

## Fifth Grade Summer Reading

Over the summer, please choose one of the following books to enjoy reading. When we return to school, please be prepared to discuss the characters, plot, and most exciting parts of your book.

- ★ *Shakespeare Stealer* -This historical fiction novel by Gary Blackwood is set in Elizabethan England. It tells the story of a young orphan named Widge who is taken in by a mysterious man named Dr. Bright and trained as a shorthand scribe. Widge's life takes a dramatic turn when he is sent on a secret mission to steal the script of William Shakespeare's newest play, "Hamlet." However, as Widge becomes involved in the world of the Globe Theatre and the company of actors, he begins to question his loyalty to Dr. Bright and his mission. Along the way, he learns about friendship, honesty, and the power of words. The novel is filled with adventure, suspense, and insights into the life and times of Shakespearean England, making it an engaging read for kids.
- ★ *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*- This realistic fiction novel by E.L. Konigsburg follows the story of Claudia Kincaid, a young girl who decides to run away from home with her brother Jamie and live secretly in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. They uncover a mystery surrounding a statue known as the Angel and embark on a quest to solve it, leading them to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, a wealthy woman with a connection to the statue. Through their adventure, Claudia and Jamie learn about independence, self-discovery, and the value of family. If you love art and mysteries, you will adore this book!
- ★ *Hatchet*- This realistic fiction novel by Gary Paulsen is a gripping survival story that follows the journey of 13-year-old Brian Robeson, who finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness after a plane crash. Armed only with a hatchet gifted to him by his mother, Brian must rely on his wits and resourcefulness to survive in the harsh environment. He faces numerous challenges, including finding food and shelter, dealing with wildlife, and coping with his loneliness and fear. If you're a fan of exciting adventures, this is the perfect summer book for you!

- ★ *Island of the Blue Dolphin*- This book by Scott O'Dell is a classic children's novel based on the true story of a Native American girl named Karana, who is stranded on an island off the coast of California in the mid-1800s. After her tribe leaves the island, Karana must learn to survive on her own, facing challenges such as finding food, building shelter, and defending herself against wild animals. This novel is a captivating tale of survival, friendship, and the power of the human spirit, inspired by the true story of a woman who lived alone on San Nicolas Island for nearly two decades. If you enjoy reading about courageous characters, this book is for you!
- ★ *The Captain's Dog: My Journey with the Lewis and Clark Tribe*- "Dogs know humans better than they will ever know us." Captain Lewis's Newfoundland pup, Seaman, accompanies Lewis and Clark on a path that will make history. With his adventurous and curious spirit, Seaman proves himself to be a loyal companion at every turn. But can this astonishing dog pick his captain up when he needs it most? This exhilarating tale, part history and part science, including actual text from Lewis's journals, celebrates one of America's greatest journeys of discovery. If you love history, animals, and adventure-this book is a great choice for you!
- ★ A book from the *Nancy Drew* series-The Nancy Drew series follows the adventures of a teenage sleuth named Nancy Drew as she solves mysteries in her hometown of River Heights and beyond. Nancy is known for her intelligence, bravery, and resourcefulness, often outwitting criminals and solving complex puzzles. Alongside her friends, Bess Marvin and George Fayne, and sometimes her boyfriend Ned Nickerson, Nancy tackles a wide range of cases, from stolen jewels to haunted houses to missing persons. If you love detective stories and solving mysteries, you will enjoy this series of books.
- ★ A book from the *Hardy Boys* series- The Hardy Boys series revolves around brothers Frank and Joe Hardy, who are amateur detectives. Together, they solve various mysteries in their hometown of Bayport and beyond. With their keen intellects, courage, and teamwork, they tackle cases ranging from thefts and kidnappings to espionage and sabotage. Alongside their friends, Chet Morton and Callie Shaw, the Hardy Boys use their skills to outsmart criminals and bring them to justice. The series offers young readers exciting adventures filled with suspense, action, and clever detective work.