



# Summer Reading Assignment

5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Boyd-Moline Library Media Center  
The First Academy

## Summer Reading Requirement

Loving your neighbor, friendship, and courage are several major themes 5th grade will encounter in all the novels we read throughout the year, as well as a focus for all 5th graders as we learn how to live out the great commandment of loving God and loving others. The summer reading assignment will help prepare you for exploring these themes, as well as assist you in the everyday personal relationships you will encounter throughout the school year.

### Assignment

Choose any book listed below to read and complete the Summer Reading Assignment.

1. Create a double-bubble map comparing two characters from the novel.
2. Write a paragraph to explain why loving our neighbor is important. Include at list three reasons in your explanation.
3. List three ways you plan to love others in your 5th grade class.

The following novels will explore friendship and courage, which are major themes in the novels you will read in 5th grade.

- *Anne of Green Gables* - by LM Montgomery

Everyone's favorite redhead, the spunky Anne Shirley, begins her adventures at Green Gables, a farm outside Avonlea, Prince Edward Island. When the freckled girl realizes that the elderly Cuthberts wanted to adopt a boy instead, she begins to try to win them and, consequently, the reader, over.

- *Shiloh* - by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

When Marty Preston comes across a young beagle in the hills behind his home, it's love at first sight—and also big trouble. It turns out the dog, which Marty names Shiloh, belongs to Judd Travers, who drinks too much and has a gun—and abuses his dogs. So when Shiloh runs away from Judd to Marty, Marty just has to hide him and protect him from Judd. But Marty's secret becomes too big for him to keep to himself, and it exposes his entire family to Judd's anger. How far will Marty have to go to make Shiloh his?

- *Listening for Lions* by Gloria Whelan.

(Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) Left an orphan after the flu epidemic in British East Africa in 1919, thirteen- year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, when her dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade prays for every country in Africa. This novel will give an insight to the African people and help make a connection to our African Prayer Time during Bible Class.

- *Double Identity* by Margaret Peterson Haddix.

(Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF). Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself. Reading this novel will prepare you for the Heritage Unit in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter where we read stories of children with different ethnic backgrounds. Students complete their Family Tree and explore the legacy they would like to leave.

If you would like some additional suggestions for **supplementary reading**, consider the options below. They are excellent books and will help you prepare for the content we will study this year in class.

*The following novels will help prepare you for several units in 5th grade Social Studies Class as you study Colonial History, The Revolutionary War, The Civil War, and Native Americans.*

- *The Winter of Red Snow: The Revolutionary War Diary of Abigail Jane Stewart, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, 1777* by Kristiana Gregory

Eleven-year-old Abigail Jane Stewart's fictionalized diary about her life, family, friends, and neighbors, and the sides they have to choose in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, during the height of the Revolutionary War, renders a vivid portrayal of one of the most memorable and crucial winters in American history. [chapter book, ages 9 and up]

- *My Name Is America: The Journal Of William Thomas Emerson, A Revolutionary War Patriot* by Barry Denenberg

In 1774, 12-year-old orphan Will is befriended by Mr. Wilson, who secretly works with a group of rebels against the British. Written as a series of journal entries, this book paints a vivid picture of the period from the point of view of a boy on the fringe of an important movement. Unlike some books of historical fiction, here the focus isn't on landmark events or fictional meetings with famous people but rather on everyday life in a troubling time. Will makes an appealing narrator, brave and independent enough to take a small part in dangerous intrigues, but young and frank enough to relate his reactions to events with freshness and disarming candor. An appended note, "Life in America in 1774," fills in the historical events and background of the time and provides reproductions of engravings, maps, and documents. [chapter book, ages 9 and up]

- *I Survived the American Revolution, 1776* By: Lauren Tarshis

British soldiers were everywhere. There was no escape. Nathaniel Fox never imagined he'd find himself in the middle of a blood-soaked battlefield, fighting for his life. He was only eleven years old! He'd barely paid attention to the troubles between America and England. How could he, while being worked to the bone by his cruel uncle, Uriah Storch? But when his uncle's rage forces him to flee the only home he knows, Nate is suddenly propelled toward a thrilling and dangerous journey into the heart of the Revolutionary War. He finds himself in New York City on the brink of what will be the biggest battle yet.

- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, in a cruel twist of fate become the property of a malicious New York City couple, the Locktons, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners, who know details of British plans for invasion. She is reluctant at first, but when the unthinkable happens to Ruth, Isabel realizes her loyalty is available to the bidder who can provide her with freedom.

- *Forge (Sequel to Chains of America)* by Laurie Halse Anderson

Blistering winds. Bitter cold. And the hope of a new future. In this compelling sequel to *Chains*, a National Book Award Finalist and winner of the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction, acclaimed author Laurie Halse Anderson shifts perspective from Isabel to Curzon and brings to the page the tale of what it takes for runaway slaves to forge their own paths in a world of obstacles—and in the midst of the American Revolution.

*In Bible class, you will explore God's plan for the family and the importance of honor, loyalty and love towards our family. We will also learn more about God's creation of mankind in His image and how God calls us to live together in harmony with one another. The following novels will speak to each of these truths and help you begin to see God's heart toward His creation and His perfect plan for His people to live in unity.*

- *Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates* by: Mary Mapes Dodge

In this enduring winter classic, Hans and his sister Gretel must find a way to help their desperately poor family survive. Their chance to win the coveted silver skates in a race on the village's frozen canals could save them all. Continuously in print since 1865, this is a timeless classic of love and loyalty to share with a new generation.

- *Gone Crazy in Alabama* by Rita Williams-Garcia

It's the summer of 1969, and Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern are off to Alabama to visit Big Ma and her eighty-two-year-old mother, Ma Charles. Pa can't remind them enough that the South's not like Brooklyn, and that you can't get more southern than Alabama. Across the field, through the pines, and over the creek is the Trotter home, where Ma Charles's half sister, Miss Trotter, lives. The two half sisters haven't spoken in years, each determined to hold on to her version of the truth. Dramatic Vonetta plays middleman to the two warring, elderly sisters, while Delphine struggles against her to bring the family together. As Delphine hears about family history that she never knew existed, she learns of a hurt that happened many years ago which maybe can't be mended. But when a tragedy comes to the farm in Alabama, Delphine discovers that the bonds of family run deeper than she ever knew possible.

- *Who Were the Tuskegee Airmen? By: Sherril L. Smith & Who HQ*

It's up, up, and away with the Tuskegee Airmen, a heroic group of African American military pilots who helped the United States win World War II. During World War II, black Americans were fighting for their country and for freedom in Europe, yet they had to endure a totally segregated military in the United States, where they weren't considered smart enough to become military pilots. After acquiring government funding for aviation training, civil rights activists were able to kickstart the first African American military flight program in the US at Tuskegee University in Alabama. While this book details thrilling flight missions and the grueling training sessions the Tuskegee Airmen underwent, it also shines a light on the lives of these brave men who helped pave the way for the integration of the US armed forces.

- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by: Scott O'Dell

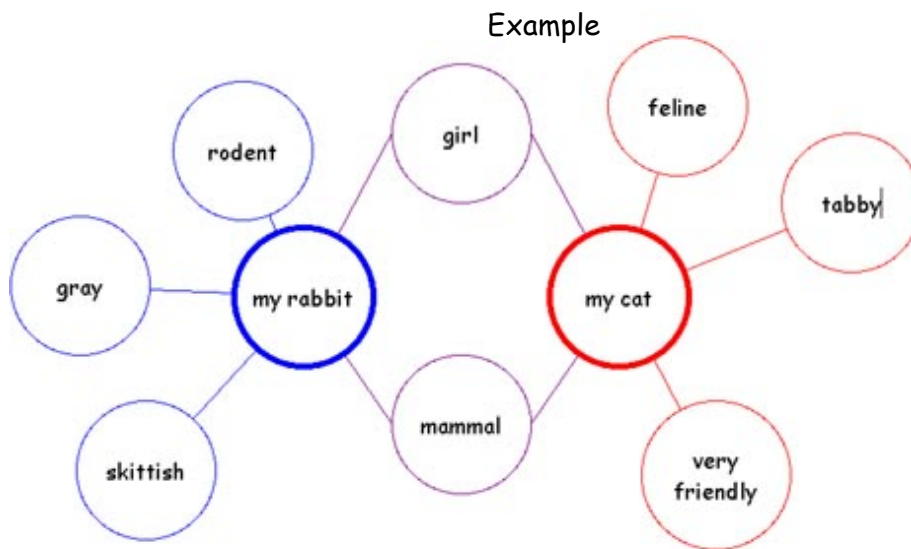
The Newbery Medal winner for 1961. Karana is a 12-year-old Native American who refuses to abandon her 6-year-old brother when her island, Ghalas-at (off the Southern California coast) is evacuated. Shortly thereafter, he tragically dies after being attacked by wild dogs, and Karana begins her solitary wait for a ship to come for her. She waits 18 years. Karana survives by foraging, fishing in the ocean, defending herself from wild dogs and elephant seals, and hiding from the Aleut tribe. Told from her point of view, we share the details of her day-to-day life, watch the days turn into years, and wait for the ship to carry her off her lonely island. O'Dell based this novel on an actual historical figure, known as The Lost Woman of San Nicolas, who lived on the island from 1835-1853.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Summer Reading Assignment

Choose a book from the "Summer Reading" list to read and complete the following assignment.

1. Choose two characters from your novel and make your own Double-Bubble Thinking Map on the attached page. Put your first character in the center left circle, and the second character in the center right circle. *See example below. In this example "my rabbit" is in the center left circle and "my cat" is in the center right circle. The traits the two animals share is in-between the two animal names. The traits that are different are at opposite ends of the circle.*



2. On the attached page:
  - a. Write a paragraph to explain why loving our neighbor is important. Include at list three reasons in your explanation.
  - b. List three ways you plan to use to love others in your 5th grade class.
3. Staple together each activity page and turn in during the first three days of school. (Total: Two Pages)



# Summer Assignment



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Novel Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

## Double Bubble Map

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a paragraph to explain why loving our neighbor is important. Include at list three reasons in your explanation.

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List three ways you plan to use to love others in your 5th grade class.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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