

RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING

Keep an appetite for reading this summer. Research shows that children who continue to nourish themselves with a diet rich in classical literature prevent losing a month or more of academic progress achieved during the school year. Eat up!

We suggest reading *classic books*—those which have stood the test of time—for several reasons:

- As we understand that there “is nothing new under the sun” and human nature has not changed, we see the time test as a testimony that the book has something significant to say in a quality way (i.e., it’s not subject to trendiness).
- As C.S. Lewis says, read books of another era so that you can better understand the bent of your own time.
- Stories written prior to 1960 are more often influenced by a biblical view of sin, community, and judgment; in short, apart from God’s grace, “we reap what we sow.”

From K to PG2

Make good use your personal and public library. Read aloud to your children and encourage them to read every day. Choose quality books at appropriate age level and interest.

PG1 to PG2

The following are wonderful picture book series to choose from.

Amelia Bedelia	Parish
Blaze	Anderson
Frog & Toad	Lobel
Henry & Mudge	Rylant
Little Bear	Minivik
Mr. Putter & Tabby	Rylant
Madeline	Bemelmás
Nate the Great	Sharmot

Other quality picture books:

Books by Eric Carle
Books by Robert McCloskey
Books by Leo Lionni

PG2 to G1

Chapter books of classic quality:

Boxcar Children (original series)	Warner
Child’s Garden of Verses	Stevenson
Corduroy	Freeman
Courage of Sarah Noble	Dagliesh
Encyclopedia Brown (series)	Sobol
Hans Christian Andersen stories	
Little House (series)	Wilder
My Father’s Dragon (series)	Gannett
Peter Rabbit and other Fairy Tales	Potter

G1 to G2

Classic children’s literature that includes:

Stuart Little (and other books)	E.B. White
Lion, Witch, Wardrobe (series)	C.S. Lewis
Little House on the Prairie (series)	Wilder
Grimm’s Fairy Tales	

G2 to G3

Classic children’s literature that includes:

Henry & the Clubhouse (series)	Cleary
Wonderful Wizard of Oz (series)	Baum
Mary Poppins (series)	Travers
Alice in Wonderland	Carroll
Mandie & the Secret Tunnel (series)	Leppard

G3 to G4

Classic children’s literature that includes:

Adventures of Robin Hood	Vivian
Anne of Green Gables (series)	Montgomery
Heidi	Spyri
The Jungle Book	Kipling
Black Ships before Troy (and others)	Sutcliff
Carry On, Mr. Bowditch	Latham
Door in the Wall	deAngeli
Prince & the Pauper (and others)	Twain
Princess & the Goblin	MacDonald
Sherlock Holmes	Doyle
Wind in the Willows	Grahame
A Wrinkle in Time (series)	L’Engle

Logic & Rhetoric students can draw from the G4 list as well as:

Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women* (1868)
Austen, Jane *Sense and Sensibility* (and others)
The Arabian Nights
Bagnold, Enid. *National Velvet* (1935)
Ballantyne Historical Fiction
Barrie, Sir James. *Peter Pan* (1904)
Bond, Michael. *A Bear Called Paddington* (1960)
Boston, Lucy M. *The Children of Green Knowe* (1954)
Bronte, Charlotte *Jane Eyre*
Burgess, Thornton W. *Old Mother West Wind* (1910)
Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *Little Lord Fauntleroy* (1886)
Butterworth, Oliver. *The Enormous Egg* (1956)
Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865)
Collodi, C. *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (1883)
Craik, Mrs. *The Little Lame Prince* (1875)
Christie, Agatha *Poirot* (series)
Dodge, Mary Mapes. *Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates* (1865)
Estes, Eleanor. *The Moffats* (1941)
Farley, Walter. *The Black Stallion* (1941)
Forbes, Esther. *Johnny Tremain* (1943)
Fritz, Jean. *The Cabin Faced West* (1958)
Garis, Howard. *Uncle Wiggly's Adventures* (1912)
George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain* (1959)
Grahame, Kenneth. *The Wind in the Willows* (1908)
Harris, Joel Chandler. *Uncle Remus* (1883)
Haywood, Carolyn. *B Is For Betsy* (1939)
Henty, G.A. Historical fiction
Holling, Holling C. *Paddle-To-The-Sea* (1941)
James, Will. *Smoky, The Cow Horse* (1926)
Kjelgaard, Jim. *Big Red* (1945)
Knight, Eric. *Lassie Come Home* (1940)
Lang, Andrew. *The Blue Fairy Book* (1889)
Lawson, Robert. *Rabbit Hill* (1944)
Lewis, C.S. *The Space Trilogy*
Lear, Edward. *Book of Nonsense* (1846)
Lenski, Lois. *Strawberry Girl* (1945)
Lindgren, Astrid. *Pippi Longstocking* (1950)
Norton, Mary. *The Borrowers* (1953)
Pearce, A. Philippa. *Tom's Midnight Garden* (1959)
Porter, Eleanor H.. *Pollyanna* (1913)
Pyle, Howard. *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* (1883)
Rawlings, Marjorie Kinman. *The Yearling* (1938)
Robertson, Keith. *Henry Reed, Inc.* (1958)
Saltern, Felix. *Bambi* (1928)
Sandberg, Carl. *The Rootabaga Stories* (1936)
Sewell, Anna. *Black Beauty* (1877)

Scott, Sir Walter *Ivanhoe*
Sperry, Armstrong. *Call It Courage* (1939)
Steinbeck, John. *The Red Pony* (1937)
Stevenson, Robert Lewis *Kidnapped* (and others)
Toilkien, The Lord of the Rings
Travers, P. L. *Mary Poppins* (1934)
Verne, Jules. *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea*
Wiggin, Kate Douglas. *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* (1903)
Wilde, Oscar. *The Happy Prince* (1888)
Wyss, Johann. *Swiss Family Robinson* (1814)

Contemporary Children's Classics (1960 & Later)

Aiken, Joan. *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* (1962)
Alexander, Lloyd. *The Book of Three* (1964)
Armstrong, William H.. *Sunder* (1969)
Blyton, Enid *The Secret Seven* (and others)
Bond, Michael. *A Bear Called Paddington* (1960)
Burnford, Sheila. *The Incredible Journey* (1961)
Byars, Betsy. *The Summer of The Swans* (1970)
Collier, James Lincoln. *My Brother Sam is Dead* (1974)
Cooper, Susan. *The Dark is Rising* (1973)
Danziger, Paula. *The Cat Ate My Gymsuit* (1974)
Dixon, *The Hardy Boys*
Fitzgerald, John. *The Great Brain* (1967)
Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy* (1964)
Fleischman, Sid. *The Whipping Boy* (1986)
Fox, Paula. *One-Eyed Cat* (1970)
George, Jean Craighead. *Julie of the Wolves* (1972)
Howe, Deborah & James. *Bunnica: A Rabbit Tale of Mystery* (1979)
Jacques, Brian *Redwall* series
Keene, Carolyn *The Nancy Drew* series (original)
LeGuin, Ursula. *A Wizard of Earthsea* (1968)
MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* (1985)
Merrill, Jean. *The Pushcart War* (1964)
Morey, Walt. *Gentle Ben* (1965)
Nesbit, E. *The Railway Children (and others)*
O'Dell, Scott. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* (1960)
Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia* (1977)
Peck, Robert Newton. *Soup* (1974)
Sebestyen, Ouida. *Words By Heart* (1979)
Smith, Robert K. *Chocolate Fever* (1978)
Taylor, Mildred. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* (1976)
Voigt, Cynthia. *Dacey's Song* (1982)
West. *The Happy Hollisters* (1965)
Wilson, N.D. *Leepike Ridge* (and others)