Summer Reading List for Rising 5th Graders

Plainfield School District

RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Appelt, Kathi. *The Underneath*. Atheneum, 2008. An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner’s run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free. Newbery Honor 2009. National Book Award Finalist 2008

Applegate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan*. Harper, 2012. When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Arnosky, Jim. *Shimmer and Splash: The Sparkling World of Sea Life*. Sterling Publisher, 2013. Jim Arnosky brings out the beauty as well as the “wow” and “yuck” factors of hundreds of sea creatures.


Bunting, Eve. *Going Home*. Harper Collins, 1998. Although a Mexican family comes to the United States to work as farm laborers so that their children will have opportunities, the parents still consider Mexico their home.


Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Don’t Tell the Girls*. Holiday House, Inc. 2005. More than anything, author Patricia Reilly Giff wanted to learn about the grandmother she never knew. Piecing together the clues she learns from family stories and old photographs, she retraces her grandmother’s steps back to the place where she was born.

Lutes, Jason. *Houdini: The Handcuff King*. Hyperion, 2007. In bold graphics, author and artist formulate a living picture of this amazing escape artist and show how time and morals shaped him and his art.
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Maclachlan, Patricia. **White Fur Flying.** Simon & Schuster, 2013. Zoe’s family rescues dogs in need and there is always white fur flying around. See how Zoe saves dogs and a boy in this story.

Mass, Wendy. **11 Birthdays.** Scholastic, 2009. Best friends since their mothers met at the hospital when they were born, Amanda and Leo always celebrate their birthdays together. However, now that they are turning 11, they are no longer speaking to each other and everything is not as normal as it may appear. This is one birthday that does not seem to end!

Otfinoski, Steve. **The Kid’s Guide to Money: Earning It, Saving It, Spending It, Growing It, Sharing It.** Scholastic, 1996. Whether you’re managing $1 million or a monthly allowance, it’s important to know what you’re doing. This guide tells kids how to keep track of their money, how to make it grow, and how to make sure they don’t get ripped off, and even how to choose a worthy cause for charity.

Palacio, R.J. **Wonder.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. Ten-year-old 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, where he endures the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

Philbrick, Rodman. **The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg.** Blue Sky Press, 2009. Homer P. Figg escapes from his wretched foster home in Pine Swamp, Maine, and sets out to find his beloved older brother, Harold, who has been illegally sold into the Union Army. Newbery Honor, 2010

Ross, Stewart. **Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way By Land, Sea, and Air.** Candlewick, 2011. Fourteen amazing journeys by explorers throughout history and the methods they used by land, sea, and sky to find their way. Includes unfolding cross sections of vessels.

Sachar, Louis. **Holes.** The book tells a complicated story within a story while following Stanley Yelnats’ misadventures when he mistakenly ends up in a youth detention camp for the summer. His punishment? Digging holes all day long. Newberry Award, 1999

Selfors, Suzanne. **The Sasquatch Escape.** Brown Little, 2013. Ben and his friend Pearl discover the new veterinarian office in their small town treats magical creatures, and they have the adventure of their lives as they track down a Sasquatch. First in a series.

Shurtliff, Liesl. **Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Twelve-year-old Rump goes on a quest to discover his true identity and to break a magical curse in this humorous take on the classic fairy tale.
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Simon, Seymour. **Horses**. Harper Collins, 2006. Discover basic facts, which include the importance of horses to humans throughout history, their evolution, physical traits, interactions among themselves, and the various breeds.

Stead, Rebecca. **When You Reach Me**. Wendy Lamb, 2009. As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980’s television game show “The $20,000 Pyramid,” a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seem to defy laws of time and space. Newbery Award, 2010

TenNapel, Doug. **Tommysaurus Rex**. Graphix, 2013. Eli finds a full-grown T. rex on his grandpa’s farm and decides he would make the perfect pet.

YOU MAY ALSO SELECT A BOOK FROM ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AUTHORS OR SERIES:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHORS</th>
<th>SERIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Clements</td>
<td>Anastasia</td>
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<td>Jack Gantos</td>
<td>Bingo Brown</td>
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<td>Lois Lowry</td>
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<td>Patricia Polacco</td>
<td>Mysterious You</td>
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<td>Cynthia Voigt</td>
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<td>Jane Yolen</td>
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