

Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading
Oakbrook Preparatory School 2017
English/Language Arts Mrs. Rivers

Study after study has shown the best way to acquire vocabulary, improve reading comprehension, and enhance writing skills is through wide-reading. Not only does reading provide students a chance to engage in interesting narratives, but it also provides the opportunity to develop language skills. Consider the following:

One way to build academic vocabulary students need is through reading, reading, and more reading. As students read extensively over time, they develop academic vocabulary. This vocabulary helps them to read more complex texts, and that prepares them to read even more complex texts.

To read complex texts, students need a knowledge base that is both broad and deep. Much of this knowledge base is built through reading itself. Students must read both widely and deeply, to find topics that interest them and to learn about those topics at a complex, academic level.

Journeys, 5th grade Ed., p.vi, 2014 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Required Summer Reading:

Assignments are due on the first full day of class and will be graded on completion and effort.

- Read *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George.

- Create a model of Sam's tree home and its surroundings, based on the descriptions in the book. Feel free to be creative and use different art mediums to create contrasting textures.

- Pretend that you are Sam. Write a letter to your parents on notebook paper, in your best handwriting, explaining your reasons for leaving home and why they shouldn't worry about you. (150 word minimum)

Required 2017-18 Reading:

Fifth grade students are required to read seven books for English. The books you read this summer may count toward this requirement so be sure to log in all the books you read. Please choose books from the following lists:

- Nominees for the 2017-2018 South Carolina Junior Book Award
<http://www.scasl.net/junior-book-award>
- Any previous South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner
<http://www.scasl.net/junior-book-award>
- Any Newbery Book Award Winner (middle school)
<http://www.loc.gov/nls/bibliographies/minibibs/newbery.html>
- List of Suggested Titles
*Although the majority of these novels are recommended by the American Library Association, we encourage parents and students to investigate and discuss book options together in order to make appropriate choices.

Suggested Titles for 5th Grade Reading

<i>*I, Juan de Pareja</i>	Elizabeth Borton de Treviño	
<i>*Thunder Rolling in the Mountains</i>	Scott O'Dell	
<i>The Black Pearl</i>		
<i>Sing down the Moon</i>		
<i>Zia</i>		
<i>*Behind Rebel Lines</i>	Seymour Reit	
<i>What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?</i>	Jean Fritz	
<i>*Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus?</i>		
<i>And Then What Happened, Paul Revere?</i>		
<i>The Bronze Bow</i>	Elizabeth George Speare	
<i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>		
<i>Calico Captive</i>		
<i>Misty of Chincoteague</i>	Marguerite Henry	
<i>King of the Wind</i>		
<i>Justin Morgan had a Horse</i>		
<i>Brown Sunshine</i>		
<i>Misty's Foal</i>		
<i>The Kite Fighters</i>	Linda Sue Parks	
<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>		
<i>The Big Wave</i>	Pearl Buck	
<i>The Moffats</i>	Eleanor Estes	
<i>Ginger Pye</i>		
<i>Pinky Pye</i>		
<i>Stone Fox</i>	John Reynolds Gardiner	
<i>Farmer Boy</i>	Laura Ingalls Wilder	
<i>Little House on the Prairie</i>		
<i>On the Banks of Plum Creek</i>		
<i>Little House in the Big Woods</i>		
<i>Shadow of a Bull</i>	Maia Wojciechowski	
<i>In the Year of The Boar and Jackie Robinson</i>	Bette Bao Lord	
<i>Plain Girl</i>	Virginia Sorenson	
<i>The Endless Steppe</i>	Esther Hautzig	
<i>Carry On, Mr. Bowditch</i>	Jean Lee Latham	
<i>Number the Stars</i>	Lois Lowry	
<i>Secret of the Andes</i>	Ann Nolan Park	
<i>The Trumpet of the Swan</i>	E.B. White	
<i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i>	Elizabeth Yates	
<i>Mountain Born</i>		
<i>The Journeyman</i>		
<i>The Borrowers (series)</i>	Mary Norton	
<i>The Twenty-One Balloons</i>	William Pene du Bois	
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>	L.M. Montgomery	
<i>Anne of Avonlea</i>		
<i>The Summer of the Swans</i>	Betsy Byars	
<i>Blue Willow</i>	Doris Gates	
<i>Gentle Ben</i>	Walt Morley	
<i>The Cay</i>	Theodore Taylor	
<i>Shiloh</i>	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor	

* = books traditionally
read in the 5th grade
at Oakbrook

