# **Summer Reading Suggestions**

One of the many sweet joys of summertime is a more relaxed schedule, perfect for launching adventures with medieval knights, sheltering from the storm in a leafy lean-to, or venturing across the prairie in a covered wagon. Exploring yet-uncharted worlds or fighting alongside ancient Greeks are real possibilities as well. The only things needed are a cozy spot and a good book. Some books are a delight to read on one's own, but some are richer with another person to share the journey.

We offer the following suggestions for summertime enjoyment. Books are listed in broad categories, and students may well enjoy books from more than one category. Not every book will strike the fancy of each student, so take a generous-sized bag when you visit the library, lay the feast before your son or daughter, and see what happens. May your summer days be rich with adventure!

### Read on for these categories:

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#### Read-Aloud Suggestions for Young Listeners

A Visitor for Bear (and companion books), by Bonnie Becker

The Mitten, by Jan Brett

Annie and the Wild Animals, by Jan Brett

Stone Soup, by Marcia Brown

The Little Island, by Margaret Wise Brown

The Little Scarecrow Boy, by Margaret Wise Brown

Katy and the Big Snow, by Virginia Lee Burton

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel, by Virginia Lee Burton

The Little House, by Virginia Lee Burton

The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?, by Eric Carle

Click, Clack, Moo - Cows That Type (and several others by this author), by Doreen Cronin

Strega Nona (and many others), by Tomie dePaola

Llama Llama Red Pajama (and companion books), by Anna Dewdney

Olivia (a series), by Ian Falconer

Corduroy, by Don Freeman

Sheila Rae the Brave (and many others), by Kevin Henkes

Duck & Goose (and companion books), by Tad Hills

How Rocket Learned to Read, by Tad Hills

The Snowy Day, by Ezra Jack Keats

Frog and Toad, by Arnold Lobel

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear (read this after reading some Winnie the Pooh books), by Lindsay Mattick

Guess How Much I Love You, by Sam McBratney

Blueberries for Sal, by Robert McCloskey

Make Way for Ducklings, by Robert McCloskey

The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash, by Trinka Hakes Noble

Fancy Nancy (there are early reader ones and later chapter books, but the best are the stand-alone storybooks), by Jane O'Connor

The Kissing Hand, by Audrey Penn

Curious George (suggest the newer ones like New Adventures of Curious George), by Margret and H.A. Rey

Dragons Love Tacos, by Adam Rubin

Caps for Sale, by Esphyr Slobodkina

Ladybug Girl (first in a series), by David Soman and Jacky Davis

Knuffle Bunny (series of 3 books), by Mo Willems

Owl Moon, by Jane Yolen

## Read-Aloud Suggestions for Various Ages

Flight: The Journeys of Charles Lindbergh, by Robert Burleigh

The Tale of Despereaux, by Kate DiCamillo

Half Magic, by Edward Eager

Wind in the Willows, Kenneth Grahame (don't try this too soon - try as a read aloud with older children, 10-14)

A Hole is to Dig, by Ruth Krauss

Pippi Longstocking stories, by Astrid Lindgren

Chronicles of Narnia, by C.S. Lewis (several of these will be read in class or as assigned reading, but it is hard to read these too much or too often!)

Sarah, Plain and Tall, by Patricia MacLachlan

Now We Are Six, A.A. Milne

When We Were Very Young, A.A. Milne

Hailstones and Halibut Bones, by Mary O'Neill

The Complete Tales of Beatrix Potter Bearskin, by Howard Pyle

Aesop's Fables, by Arthur Rackham

Classic Myths to Read Aloud, by William Russell

Dr. De Soto, by William Steig

Stuart Little, by E.B. White

Exodus, by Brian Wildsmith

## **Beginning Readers**

Clifford the Big Red Dog, Norman Bridwell

Are You My Mother?, by P.D. Eastman

Go, Dog, Go!, by P.D. Eastman

Where Will You Swim Tonight?, by Milly Limmer

Bob Books, by Bobby Lynn Maslen and John R. Maslen

Poppleton (and others), by Cynthia Rylant

Cat in the Hat, by Dr. Seuss

Fox in Sox, by Dr. Seuss

Great Day for Up!, by Dr. Seuss

Green Eggs and Ham, by Dr. Seuss

One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish (and many others), by Dr. Seuss

Sheep in a Jeep, by Nancy E. Shaw and Margot Apple

Good Night, Good Knight, by Shelly Moore Thomas and Jennifer Plecas

Happy Birthday, Good Knight, by Shelly Moore Thomas and Jennifer Plecas

### **Newly Independent Readers**

The Young Cam Jansen, by David Adler

George the Drummer Boy, by Nathaniel Benchley

Flat Stanley series, by Jeff Brown

Once a Mouse, by Marcia Brown

Ramona the Pest series, by Beverly Cleary

One Grain of Rice, by Demi

Bill and Pete Go Down the Nile, by Tomie dePaola

The Story about Ping, by Marjorie Flack and Kurt Wise

George Washington's Mother, by Jean Fritz

Polk Street School, by Patricia Reilly Giff

Frances books, by Russell Hoban

Nancy Drew Notebook, by Carolyn Keene

The Three Princes, by Eric A. Kimmel and Leonard Everett Fisher

The Story of Ferdinand, by Munro Leaf

The Cul-de-Sac Kids, by Beverly Lewis Floss, by Kim Lewis

The Trojan Horse: How the Greeks Won the War, by Emily Little

Frog and Toad, by Arnold Lobel

Mrs. Piggle Wiggle, by Betty MacDonald

Fox and His Friends, by Edward Marshall and James Marshall

George and Martha, by James Marshall

Little Bear, Else Holmelund Minarik

Magic Tree House series, by Mary Pope Osborne

Amelia Bedelia, by Peggy Parish

Whistling (and others), by Elizabeth Partridge

The Littles, by John Peterson

Horrible Harry, by Frank Renkiewicz

Henry and Mudge series, by Cynthia Rylant

Mr. Putter and Tabby series, by Cynthia Rylant

Nate the Great, by Marjorie and Craig Sharmat

Caps for Sale, by Esphyr Slobodkina

The Boxcar Children series, by Gertrude Warner

A New Coat for Anna, by Harriet Ziefert

### **Confident Readers**

Cam Jansen, by David Adler

The One and Only Ivan; The One and Only Bob; The One and Only Ruby, by Katherine Applegate

Mr. Popper's Penguins, by Richard and Florence Atwater

Poppy series, by Avi

Tuck Everlasting, by Natalie Babbitt

The Indian in the Cupboard series, by Lynne Reid Banks

Peter Pan, by J.M. Barrie

Wonderful Wizard of Oz and others, by L. Frank Baum

Nick of Time, by Ted Bell

Christian Heroes: Then and Now series, by Geoff and Janet Benge

My Name is Brain Brian, by Jeanne Betancourt

The Velveteen Rabbit, by Marjorie Williams Bianco

The Penderwicks (series) - by Jeanne Birdsall

The World According to Humphrey (a long series) - by Betty G. Birney

Pancakes-Paris, by Claire Huchet Bishop

Twenty and Ten, by Claire Huchet Bishop

The Shakespeare Stealer series, by Gary Blackwood

A Bear Called Paddington and others, by Michael Bond

The Complete Adventures of Olga Da Polga by Michael Bond

The Children of Green Knowe series, by Lucy Boston

The Emperor's Arrow, by Burke Boyce

A Toad on Capitol Hill, by Esther Wood Brady

Toliver's Secret, by Esther Wood Brady

Caddie Woodlawn, by Carol Ryrie Brink

The Apple and the Arrow, by Mary and Conrad Buff

The Beast of Lor, by Clyde Bulla

A Lion to Guard Us, by Clyde Bulla

Pirate's Promise, by Clyde Bulla

Sword in the Tree, by Clyde Bulla

I am the Mummy Heb-Nefert, by Eve Bunting

Little Lord Fauntleroy, by Frances Hodgson Burnett

A Little Princess, by Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Alice in Wonderland, by Lewis Carroll

Through the Looking Glass, by Lewis Carroll

The Aeneid for Boys and Girls, by Alfred J. Church

The Bells of Rye, by Richard Church

Down River, by Richard Church

Five Boys in a Cave, by Richard Church

Dear Mr. Henshaw, by Beverly Cleary

The Mouse and the Motorcycle (and other Ralph books), by Beverly Cleary

Frindle, by Andrew Clements

Jump Ship to Freedom and others, by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier

War Comes to Willy Freeman, by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier

Who is Carrie?, by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier

Bread and Butter Indian, by Anne Colver

How to Train Your Dragon series, by Cressida Cowell

The Little Lame Prince, Dinah Craik

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and others, by Roald Dahl

Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator, by Roald Dahl

Danny, the Champion of the World, by Roald Dahl

The Enormous Crocodile, by Roald Dahl

The Fantastic Mr. Fox, by Roald Dahl

The Courage of Sarah Noble, by Alice Dalgliesh

Abraham Lincoln and many other titles, by Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire

The Lemonade Wars, by Jacqueline Davies

Journey from Peppermint Street, by Meindert DeJong

The Wheel on the School, by Meindert DeJong

Because of Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo

The Magician's Elephant, by Kate DiCamillo

Mercy Watson series, by Kate DiCamillo

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, by Kate DiCamillo

The Tale of Despereaux, by Kate DiCamillo

The Tiger Rising, by Kate DiCamillo

Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates, by Mary Mapes Dodge

The Twenty-one Balloons, by William Pene DuBois

The City of Ember, by Jeanne DuPrau

The Logs Crossing, by Walter Edmonds

The Matchlock Gun, by Walter Edmonds

Thimble Summer, by Elizabeth Enright

The Hundred Dresses, by Eleanor Estes

The Little Bookroom, by Eleanor Farjeon

The Black Stallion and others, by Walter Farley

Mystery at the Long Barrow House, by Nancy Faulkner

Sword of the Winds, by Nancy Faulkner

Calico Bush, by Rachel Field

Hitty, Her First Hundred Years, by Rachel Field

The Great Brain, by John Fitzgerald

Harriet the Spy, by Louise Fitzhugh

The Whipping Boy, by Sid Fleischman

And Then What Happened, Paul Revere? and other history titles, by Jean Fritz

The Cabin Faced West, by Jean Fritz

George Washington's Breakfast, by Jean Fritz

Igraine the Brave, by Cornelia Funke

Blue Willow, by Doris Gates

The Far Side of the Mountain, by Jean Craighead George

Julie of the Wolves, by Jean Craighead George

My Side of the Mountain, by Jean Craighead George

Old Yeller, by Fred Gipson

The Doll's House, by Rumer Godden

The Fairy Doll, by Rumer Godden

Impunity Jane, by Rumer Godden

The Kitchen Madonna, by Rumer Godden

Little Plum, by Rumer Godden

Mouse House, by Rumer Godden

The Mousewife, by Rumer Godden

The Reluctant Dragon, by Kenneth Grahame

Adam of the Road, by Elizabeth Janet Gray

The Complete Peterkin Papers, by Lucretia Hale

Sir Gawain and the Loathy Lady, by Selina Hastings

Owen and Mzee, by Isabella and Craig Hatkoff and Paula Kahumbu

Brighty of the Grand Canyon, by Marguerite Henry

King of the Wind, by Marguerite Henry

Misty of Chincoteague, by Marguerite Henry

Stormy, by Marguerite Henry

For the Temple: A Tale of the Fall of Jerusalem and others, by G.A. Henty

Persephone, by Warwick Hutton

Theseus and the Minotaur, by Warwick Hutton

The Trojan Horse, by Warwick Hutton

Redwall series, by Brian Jacques

Finn Family Moomintroll series by Tove Jansson

Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat (and sequel), by Lynne Jonell

The Phantom Tollbooth, by Norton Juster

Kira Kira, by Cynthia Kadohata

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

The Trumpeter of Krakow, by Eric P. Kelly

Babe: The Gallant Pig and other titles, by Dick King-Smith

A Mouse Called Wolf, by Dick King-Smith

The Water Horse, by Dick King-Smith

The Jungle Books, by Rudyard Kipling

Just So Stories, by Rudyard Kipling

Big Red, by Jim Kjelgaard

Irish Red, by Jim Kjelgaard

Outlaw Red, by Jim Kjelgaard

From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, by E.L. Konigsburg

Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, by Jean Lee Latham

Savvy, by Ingrid Law

The Man Who Freed the Slaves: The Story of William Wilberforce, by Audrey and Herbert Lawson

A Wrinkle in Time series, by Madeleine L'Engle

The Chronicles of Narnia, by C.S. Lewis

Ronia, the Robber's Daughter, by Astrid Lindgren

Dr. Doolittle series, by Hugh Lofting

Betsy-Tacy series, by Maud Hart Lovelace

Castle, by David MacAuley

Cathedral: The Story of Its Construction, by David MacAuley

Little Farm in the Ozarks series, by Roger MacBride

Little House on Rocky Ridge, by Roger MacBride

At the Back of the North Wind, by George MacDonald

The Princess and Curdie, by George MacDonald

The Princess and the Goblin, by George MacDonald

Sarah, Plain and Tall series, by Patricia MacLachlan

The Doll People series, by Ann M. Martin

Homer Price, by Robert McCloskey

The House at Pooh Corner, by A.A. Milne

Winnie the Pooh, by A.A. Milne

The Great Fire and other historical books, by Jim Murphy

Shiloh and others, by Phyllis Naylor

The Borrowers series, by Mary Norton

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH, by Robert C. O'Brien

Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell

Sing Down the Moon, by Scott O'Dell

Single Shard, by Linda Sue Park

A Whale of the Wild; A Wolf Called Wander, by Rosanne Parry

Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson

The Same Stuff as Stars, by Katherine Paterson

Pollyanna, by Eleanor Porter

Freckles and the Girl of the Limberlost, by Gene Statton Porter

Swallows and Amazons series, by Arthur Ransome

The Westing Game and others, by Ellen Raskin

The Yearling, by Marjorie Rawlings

Where the Red Fern Grows, by Wilson Rawls

Grandma's Attic stories, by Arleta Richardson

The Mystery of Mont Saint-Michel, by Michel Rouze

The King of the Golden River, by John Ruskin

Sideways Stories from Wayside School series, by Louis Sachar

Roller Skates and others, by Ruth Sawyer

The Cricket in Times Square, by George Seldon

Tucker's Countryside, by George Seldon

Black Beauty, by Anna Sewell

Five Little Peppers and How They Grew, by Margaret Sidney

A Light in the Attic, by Shel Silverstein

Where the Sidewalk Ends, by Shel Silverstein

Calico Captive, by Elizabeth George Speare

The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth George Speare

Witch of Blackbird Pond, by Elizabeth George Speare

Call it Courage, by Armstrong Sperry

Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli

Heidi, by Johanna Spyri

Treasures of the Snow, by Patricia St. John

Bard of Avon: The Story of William Shakespeare and other titles, by Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema

Abel's Island, by William Steig

Childhood of Famous Americans series, by Augusta Stevenson, et al.

The Mysterious Benedict Society series, by Trenton Lee Stewart

All-of-a-Kind Family series, by Sydney Taylor

Basil of Baker Street series, by Eve Titus Mary Poppins and others, by Pamela Travers

A Flight of Angels, by Geoffrey Trease

Why a Curveball Curves: The Incredible Science of Sports, by Frank Vizard

Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White

Stuart Little, by E.B. White

The Trumpet of the Swan, by E.B. White

Little House on the Prairie series, by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Detectives in Togas and sequel, by Henry Winterfeld

The Castle in the Attic and others, by Elizabeth Winthrop

Counting on Grace, by Elizabeth Winthrop

Swiss Family Robinson, by Johann Wyss

Dragon's Gate, by Lawrence Yep

Gilgamesh the King, by Ludmila Zeman

The Last Quest of Gilgamesh, by Ludmila Zeman

The Revenge of Ishtar, by Ludmila Zeman

### **Advanced Readers**

Watership Down, by Richard Adams

Jo's Boys, by Louisa May Alcott

Little Men, by Louisa May Alcott

Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott

Rose in Bloom, by Louisa May Alcott

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, by Avi

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, by Marie Borroff

Fahrenheit 451, by Ray Bradbury

The Moonstone, by Wilkie Collins

The Children of Odin, by Padraic Colum

The Trojan War, by Olivia Coolidge

The Deerslayer, by James Fenimore Cooper

The Last of the Mohicans, by James Fenimore Cooper

A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett of the State of Tennessee, by David Crockett

I, Juan de Pareja, by Elizabeth Borton De Trevino

Robinson Crusoe, by Daniel Defoe

David Copperfield, Charles Dickens

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Count of Monte Cristo, by Alexandre Dumas

*Jim the Boy,* by Tony Earley

Through Gates of Splendor, by Elisabeth Elliott

Princess Academy, by Shannon Hale

Claxton's Challenge, by Cynthia Harnett

The Drawbridge Gate, by Cynthia Harnett

Stars of Fortune, by Cynthia Harnett

The Writing on the Hearth, by Cynthia Harnett

Across Five Aprils, by Irene Hunt

Up a Road Slowly, by Irene Hunt

The Trumpeter of Krakow, by Eric P. Kelly

The View from Saturday, by E.L. Konigsburg

A Separate Peace, by John Knowles

Tales from Shakespeare, by Charles and Mary Lamb

Hattie Big Sky, by Kirby Larson

In the Hall of the Dragon King trilogy, by Stephen R. Lawhead

Pendragon Cycle, by Stephen R. Lawhead

Out of the Silent Planet, by C.S. Lewis

That Hideous Strength, by C.S. Lewis

Perelandra, by C.S. Lewis

Ranald Bannerman's Boyhood, by George MacDonald

The Flying Scotsman, by Sally Magnusson

Christy, by Catherine Marshall

Julie, by Catherine Marshall

A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor, by Harry Mazer

Anne of Green Gables series, by L.M. Montgomery

Five Children and It, by E. Nesbit

The Phoenix and the Carpet, by E. Nesbit

The Railway Children, by E. Nesbit

Young Tom Edison, by Sterling North

The Scarlet Pimpernel, by Baroness Emmusca Orczy

A Single Shard, by Linda Sue Park

Marching for Freedom, by Elizabeth Partridge

Hatchet, by Gary Paulsen

A Day No Pigs Would Die, by Robert Newton Peck

The Nine Tailors, by Dorothy L. Sayers

Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scott

Words by Heart, by Ouida Sebestyen

The Good Master, by Kate Seredy

The White Stag, by Kate Seredy

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, by Elizabeth George Speare

Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson

The Light Beyond the Forest, Rosemary Sutcliff

The Sword and the Circle, Rosemary Sutcliff

Tristan and Iseult, Rosemary Sutcliff

Jules Verne: The Man Who Invented Tomorrow, by Peggy Teeters

The Fellowship of the Ring, by J.R.R. Tolkien

The Return of the King, by J.R.R. Tolkien

The Two Towers, by J.R.R. Tolkien

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain

The Prince and the Pauper, by Mark Twain

Journey to the Center of the Earth, by Jules Verne

Mysterious Island, by Jules Verne

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, by Jules Verne

The Time Machine, by H.G. Wells

Through the Hidden Door, by Rosemary Wells

Belle Prater's Boy, by Ruth White

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, by Kate Douglas Smith Wiggin

### **Recommendations for Parents**

Joy at Work, by Dennis W. Bakke

Shaping the Man Inside Teenage Boys, by Bill Beansay

How to Really Love Your Child, by Ross Campbell

How to Really Love Your Teenager, by Ross Campbell

Parenting with Love & Logic, by Foster Cline and Jim Fay

When Children Love to Learn, by Elaine Cooper

The Brothers Karamazov, by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Crime and Punishment, by Fyodor Dostoevsky

The Hurried Child, by David Elkind

Miseducation: Preschoolers at Risk, by David Elkind

Parenting with Love and Logic, by Jim Fay and David Funk

Teaching Redemptively, by Donovan L. Graham

Tending the Heart of Virtue, by Vigen Guroian

Watchmen on the Walls: Praying Character into Your Child, by Gary Harrell and Anne Arkins

Les Miserables, by Victor Hugo

A Prayer for Owen Meany, by John Irving

Why Johnny Can't Tell Right from Wrong, by William Kilpatrick

The Power of Mindful Learning, by Ellen J. Langer

The Price of Privilege, by Madeline Levine

The Chronicles of Narnia, by C.S. Lewis

The Screwtape Letters, by C.S. Lewis

For the Children's Sake, by Susan Schaeffer Macaulay

The Light Princess, by George MacDonald

The Princess and the Goblin and The Princess and Curdie (and others), by George MacDonald

The Blessing of a Skinned Knee, by Wendy Mogel

The Blessing of a B-, by Wendy Mogel

How to Raise Your Children for Christ, by Andrew Murray

The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming, by Henri J.M. Nouwen

Slow and Steady Get Me Ready, by June R. Oberlander (a great activity book for pre-kindergarteners)

Cry, the Beloved Country, by Alan Paton

Like Dew Your Youth: Growing Up With Your Teenager, by Eugene Peterson

In the Shelter of Each Other, by Mary Pfeifer

Reviving Ophelia, by Mary Pfeifer

Engaging God's World, by Cornelius Plantinga Jr.

Amusing Ourselves to Death, by Neil Postman

The Disappearance of Childhood, by Neil Postman

Blood and Thunder: The Epic Story of Kit Carson and the Conquest of the American West, by Hampton Sides

A Vision with a Task: Christian Schooling for Responsive Discipleship, ed. by Gloria Goris Stronks and Doug Blomberg

Anatomy of the Soul, by Curt Thompson

The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings trilogy, by J.R.R. Tolkien

Shepherding a Child's Heart, by Ted Tripp

The Warden, by Anthony Trollope

And Then I Had Kids, by Susan Yates