



Erie Day School

Learning today, leading tomorrow.

Revised 5/12/25

2025 Summer Reading List

Toddler and Preschool Recommended Summer Reading

Daily reading of any book is strongly encouraged! We recommend sitting with your child, modeling how to open and hold a book, using your finger to track the text across the pages, and asking your child questions about the story and illustrations as you read.

Alphabet books, such as:

- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.
- Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert
- Once Upon an Alphabet by Oliver Jeffers
- I-Spy Letters by Jean Marzollo
- A to Z by Sandra Boynton
- Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run by Mike Twohy

Color books, such as:

- Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert
- Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Counting/Number books, such as:

- Ten Black Dots by Donald Crow
- Ten on a Twig by Lo Cole
- Fish Eyes by Lois Ehlert

Wordless books, such as:

- The Balcony by Melissa Castrillon
- Du Iz Tak? by Carson Ellis
- Flora and the Flamingo by Molly Idle

Beloved Characters, such as:

- Pete the Cat by James Dean
- Llama Llama by Anna Dewdney
- The Pigeon by Mo Willems
- Corduroy by Don Freeman
- Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans

Beloved Authors and Illustrators, such as:

- Grace Lin
- Kevin Henkes
- Jacqueline Woodson
- Vashti Harrison
- Mo Willems
- Laura Numeroff
- Mac Barnett
- Jon Klassen
- Juana Martinez-Neal
- Oge Mora
- Kenard Pak
- Carson Ellis

Books with Photographic Illustrations, such as:

- National Geographic Kids books
- I-Spy books



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2025 Summer Reading List

Pre-Kindergarten Summer Reading List

Feel free to pick at least one of the following titles to read with your child during the summer months to prepare him/her for Pre-Kindergarten. Along with these titles, please continue to read daily to your child. Have your child pick picture books that interest him/her. In August, begin to read children's literature about school to prepare your child for his or her transition back into the classroom. Happy reading!

- The Magic of Me: My Magical Choices
 - Author: Becky Cummings
 - A book about how our choices can “bring sunshine or rainy showers”
- Do Unto Otters: A book about Manners
 - Author: Laurie Keller
 - A book about manners
- This School Year Will be the Best!
 - Author: Kay Winters
 - A book about starting school
- Nugget and Fang
 - Author: Michael Slack
 - A book about inclusion and kindness



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2025 Summer Reading List

Kindergarten

Reading to and with your child is vitally important to his/her future success as an independent reader. The following genres offer a variety of summer reading choices:

- Alphabet books
- Rhyming books
- Nursery rhyme books
- Number/counting books
- Fairytales/folktales/fables
- Picture books
- High-frequency word books such as Scholastic's BOB books or "Sight Word Readers"
- Step into Reading books (leveled readers)
- Books by selected authors such as Dr. Seuss, Eric Carle, Pat Hutchins, Leo Lionni, Mo Willems, and Mem Fox

About three weeks prior to the start of the school year, it is important to read books with the theme of starting school, being confident in yourself, and making friends. Please choose three or more books from the following list to read to your child:

- Welcome to Kindergarten by Anne Rockwell
- KINDergarten by Vera Ahlmya
- How to Be Kind in Kindergarten by D.J. Steinberg
- The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
- Will I Have a Friend? by Miriam Cohen
- Sorry Grownups, You Can't Go to School by Christina Geist
- You Are Enough by Margaret O'Hair
- Blossom and Bud by Frank Sileo
- Stick and Stone by Beth Ferry
- It's Hard to Be Five: Learning How to Work My Control Panel by Jamie Lee Curtis
- Off to Kindergarten by Tony Johnston
- Planet Kindergarten by Sue Ganz-Schmitt

These books can be found at the Public Library, online, or in our local bookstores.

Enjoy!



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2025 Summer Reading List

MRS. STRAKER'S AND MS.BOWSER'S SUGGESTED READING LIST

Emerging Readers:

Bob Books by Lynn
Maslen Kertell
Any decodable
reading books.

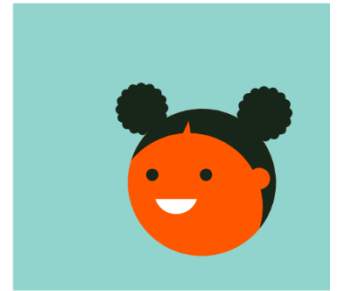
Beginning Readers:

Any books from the
Elephant and Piggie
Series
by Mo Willems

Independent Readers or Read Aloud:

Frog and Toad are
Friends by Arnold
Lobel

Any books from the
Mercy Watson series
by Kate DiCamillo





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2025 Summer Reading List

Second Grade Reading & Drawing Project

- Is your child excited to read?
- Does your child have a favorite character or book series?
- Is your child reading daily or are you reading daily to your child?
- Have they visited the Blasco Library or any of the branch libraries and had an opportunity to choose books they are interested in? Hopefully the answer is YES to all those questions! Here are some of my favorite series: Choose any or all!

Fox and Friends

Poppleton

Pizza and Taco

Arlo and Pips

Hello, Hedgehog!

Narwhal and Jelly Book

- Have your child draw a colorful picture of their favorite book character to share with the class when we return to school in September.

Happy Reading!

Ms. Golba



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2025 Summer Reading List

Third Grade

1. Please read - ***A Bear Called Paddington*** – Please create a poster, diorama, puppet, etc to present to the class.

For recreational reading choose one of the following:

2. ***Pinky and Rex Go To Camp*** by James Howe or ***Alvin Ho, Allergic to Camping, Hiking and other Natural Disasters*** by Lenore Look.

3. **CULTURE KITS:**

To learn about another person's culture or more about your own culture, you have to be aware of how people live together and what they believe. All the people of the world have many things in common, including families, schools, governments, a form of religion, and celebration days. What makes up a person's culture is what that person does and what that person believes about his or her family, school, government, religion, and celebration days.

To create a Culture Kit, follow these steps:

1. Choose & read a nonfiction book about a family or person from another culture.
2. Choose six items to put into your Culture Kit box.
3. On the next page, in the numbered space for each item, list the item and explain why it is important in the culture you read about.
4. Be prepared to give a short speech to your classmates about the things in your Culture Kit box. Practice picking each item out of the box and explaining its importance.
5. Decorate the Culture Kit box if you like. (*You may want to color it or decorate it to look like the country's flag.*)

(Grade 3 continued)

Here are some title suggestions for your Culture Kit:

The Night of Los Posadas by Tomie DePaola

Salsa Stories by Lulu Delacre

These Hands by Hope Lynne Price

The Journal of Ming-Chung by Laurence Yep

Black Hands, White Sails by Patricia and Frederick McKissack

Arctic Son by Jean Craighead George

Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George

The Circuit by Francisco Jimenez

Celebrate! by Gilda Berger

Too Many Tamales by Gary Soto and Ed Martinez

Zlata's Diary by Zlata Filipovi

Babushka by Patricia Polacco

Babushka's Doll by Patricia Polacco

So Far From the Sea by Eve Bunting

I Am An American by Jerry Stanley

Anne Frank Beyond the Diary Secret Letters

When Jessie Came Across the Sea by Amy Hest

The Bedouin by Fidelity Lancaster

The Day of Ahmed's Secret by Florence Parry Heide & Judith Heide Gilliland

A Family in South Korea by Gwynneth Ashby

Family Pictures by Carmen Lomas Garza

Rehema's Journey: A Visit in Tanzania by Barbara A. Margolies

Sweden edited by MaryLee Knowlton and Mark J. Sachner



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2025 Summer Reading List

Grade 4 Summer reading

Please pick any **3** from the list below and complete book reviews/summaries for each book read. You may fill out the template provided or type up your own review/summary.

Along with the reviews/summaries, choose **1** of the books to create a poster, diorama, mobile, puppet, etc. to share during the first week of school. Books may be read with a parent or independently.

Because of Winn-Dixie by Katie CiCamillo

Knights of the Kitchen Table by Jon Scieszka

Rump – The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin by Liesl Shurtliff

The Last Kids on Earth by Max Brallier

The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar

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

4th Grade

~ BOOK REPORT ~

Name: _____

Title of book: _____

Author: _____ Copyright: _____

Date Started: _____ Date Finished: _____

Main Characters: _____

Minor Characters: _____

What was your favorite chapter? Why? _____

Which character did you admire most? Why? _____

Did you like the book? Why or why not? _____



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2025 Summer Reading List

Fifth Grade

Pick any three books from the following list:

***Smile* by Raina Telgemeier**

Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts, she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth, and what follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly. This coming-of-age true story is sure to resonate with anyone who has ever been in middle school, and especially those who have ever had a bit of their own dental drama.

***Holes* by Louis Sachar**

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnats. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption.

***Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan**

Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances--Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.

***Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli**

Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.

***Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson**

Jess Aarons has been practicing all summer so he can be the fastest runner in the fifth grade. And he almost is, until the new girl in school, Leslie Burke, outpaces him. The two become fast friends and spend most days in the woods behind Leslie's house, where they invent an enchanted land called Terabithia. One morning, Leslie goes to Terabithia without Jess and a tragedy occurs. It will take the love of his family and the strength that Leslie has given him for Jess to be able to deal with his grief.

(Grade 5 continued)

***The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau**

Many hundreds of years ago, the city of Ember was created by the Builders to contain everything needed for human survival. It worked...but now the storerooms are almost out of food, crops are blighted, corruption is spreading through the city and worst of all—the lights are failing. Soon Ember could be engulfed by darkness...But when two children, Lina and Doon, discover fragments of an ancient parchment, they begin to wonder if there could be a way out of Ember. Can they decipher the words from long ago and find a new future for everyone? Will the people of Ember listen to them?

***Number The Stars* by Lois Lowry**

Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen and her best friend Ellen Rosen often think of life before the war. It's now 1943 and their life in Copenhagen is filled with school, food shortages, and the Nazi soldiers marching through town. When the Jews of Denmark are "relocated," Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be one of the family. Soon Annemarie is asked to go on a dangerous mission to save Ellen's life.

***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen**

Brian is on his way to Canada to visit his estranged father when the pilot of his small prop plane suffers a heart attack. Brian is forced to crash-land the plane in a lake--and finds himself stranded in the remote Canadian wilderness with only his clothing and the hatchet his mother gave him as a present before his departure.

***Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech**

As Sal entertains her grandparents with an outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold — the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.

***Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper**

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom - the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it - somehow.

For each of the books you choose to read, please answer the following questions (one paragraph per question; three paragraphs per book):

1. What are two similarities you share with the main character of this book? What are two differences?
2. What emotions did you feel while reading this book?
3. Would you recommend this book to another fifth grader? Why or why not?

Keep a log of any other books you read this summer. Put a star rating from 1-5 stars (* being a book you did not enjoy and ***** being a book you loved). Although reading is highly encouraged over the summer, there is not a required number of books you need to read beyond the three you pick from our list. This log will help me get to know you and what you like to read.

Fifth Grade Summer Reading Log

Name: _____

[illegible]



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2025 6 – 8 Grade Middle School Summer Reading List

Sixth Grade- Read a total of 2 books

Choose one:

The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame

Anne of Green Gables- L.M. Montgomery

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe- C.S. Lewis

Choose One:

Fever 1793- Laurie Halse Anderson

Out of the Dust- Karen Hesse

Across Five Aprils- Irene Hunt

The Devil's Arithmetic- Jane Yolen

Seventh Grade- Read a total of 2 books

Choose one:

When Stars are Scattered- Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

Refugee- Alan Gratz

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon- Grace Lin

Choose one:

The Westing Game- Ellen Raskin

Moon Over Manifest- Clare Vanderpool

Restart – Gordan Korman

Eighth Grade- Read a total of 2 books from this list, and 3 of your choice, for a total of 5 books:

Choose one:

Fahrenheit 451- Ray Bradbury

Unwind- Neil Schusterman

The Last Cuentista - Donna Barba Higuera

Choose one:

The Book Thief- Zusak

All the Light We Cannot See- Anthony Doerr

Unbroken (YA version)- Laura Hillenbrand

Choose three more titles to be included in your project.

Consider:

Newberry Award Winners

Three book series you love and enjoy

Three books by the same author

Three books of the same genre