lemony	Series of Unfortunate Events**
Spinelli, Jerry	Maniac Magee
VanDraanen, Wendelin	Sammy Key and the Hotel Thief**
Woodruff, Elvira*	The Orphan of Ellis Island
Wright, Betty Ren*	The Wish Master
Yolen, Jane	The Dragon's Boy
FOLKTALES	
Courlander, Harold	The Tiger's Whiskers, and other Tales and Legends from Asia and the Pacific
Gilchrist, Cherry	Stories from the Silk Road
POETRY	
Florian, Douglas	Laugh-eteria: poems and drawings
Kennedy, Dorothy (compiler)	I Thought I'd Take My Rat to School: Poems for September to June
Stockland, Patricia	Cobwebs, Chatters, and Chills: A collection of scary poems
SCIENCE	
Bartholomew, Alan	Electric Mischief: Battery Powered Gadgets Kids Can Build
Berger, Melvin and Gilda	Do Stars Have Points?
Seuling, Barbara	Flick a Switch: How Electricity Gets to Your Home
Simon, Seymour	Out of Sight: Pictures of Hidden Worlds
SOCIAL STUDIES	
Bierman, Carol	Journey to Ellis Island
Cheney, Lynne	When Washington Crossed the Delaware: A wintertime story for young patriots
Fradin, Dennis B.	The Signers: the fifty-six stories behind the Declaration of Independence

* may choose other books by that author

** may choose other books in that series