

Hello rising fifth and sixth graders!

It is time for summer reading! We are asking you to read at least five books this summer. We have attached the book log and suggested book titles if you need some ideas, but you are not limited to this reading list.

Sixth Graders: Please look to the book log below for a required assignment when you return in August.

In addition, we have a list of books that we DO NOT want you to read this summer because we will be reading the titles throughout the school year.

Please DO NOT read the following books:

1. *There's a Boy in the Girls Bathroom* by Louis Sachar
2. *Moon Runner* by Carolyn Marsden
3. *Waterman's Boy* by Susan Sharpe
4. *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier
5. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech
6. *Free Baseball* by Sue Corbett
7. *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
8. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
9. *Taste of Salt* by Frances Temple
10. *Becoming Naomi Leon* by Pam Munoz Ryan

Name _____ Grade _____

Summer Reading Log for Fifth and Sixth Graders

Directions: Please read at least five books this summer and record them below as you read. Bring this book log to your language arts class on the first day of school.

Sixth Grade Only: Before you return to school in August, please complete a reading of *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg. We will be completing work related to this novel on the first few days of school. It may be beneficial to read this novel towards the end of summer so that the plot is fresh in your mind.

Book Title	Author
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*Required number of books

If you need additional space, please write on the back of this sheet.

Green Acres School

Summer Reading Suggestions

for Students Entering 5th and 6th Grades:

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Fever 1793**

In 1793 Philadelphia, 16-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Applegate, Katherine. **Home of the Brave**

This is a poetic first-person account of an orphaned African boy's journey from war in Sudan to a new life in Minnesota.

Applegate, Katherine. **The One and Only Ivan**

Based on the life of a gorilla living at Zoo Atlanta, this is a first-person account of the sad, boring life of a silverback gorilla in an enclosure at Big Top Mall and his solemn promise to a baby elephant born at the Mall. Includes descriptions of cruelty to animals.

Aronson, Marc. **Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert**

This true story describes how experts from around the world--from drillers to astronauts to submarine specialists--came together to make possible the remarkable rescue of 33 miners trapped in a copper-gold mine in San Jose, Chile in 2010.

Bauer, Marion Dane. **On My Honor**

When his best friend drowns while they are swimming in a river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is terrified at having to tell both sets of parents what has happened.

Balliett, Blue. **The Danger Box**

In small-town Michigan, 12-year-old Zoomy and his new friend Lorrol investigate the journal found inside a mysterious box and find family secrets and a more valuable treasure, while a dangerous stranger watches and waits.

Bell, Juliet. **Kepler's Dream**

When 11-year-old Ella's mother is hospitalized and Ella has to spend the summer with her grandmother, a treasured 17th century book written by German astronomer Johannes Kepler is stolen from the family library, and Ella is determined to find the thief.

Bingham, Kelly L. **Shark Girl**

After a shark attack leads to the amputation of her right arm, 15-year-old Jane, an aspiring artist, struggles to come to terms with her loss and the changes it imposes on her day-to-day life and her plans for the future.

Boyce, Frank Cottrell. **Cosmic**

Twelve-year-old Liam is so tall that people think he should act like an adult, which leads him to become the adult chaperone for a group of kids on the first spaceship to take civilians into space.

Bruchac, Joseph. **Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two**

Written from the perspective of a fictional 16-year-old Navajo boy, this book tells the true story of Navajos recruited by the U.S. Marines during World War Two to send secret tactical messages using a "code" derived from the Navajo language.

Carbone, Lisa. **Storm Warriors**

After his mother's death in 1895, 12-year-old Nathan moves with his father and grandfather to Pea Island off the coast of North Carolina, where he hopes to join the all-black crew at the nearby lifesaving station, despite his father's objections. This novel is based on real people and actual shipwrecks.

Carman, Patrick. **Trackers**

The trackers, four tech-savvy kids armed with high-tech video cameras and coding skills, are in a high stakes game with Shantorian, the world's most dangerous hacker.

Christopher, Lucy. **Flyaway**

While her father is in the hospital, 13-year-old Isla befriends Harry, the first boy to understand her love of the outdoors. As Harry's health fails, Isla tries to help both him and the lone swan they see, struggling to fly, on the lake outside Harry's window.

Clements, Andrew. **Things Not Seen**

When 15-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it.

Cummings, Priscilla. **Red Kayak**

Living near the water on Maryland's Eastern Shore, 13-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy that tests their friendship and their ideas about right and wrong.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **The Mighty Miss Malone**

During the Great Depression, there are no jobs for black men in Gary, Indiana, so Deza's father leaves to find work. Deza, the smartest girl in her class, and her mother and older brother Jimmy go in search of him. They end up in a makeshift town for homeless people. Jimmy has a beautiful voice and hopes to set out on his own and become a performer.

Cushman, Karen. **The Ballad of Lucy Whipple**

In 1849, 12-year-old California Morning Whipple, who renames herself Lucy, is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a rough California mining town.

Deedy, Carmen Agra. **The Cheshire Cheese Cat: A Dickens of a Tale**

A community of mice and a cheese-loving cat form an unlikely alliance at London's Cheshire Cheese Inn, where Charles Dickens finds inspiration and Queen Victoria makes an unexpected appearance.

Dooley, Sarah. **Body of Water**

After their trailer home and all their belongings are burned, 12-year-old Ember and her Wiccan family move to a lakeside campground where Ember's anguish over losing her dog, as well as her friendship with the boy she fears started the fire, stop her from making new friends and moving on.

Dowd, Siobhan. **The London Eye Mystery**

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to find out what happened to Salim.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. **Shooting the Moon**

When her brother is sent to fight in Vietnam, 12-year-old Jamie begins to reconsider the army world in which she has grown up.

Draper, Sharon. **Out of My Mind**

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant 5th grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

Ellis, Deborah. **No Ordinary Day**

When Valli discovers that her “aunt” is a stranger who was paid to take Valli in, she leaves her life of coal picking in Jharia, India and begins a series of adventures that include a chance encounter with a caring doctor, who makes a surprising revelation.

Fardell, John. **The 7 Professors of the Far North**

Eleven-year-old Sam becomes involved in a dangerous adventure when he and his new friends, siblings Ben and Zara, set off for the Arctic to try to rescue the siblings’ great-uncle and five other professors from the mad scientist who is holding them prisoner.

Ferber, Brenda A. **Julia’s Kitchen**

Struggling to find a way to deal with her emotions and to reach out to her grieving father after her mother and younger sister are killed in a house fire, 11-year-old Cara decides to continue her mother’s home-based baking business.

Fillion, Susan. **Miss Etta and Dr. Claribel: Bringing Matisse to America**

This is the true story of two sisters from Baltimore in the early 1900s who saw the potential of young artists like Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso when few people, or institutions, in America even knew they existed. The women began to build one of the major collections of modern art in the U.S.

Fleming, Candace. **The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P. T. Barnum**

Filled with primary sources, this biography describes the life of one of the greatest showmen of all time and the circus culture he helped to create.

Fleming, Candace. **Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart**

Reading like a suspenseful thriller, this book provides a fresh look by alternating between biographical chapters and a dramatic recounting of Earhart’s last flight and the subsequent search.

Flores-Galbis, Enrique. **Raining Sardines**

Two Cuban children, artistic Ernestina and analytical Enriquito, use their ingenuity to save a herd of wild horses and to stop a powerful landowner from spoiling their village in pre-Castro Cuba.

Friend, Natasha. **Perfect**

When her father dies, a 13-year-old uses bulimia as a way to avoid her mother's and her 10-year-old sister's grief, as well as her own.

Frost, Helen. **Diamond Willow**

In a remote area of Alaska, a 12-year-old part-Athabaskan girl is more comfortable being with her family’s sled dogs than with people. Her solo trip by dogsled to visit her grandparents turns into an intense adventure, and she is helped by the spirits of her ancestors, who live on in the animals around her. Told in diamond-shaped verse with hidden messages.

Fusco, Kimberly Newton. **The Wonder of Charlie Anne**

In a 1930s Massachusetts farm town torn by the Depression, racial tension, prejudice, and other hardships, Charlie Anne and her African American next-door neighbor Phoebe form a friendship that begins to transform their community.

Gantos, Jack. **Dead End in Norvelt**

Blending real people and events from history with wildly fictional events, this novel tells the story of 12-year-old future author Jack Gantos during the summer of 1962 in the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania. Jack is “grounded” for various offenses but is allowed to help an elderly neighbor with an unusual task involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

Gündisch, Karin. **How I Became an American**

Based on letters written by actual immigrants, this book tells the story of fictional 10-year-old Johann and his family, Germans living in Austria-Hungary, who board a ship in 1902 to emigrate to Youngstown, Ohio, where they make a new life as Americans. Translated from German.

Gutman, Dan. **The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable**

On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to turn 13, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their involvement in a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **The Shadow Children (series)**

Among the Hidden. In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his 12 years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another third-born child convinces him that the government is wrong.

Among the Impostors. Luke enters a boarding school under the assumed name of Lee Grant, a baron (a member of the highest social class).

Among the Betrayed. Nina Idi, a third child, has been betrayed and is arrested by the Population Police.

Among the Barons. Lee Grant's younger brother, Smits, arrives at the boarding school, and Luke lives with increasingly complex lies and with the fear that Smits will turn him over to the Population Police.

Among the Brave. Trey enlists in the Population Police and makes a deal with a resistance movement member.

Among the Enemy. Brought to Population Police headquarters to train as an officer, Matthias meets Nina, who enlists his help in a plot to undermine the police.

Among the Free. When 13-year-old Luke Garner unwittingly sets off a rebellion that sweeps the country and ousts the Population Police from power, he quickly realizes that the new regime is corrupt and that he may hold the only key to true freedom.

Hahn, Mary Downing. **The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story**

Tired of the rules that have bound them ever since "the bad thing happened," 12-year-old Diana ignores her brother's warnings and befriends the daughter of the new caretaker. This friendship sets in motion events that lead to the release of the spirit of the mean woman who once ruled the old Willis place.

Haig, Matt. **Samuel Blink and the Forbidden Forest**

Accompanied by his aunt's Norwegian elkhound, 12-year-old Samuel ventures into a weird forest filled with magical and dangerous creatures to rescue his younger sister.

Hilmo, Tess. **With a Name Like Love**

Thirteen-year-old Ollie Love gets tangled up in a murder mystery when her itinerant preaching family arrives in the small town of Binder, Arkansas in 1957.

Hobbs, Will. **Crossing the Wire**

Fifteen-year-old Victor journeys north in a desperate attempt to cross the Arizona border and find work in the United States to support his family in central Mexico.

Hobbs, Will. **Kokopelli's Flute**

Thirteen-year-old Teparý discovers an old flute in a cliff dwelling in New Mexico, and through its power he learns about ancient Native American magic.

Kirkpatrick, Katherine. **Mysterious Bones: The Story of Kennewick Man**

Explores the 1996 discovery of the skeletal remains of Kennewick Man and the ensuing battle between scientists and Native American tribes for control of the remains.

Klages, Ellen. **The Green Glass Sea**

It is 1943, and 11-year-old Dewey is traveling west by train to live with her scientist father, but no one will tell her exactly where he is. When she reaches Los Alamos, New Mexico, she learns that he is involved in a top-secret government program.

Kirby, Matthew. **Clockwork Three**

The paths of three people intertwine: orphaned Giuseppe, who finds a beautiful violin; Hannah, a hotel maid who learns about hidden treasure; and Frederick, an apprentice clockmaker who is making an automaton in secret.

Kirby, Matthew. **Icefall**

Trapped in a hidden fortress tucked between towering mountains and a frozen sea, Solveig, her brother the crown prince, and their older sister anxiously await news of their father's victory in battle. Acts of treachery occur, and the king's children don't know whom to trust.

Klise, Kate. **Grounded**

After her father, brother, and sister are killed in a plane crash, 12-year-old Daralynn's life in tiny Digginsville, Missouri proceeds as her mother turns angry and embittered, her grandmother becomes senile, and her flamboyant aunt continues to run the Summer Sunset Retirement Home for Distinguished Gentlemen, while being courted by the owner of the town's new crematorium.

Korman, Gordon. **Schooled**

Capricorn (Cap) Anderson has been homeschooled by his hippie grandmother, Rain. When she falls and needs to stay in the hospital, Cap has to attend the local middle school. His weirdness makes him a moving target.

LaFleur, Suzanne. **Love, Aubrey**

After her father and younger sister die in a car accident, Aubrey goes to live with her grandmother in Vermont. Throughout the grieving process, Aubrey's progress is reflected in the letters she writes.

Landy, Derek. **Scepter of the Ancients (Skulduggery Pleasant)**

When 12-year-old Stephanie inherits her eccentric uncle's estate, she must join forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a walking, talking skeleton, to save the world from the Faceless Ones.

Lasky, Kathryn. **Chasing Orion**

In 1952, 11-year-old Georgie moves with her family to a new Indiana neighborhood in which her smart and beautiful teenaged neighbor, who has polio, is encased in an iron lung.

Levine, Kristin. **The Lions of Little Rock**

In 1958 Little Rock, Arkansas, shy 12-year-old Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration, but her friendship with a new student helps her to find her voice and to fight against racism.

Lord, Cynthia. **Rules**

Frustrated at life with her autistic younger brother, 12-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence, but her world is complicated further by her friendship with a nonverbal paraplegic boy.

Lowry, Lois. **Gossamer**

While learning to bestow dreams, a young dream giver tries to save an 8-year-old boy from the effects of both his abusive past and the nightmares inflicted on him by the frightening Sinisteesds.

Lunn, Janet. **The Hollow Tree**

It is 1777, and Phoebe is thrown headlong into the turmoil of war when her beloved cousin is hanged as a British spy. When she finds his secret message to the British general, she decides to deliver it herself to Fort Ticonderoga.

Malchow, Alex and Hal. **The Sword of Darrow**

Evil goblins bring war to the peaceful kingdom of Sonnencrest. Princess Babette, who has learned magic from a powerful wizard, teams up with Darrow, an unlikely hero with a gift for inspiring others, to try to defeat the goblins. (This novel was written by a father and his then 8-year-old son, who struggled with a learning disability.)

Martin, Ann M. **Belle Teal**

Belle Teal's entrance into 5th grade in the early 1960s brings many changes and challenges as her Gran's memory begins to slip, her mom spends long hours away at work, and her class gets two new students, including an African American boy.

Martin, Ann M. **Everything for a Dog**

In interconnected stories that eventually converge, orphaned dog Bone finds and loses a series of homes, a family pet helps Charlie cope with his brother's death, and lonely Henry pleads for a dog of his own.

McKay, Hilary. **Caddy's World**

Twelve-year-old Caddy's world turns upside down when her father temporarily becomes a stay-at-home "mom" and her three best friends since Kindergarten begin to move in different directions.

Montgomery, Sy. **Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World**

This biography of Dr. Temple Grandin describes her life with autism, how she overcame key disabilities through education and the support of her mother, and her groundbreaking work as a scientist and designer of cruelty-free livestock facilities.

Napoli, Donna Jo. **Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes & Monsters**

This introduction to mythology combines retellings of classic Greek tales and detailed illustrations with character profiles, historical insights, and cultural facts.

Palacio, R. J. **Wonder**

Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which involves enduring the taunting and the fear of his classmates.

Pearsall, Shelley. **Crooked River**

In Ohio in 1812, 12-year-old Rebecca's father chains a Native American in their loft to await trial for murder. Rebecca struggles with the idea that an innocent man may be convicted and sentenced to death and wonders how she can make sure that he gets a fair trial.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. **Life As We Knew It**

Through journal entries, 16-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

Preller, James. **Bystander**

Thirteen-year-old Eric discovers that there are consequences to taking a stand against the bully at his new school. Although school officials are aware of the problem, Eric may be the one with a solution.

Raschka, Chris. **Seriously, Norman!**

Engrossed in virtual-reality video games to the point that he is nagged constantly by his mother, imaginative Norman and his friends launch an investigation to figure out why grownups behave in such inexplicable ways.

Ritter, John H. **The Boy Who Saved Baseball**

The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game. Twelve-year-old Tom hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of a disgraced player, once the town's greatest hitter.

Ritter, John H. **Over the Wall**

Thirteen-year-old Tyler, who has trouble controlling his anger, spends an important summer with his cousins in New York City playing baseball and sorting out his feelings about violence, war, and in particular the Vietnamese conflict that took his grandfather's life.

Salisbury, Graham. **Night of the Howling Dogs**

In 1975, eleven Boy Scouts, their leaders, and some new friends camping at Halape, Hawaii find their survival skills put to the test when a massive earthquake strikes, followed by a tsunami.

Schanzer, Rosalyn. **Witches: The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem**

In January 1692, two young girls in Salem Village, Massachusetts were diagnosed as being bewitched. Mass hysteria involving accused witches and corrupt officials turned a mysterious illness into a witch hunt that took more than a dozen lives and ruined hundreds more.

Senzai, N. H. **Shooting Kabul**

Escaping from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan in the summer of 2001, 11-year-old Fadi and his family immigrate to the San Francisco Bay Area, where Fadi is desperate to return to the Pakistani refugee camp where his little sister was accidentally left behind.

Shafer, Audrey. **The Mailbox**

Twelve-year-old Gabe, afraid of going back into the foster care system, tries to hide the death of his Vietnam Vet uncle from the local authorities. Suddenly his uncle's body disappears, and there is a mysterious note in the mailbox.

Skurzynski, Gloria. **This Is Rocket Science: True Stories of the Risk-Taking Scientists Who Figure Out Ways to Explore Beyond Earth**

Provides a history of rockets and rocket science, from the Chinese discovery of gunpowder to the development of nuclear spacecraft and rockets that sail on solar winds.

Speare, Elizabeth George. **The Sign of the Beaver**

Thirteen-year-old Matt is uneasy when he is left alone to guard the family's new wilderness home in 18th century Maine. From a proud Indian boy he learns about the Beaver clan and their problems adapting to the white man and the changing frontier.

Stanley, Ed. **Grand Central Terminal: Gateway to New York City**

Provides a history of Grand Central Terminal from the mid-19th century to the present, including its construction and architecture, the role played by Cornelius Vanderbilt, and facts about railroads in general.

Stephens, John. **The Emerald Atlas**

Taken from their parents at a young age, Kate and her siblings move from one orphanage to another until they are sent to live with the mysterious Dr. Pym. They learn that they have special powers, a prophesied quest to find a magical book, and a fearsome enemy.

Swanson, James L. **Chasing Lincoln's Killer**

With rare archival material, trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, this book recounts the 12-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia in pursuit of John Wilkes Booth.

Thomson, Sarah L. **Dragon's Egg**

A young girl trained as a dragon keeper learns that the legends of old are true when she is entrusted with carrying a dragon's egg to the fabled Hatching Grounds, a dangerous journey on which she is assisted by a knight's squire.

Tolan, Stephanie S. **Listen!**

During her solitary convalescence from a crippling accident, 12-year-old Charley finds a wild dog, and the arduous process of training him leads her to explore her feelings about her mother's death two years earlier.

Urban, Linda. **Hound Dog True**

Mattie, a shy 5th grader, wants to hide out at her new school by acting as apprentice to her Uncle Potluck, the custodian, but her plan falls apart when she summons the courage to speak about what matters most and finds a true friend.

Van Allsburg, Chris (with an introduction by Lemony Snicket). **The Chronicles of**

Harris Burdick: 14 Amazing Authors Tell the Tales

Renowned storytellers -- including Kate DiCamillo, Lois Lowry, Stephen King, and Jon Scieszka -- share original tales inspired by the thought-provoking illustrations in Chris Van Allsburg's *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. **Flipped**

In alternating chapters, two neighbors -- a boy and a girl -- describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. **Cabin on Trouble Creek**

In 1803 in Ohio, two young brothers are left to finish the log cabin and guard the land while their father goes back to Pennsylvania to get their mother and younger siblings.

Vanderpool, Clare. **Moon over Manifest**

In the summer of 1936 (during the Great Depression), 12-year-old Abilene's father, a drifter, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

Venkatraman, Padma. **Island's End**

A young girl trains to be the new spiritual leader of her remote Andaman Island tribe as influences from the modern world begin to encroach upon tribal values.

Walsh, Pat. **The Crowfield Curse**

In 1347, 14-year-old William, an orphaned, impoverished servant at Crowfield Abbey, saves the life of a hobgoblin caught in a trap, discovers his own magical gift, and becomes involved in a spooky mystery.

Weeks, Sarah. **So B. It**

After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, 12-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada for New York to find out who she is.

Wood, Maryrose. **The Mysterious Howling**

Fifteen-year-old Miss Penelope Lumley, a recent graduate of the Swanburne Academy for Poor Bright Females, is hired as governess to three young children who have been raised by wolves. She must teach them to behave in a civilized manner quickly, in preparation for a Christmas ball.

Woods, Brenda. **Saint Louis Armstrong Beach**

As Hurricane Katrina bears down on New Orleans, Saint is stuck in the city after escaping evacuation so he can look for his dog, Shadow. He, Shadow, and an elderly neighbor, Miz Moran, take shelter in her attic.

Woodruff, Elvira. **George Washington's Socks**

In the midst of a backyard campout, five children find themselves transported back to the time of George Washington.

Wrightson, Patricia. **The Nargun and the Stars**

An ancient stone creature threatens the lives of a family on a lonely sheep farm in Australia.