

3rd and 4th Grade Suggested Literature List 2013-2014



Use this list as a launching point for your child's summer reading. Remember that every child who reads or has read to them at least ten books and fills out the summer reading form will receive a Spirit Day pass and a Chick Fil A coupon.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” (*I Can Read with My Eyes Shut* by Dr. Seuss)

The Penderwicks: a Summer Tale of Four Sister, Two Rabbits and a Very Interesting Boy by Jeanne Birdsall- While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother. BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **8.0**

Blubber by Judy Blume- Tale of mob cruelty as ring-leader Wendy and the kids in her class make life miserable for hapless Linda. BL: **3.8**- AR Pts: **4.0**

Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink- This is a story of a spirited pioneer girl's adventures on the Wisconsin frontier. BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **8.0**

The Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett- In this children's classic novel, the wealthy and gifted little girl Sara Crewe must adjust to a different life when her father dies penniless. BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **11.0**

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford-Three house pets migrate through the wilderness to find their family. BL: **7.6** - AR Pts: **5.0**

Katie John by Mary Calhoun- Katie John and her family move into an inherited house in order to sell it, but find they don't want to part with it BL: **4.2** - AR Pts: **4.0**

The Family Under the Bridge by Natalie Carlson- An old tramp, adopted by three fatherless children when their mother hides them under a bridge on the Seine, finds a home for mother and children and a job for himself. BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **3.0**

Beezus and Ramona by Beverly Cleary- Four-year-old Ramona has an imagination that makes her a menace to everyone around her, particularly her older sister, nine-year-old Beezus. BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **3.0**

Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary-In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world. BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **3.0**

The Landry News by Andrew Clements- A fifth-grader starts a newspaper with an editorial that prompts her burnt-out classroom teacher to really begin teaching again, but he is later threatened with disciplinary action as a result. BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **4.0**

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Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr- Hospitalized with the dreaded atom bomb disease, leukemia, a child in Hiroshima races against time to fold one thousand paper cranes to verify the legend that by doing so a sick person will become healthy. BL: **4.1** - AR Pts: **1.0**

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis- In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American South, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom. BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **12.0**

The Black Stallion by Walter Farley- The understanding and love between Alec Ramsay and a magnificent wild horse endure through shared adventures and dangers. BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **7.0**

The Great Brain by John D. Fitzgerald- The exploits of the Great Brain of Adenville, Utah, are described by his younger brother, frequently the victim of the Great Brain's schemes for gaining prestige or money. BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh- Harriet's notebook of her feelings about classmates and neighbors is found by her classmates. BL: **4.5** - AR Pts: **8.0**

Stone Fox by John Gardiner- Little Willy hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dogsled race he enters. BL: **4.0** - AR Pts: **1.0**

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George- Written in the form of a diary, this story relates the days of a young boy in the Catskill Mountains. BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Arthur and the Perfect Brother by Stephen Krensky- Arthur can hardly wait for the Brain to come stay at his house for the whole weekend; but when the Brain seems almost too perfect, Arthur is jealous. BL: **3.3** - AR Pts: **1.0**

Strawberry Girl by Lois Lenski- This is the story of Birdie Boyer and how she battles nature, animals, and feuding neighbors in the backwoods of Florida to become a "strawberry girl." BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery- This is the first novel in the Anne series that has delighted millions of young readers since its publication in 1908. Eleven-year-old Anne Shirley wins the heart of her foster mother. BL: **7.3** - AR Pts: **17.0**

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen- After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce. BL: **5.7** - AR Pts: **7.0**

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Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson- The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer, who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm. BL: **4.6** - AR Pts: **5.0**

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan- Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California on the eve of the Great Depression. BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians by Brandon Sanderson- On his thirteenth birthday, foster child Alcatraz Smedry receives a bag of sand which is immediately stolen by the evil Librarians who are trying to take over the world, and Alcatraz is introduced to his grandfather and his own special talent. Book #1 BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **9.0**

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick- When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. BL: **5.1** - AR Pts: **4.0**

Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry- This is the inspiring story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe. BL: **6.2** - AR Pts: **3.0**

All-of-a-Kind Family by Sydney Taylor- Five girls have simple but happy times, with parents rich in kindness but poor in money. BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **5.0**

The Cay by Theodore Taylor- After the freighter on which Phillip and his mother were traveling from wartime Curacao to the U.S. is torpedoed, the boy finds himself dependent on an old West Indian for survival. BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **4.0**

Mary Poppins by P.T. Travers- A young boy and girl embark on a wonderful adventure with their nanny. BL: **6.1** - AR Pts: **6.0**

A Dog called Kitty by Bill Wallace- Ricky has had a fear of dogs since, as a toddler, he was attacked by a rabid one. He eventually overcomes his fear through a relationship with an abandoned puppy on an Oklahoma farm. BL: **4.2** - AR Pts: **4.0**

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls - This is a simply written, moving story of the love between a young boy and his two dogs. BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **11.0**