

*Garfield Public School District  
2020 Summer Reading Program  
Selections and Guidelines*

*Students Entering Grades 3-5*

**READING**

gives us 

 someplace

to go when

we have to **stay**

where we 

**ARE** 

**We miss you!**

**Dawn Rotio**  
*Assistant Curriculum Supervisor*

973-340-5000

May 12, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope all of you are safe and doing well. To say the last few months for families has been challenging is an understatement. I want to thank you for doing your best to balance work and being your child's teacher, especially all of you who were and continue to be on the front lines of this pandemic. With that said, ensuring your child maintains his/her reading skills is imperative as we prepare to return to our normal learning environments.

Your child should read at least 20 minutes per day to maintain skills previously acquired. Provided in this packet is a list of age appropriate books and activities for students to work on during summer vacation. Online platforms, the local library, and bookstores can assist you in finding these books. Students are NOT limited to the list of books provided but should read a book that is "just right" – not too hard and not too easy.

Upon returning to school, students will hand in their completed activities to their teacher. The elementary schools will each recognize those students for their extra hard work and dedication to reading by bestowing upon them a reward for their participation in the program as well as give credit towards their reading grade.

All information can be accessed on [www.gboe.org](http://www.gboe.org) by clicking on the summer reading link. Forms for assignments can be recreated by photocopying, downloading off the school website, using a word document, or handwriting it on a separate piece of paper.

Once again, thank you for your continuous involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

*Dawn Rotio*

Dawn Rotio  
Assistant Curriculum Supervisor

**Why read to them?**

- Reading encourages social-emotional skills
- Grows their attention span
- Helps develop writing skills
- Increases comprehension
- Exercises their brain
- Improves vocabulary
- Builds background knowledge
- Models reading
- Influences their love of learning
- Builds and fosters relationships

## *All Incoming Grade 3-5 Students*

All incoming grade three through grade five students in the elementary schools throughout Garfield will be participating in this year's Summer Reading Program. The suggested reading list is attached for these grade levels. Students are not limited to this list. We encourage students to choose books that are interesting and age-appropriate. Books should not be too easy or too hard; they should be "just right". To be rewarded for successful reading, the summer reading form and all assignments are to be completed and returned to the student's classroom teacher **no later than the first week returning to school.** Grades for this year's completed summer reading assignments will be included in the first trimester reading grade.

### *Required Reading:*

- Students are expected to read at least **five** "just-right" books\* (Must read both fiction and non-fiction)
- Answer one question for each fiction book read (Use different questions each time.)
- Answer two questions for each non-fiction book read (Use different questions each time.)
- Complete the summer reading log provided

*\*Upon completion of the summer reading assignment, students should continue to read 20 minutes per night.*

**\*\*\*Suggested Summer Reading List for Grades 3-5\*\*\***

*Your child may choose books that are not on the Summer Reading List*

**Fairy Tales**

John Steptoe  
Robert D. San Souci  
Robert D. San Souci

*Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters (N)*  
*Little Gold Star: A Spanish-American Cinderella Tale (N)*  
*Cendrillon (O)*

**Fiction**

Cynthia Rylant  
Mary Hoffman  
Cynthia Rylant  
Marjorie Sharmat  
Cynthia Rylant  
Peggy Parish  
David Adler  
Johanna Hurwitz  
Tomie de Paola  
James Preller  
Louis Sachar  
Judy Blume  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Betsy Duffy  
Marcia Brown  
Ann Cameron  
Beverly Cleary  
Paula Danziger  
Avi  
Patricia Polacco  
Eleanor Estes  
Barbara Robinson  
Allan Say  
Richard Atwater  
Sarah Weeks  
Jan Lawrence  
Virginia Hamilton  
Rachel Vail  
Kevin Henkes  
Roald Dahl  
Elizabeth Levy  
Yoshiko Uchida  
Stephen Pastis  
Kate DiCamillo  
Sharon Creech  
Jerry Spinelli  
E.L. Konigsburg  
Betsy Byars  
Scott O'Dell  
Natalie Babbitt

*Poppleton series (J)*  
*Amazing Grace (and other titles) (J)*  
*Mr. Putter and Tabby series (J)*  
*Nate the Great (K)*  
*Henry and Mudge series (K)*  
*Amelia Bedelia series (K)*  
*Cam Jansen (Series) (L)*  
*Class Clown (L)*  
*Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs (L)*  
*The Case of the Spooky Sleepover (M)*  
*Marvin Redpost (Series) (M)*  
*Freckle Juice (and other titles) (M)*  
*The Magic Treehouse (Series) (M-N)*  
*How to Be Cool in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (N)*  
*Stone Soup (N)*  
*Julian's Glorious Summer (O)*  
*Ramona (Series) (O)*  
*Amber Brown (Series) (O)*  
*Poppy (O)*  
*Mrs. Katz and Tush (and other titles) (P)*  
*The Hundred Dresses (P)*  
*The Best School Year Ever (P)*  
*Grandfather's Journey (P)*  
*Mr. Popper's Penguins (Q)*  
*Pie (Q)*  
*America's Most Wanted Fifth Grader (R)*  
*Zeely (R)*  
*Justin Case: Shells, Smells, & the Horrible Flip-Flops of Doom (R)*  
*Junonia (S)*  
*Matilda (and other titles) (S)*  
*My Life as a Fifth Grade Comedian (T)*  
*The Best Bad Thing (T)*  
*Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made (T)*  
*Flora and Ulysses (Newbery Award 2014) (U)*  
*The Great Unexpected (U)*  
*Loser (U)*  
*The View From Saturday (U)*  
*The Summer of the Swans (U)*  
*Island of the Blue Dolphins (V)*  
*Tuck Everlasting (V)*

Sharon Creech  
**Graphic Novels**  
Dav Pilkey  
Nick Bruel  
Jarrett Krosoczka  
Jeff Kinney  
Rachel Renee Russell

**Historical Fiction**

Dan Gutman  
Catherine A. Welch  
Patricia Polacco  
Eve Bunting  
Linda Sue Park  
Pam Munoz Ryan  
Jacqueline Woodson  
Patricia MacLachlan  
Lauren Tarshis  
Elizabeth George Speare  
Lois Lowry

**Mystery**

Marjorie W. Sharmat  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Ron Roy  
Donald J. Sobol  
R.L. Stine  
Louise Fitzhugh  
Louis Sachar

**Nonfiction**

Cy Armour  
Carmen Bredeson  
Patricia Lakin  
Various Authors  
Jonah Winter  
Steven Jenkins  
Ann O. Squire  
Aliki  
David M. Schwartz  
Derrick Barnes  
Betsy Maestro  
Henry Coles  
Various Authors  
Robert Coles  
Nic Bishop  
Aliki  
Seymour Simon  
Lynne Cherry  
Ann McGovern

*Walk Two Moons (W)*

*Captain Underpants series (P)*  
*Bad Kitty Meets the Baby (Q)*  
*The Lunch Lady series(Q)*  
*Diary of a Wimpy Kid series (T)*  
*Dork Diaries series (U)*

*Babe Ruth and the Ice Cream Mess (K)*  
*Clouds of Terror (L)*  
*The Keeping Quilt (M)*  
*Dandelions (N)*  
*The Firekeeper's Son (O)*  
*Amelia and Eleanor Go For A Ride (P)*  
*The Other Side (Q)*  
*Sarah, Plain and Tall (R)*  
*I Survived the Battle of Gettysburg, 1863 (S)*  
*The Sign of the Beaver (T)*  
*Number the Stars (U)*

*Nate the Great series (K)*  
*Magic Tree House series (M-N)*  
*A to Z Mysteries series (N)*  
*Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective (Series) (P)*  
*Goosebumps series (P-R)*  
*Harriet the Spy (T)*  
*Holes (V)*

*Tornadoes and Hurricanes (J)*  
*Baby Animals of the Mountains (J)*  
*Harry Houdini: Escape Artist (K)*  
*National Geographic Kids series (K)*  
*Roberto Clemente: The Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates (K)*  
*What Do You Do With A Tail Like This? (L)*  
*Polar Bears: A True Book (L)*  
*The Story of Johnny Appleseed (M)*  
*How Much Is A Million? (M)*  
*Brand New School, Brave New Ruby (N)*  
*The Statue of Liberty (N)*  
*Unspoken: A Story From the Underground Railroad (N)*  
*Let's Read and Find Out: Science (N-O)*  
*The Story of Ruby Bridges (O)*  
*Butterflies (O)*  
*Dinosaur Bones (P)*  
*Wolves (P)*  
*A River Ran Wild (Q)*  
*If You Lived a Hundred Years Ago (Q)*

Robert Ballard	<i>Finding the Titanic (Q)</i>
Lila Perl	<i>It Happened in America; True Stories From the 50 States (R)</i>
Jeri Ferris	<i>Walking the Road to Freedom (and other titles) (R)</i>
Betsy Maestro	<i>The Discovery Of Americas (S)</i>
Jean C. George	<i>Tarantula in my Purse (S)</i>
Nicola Davies	<i>Extreme Animals (S)</i>
Seymour Simon	<i>Earthquakes (T)</i>
Rachelle Burk	<i>The Walking Fish (T)</i>
Lucy Baker	<i>Life in the Oceans (T)</i>
National Geographic	<i>Angry Birds: Space</i>
Clive Gifford	<i>Chasing the World's Most Dangerous Storms (U)</i>
Fred Gipson	<i>Old Yeller (V)</i>
Thomas B. Allen	<i>Harriet Tubman, Secret Agent: How Daring Slaves and Free Blacks Spied for the Union During the Civil War (W)</i>
Carolyn Descristofano	<i>A Black Hole is Not a Hole (W)</i>
Deborah Hopkinson	<i>Titanic: Voices From the Disaster (Y)</i>
<i>Books written by Gail Gibbons; Laurence Pringle; Seymour Simon</i>	

**Biography**

Various Authors	<i>Ready To Read series, Level 2: Ben Franklin and His First Kite (J)</i>
Margo Lundell	<i>A Girl Named Helen Keller (K)</i>
Lola M. Schaefer	<i>Abraham Lincoln (L)</i>
Jane Marzolla	<i>Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King (L)</i>
Various Authors	<i>NBA Reader series (M)</i>
Sharon Robinson	<i>Testing the Ice: A True Story About Jackie Robinson (N)</i>
Tanya Lee Stone	<i>Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell (N)</i>
Anne Benjamin	<i>First Start Biography series: Young Rosa Parks: Civil Rights Heroine (N)</i>
Melvin Berger	<i>What Makes the Light Bright, Mr. Edison? (P)</i>
Kadir Nelson	<i>Nelson Mandela (Q)</i>
Kathleen Krull	<i>The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up To Become Dr. Seuss (Q)</i>
Laurie Myers	<i>Lewis and Clark and Me (R)</i>
Margaret Frith	<i>Who Was Franklin D. Roosevelt? (R)</i>
Anne Frank	<i>Diary of a Young Girl (Y)</i>

**Fantasy and Science Fiction**

Jane Yolen	<i>Commander Toad In Space Series (K)</i>
Patrick Skene Catling	<i>The Chocolate Touch (N)</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia series (T)</i>
Lemony Snicket	<i>Series of Unfortunate Events (V)</i>
J.K. Rowling	<i>Harry Potter series (V)</i>

### **Poetry**

Langston Hughes  
Jack Prelustsky  
Jack Prelustsky  
Jack Prelustsky  
Shel Siverstein  
Marilyn Singer

*I, Too, Am America (K)*  
*Zoo Doings: Animal Poems (O)*  
*The Gargoyle on the Roof (P)*  
*The New Kid on the Block (P)*  
*Falling Up (Or other Titles) (P)*  
*Mirror Mirror: A book of Reversible Verse (P)*

### **Sports**

Richard Platt  
Derek Jeter  
Eloise Greenfield  
Joan Holub  
Dan Gutman

*Extreme Sports (N)*  
*Game Day: My Life on and off the Field (N-R)*  
*For the Love Of The Game: Michael Jordan and Me (O)*  
*Who Was Babe Ruth? (S)*  
*Mickey & Me Series: Baseball Card Adventures (T)*

### **More Great Authors to Explore:**

Dan Gutman; Gordon Korman; Wendy Mass; Gary Paulsen; Nic Bishop; Kate DiCamillo

Reminder: Students are not limited to this list. Books can also be read digitally on the following sites:

Get Epic: <https://www.getepic.com/>

Open E-books: <https://openebooks.net/>

Raz-Kids <https://www.raz-kids.com/>

Rivet: <https://rivet.area120.com/>

Capstone: <https://www.mycapstonelibrary.com/login/index.html>

**TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL INCOMING GRADE 3 - 5 STUDENTS FOR  
FICTION BOOKS Part 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*You will answer one question for each fiction book read. Talk it over with a parent/guardian. Write the title of the book used before each question. Please complete each question on a separate sheet of paper or on a Word document.*

- 1. What occurred at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?**
- 2. What is the theme of the story? Use details from the story to support your answer?**
- 3. How would you describe the main character? What character traits did he/she display? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.**
- 4. Pick a chapter from one book that does not have a title. What would you use as the chapter title? Why? Use details to support your answer.**
- 5. Compare and contrast two characters from different books you have read. How are they similar and different? Which character would you want to be friends with and why? Use examples from the story to support your answer.**

**TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL INCOMING GRADE 3 - 5 STUDENTS FOR  
NON-FICTION BOOKS Part 2**

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

**Reader's Response Questions - Non-fiction**

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper answer two questions for each non-fiction book read (the same question cannot be repeated). Be sure to put your answers in complete, detailed sentences. Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

1. What was the main idea of the selection? What were the supporting details that told you more about the main idea?
2. Did you find an interesting word or word you did not know in the story? What was it? What does it mean? Write the context clues that helped you determine the meaning.
3. Did you learn anything new after reading this book? Share what you have learned.
4. What did you find interesting about this selection?
5. Create your own non-fiction book about something that interests you. Be sure to use text features that are found in non-fiction texts.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 2020-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL STUDENTS\*\*\***

**Summer Reading Log**



Complete this log along with your activities and return it to your classroom teacher in September. Make sure each book entry is signed by a parent/guardian.

<b><i>Book Title</i></b>	<b><i>Author</i></b>	<b><i>Parent Signature</i></b>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		