

NAME _____ TEACHER _____

Summer Reading Check List



WRITE THE TITLE AND AUTHOR

☐ FUNNY BOOK

☐ AWARD WINNER

☐ BOOK ABOUT A REAL PERSON

☐ GRAPHIC NOVEL

☐ MYSTERY

☐ READ TO SOMEONE ELSE (ANIMALS COUNT)



Summer Reading Challenge and Recommendations

Students entering 4th Grade Fall 2023

Required Reading for students entering 4th Grade:

Elana K. Arnold : ***A Boy Called Bat***

Note: Students who finish the series by reading *Bat and the Waiting Game* and *Bat and the End of Everything* will have their name listed on the Summer Reading All Stars Wall in the Library.

Great Chapter Books for 4th Graders:

American Girl books : historical fiction series by varying authors

Kwame Alexander : *The Crossover* and *Rebound*, and *Booked*

Katherine Applegate : *The One and Only Ivan*, *Crenshaw*, *Wishtree*, *Endling* series

Kathi Appelt : *Maybe a Fox*

Kim Baker: *Pickle*

Jane Birdsall : *The Penderwicks*

Judy Blume : *Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing*

Frances Hodgson Burnett : *The Secret Garden*

Beverly Cleary : *Ramona* series, *Henry* series AND *Ralph* series

Andrew Clements : *Frindle*, *The Losers Club*, *Keepers of the School* series

Sharon Creech: *Saving Winslow*, *Love that Dog* series, *Walk Two Moons*

Kate DiCamillo : *Flora & Ulysses* AND *The Magician's Elephant*

Roald Dahl : *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *Charlie & the Choc. Factory*, *James & the Giant Peach*

Betsy Duffey : *How to Be Cool in the Third Grade*

Jeanne DuPrau : *The City of Ember*

Kate Egan : *The Vanishing Coin* series

Elizabeth Eulberg : *The Great Shelby Holmes* series

Julie Falatko : *Two Dogs in a Trench Coat* series

Chris Grabenstein : *Mr. Lemoncello's Library* series, *Welcome to Wonderland* series

Andy Griffiths : *Treehouse* series

Dan Gutman : *My Weird School* series AND *Genius Files* series

Neil Patrick Harris : *The Magic Misfits* series

Marcia Thornton Jones : *Ghostville Elementary* series

Patrick Skene Katling : *The Chocolate Touch*

Hena Khan : *Amina's Voice*

Amy Sarig King : *Me and Marvin Gardens*

Gordan Korman : *The Everest* series AND *Swindle* series

Gail Carson Levine : *Ella Enchanted*

Astrid Lindgren : *Pippi Longstocking*

Betty MacDonald : *Mrs. Piggle Wiggle* series

Megan McDonald : *Judy Moody* series

Yona Zeldis McDonough : *Bicycle Spy*

Ann M. Martin : *The Doll People* series

Mary Norton : *The Borrowers*

Isabel Quintero: *Ugly Cat and Pablo*
Sara Pennypacker : *Clementine*
series, *Pax*
Rick Riordan : *Percy Jackson* series,
Heroes of Olympus series, *Kane*
Chronicles series,
Magnus Chase series, *Trials of Apollo*
series
J.K. Rowling : *Harry Potter* series
(also a wonderful parent read aloud)

Steve Stevenson : *Agatha: Girl of*
Mystery series
Geronimo Stilton : *Geronimo Stilton*
series
Thea Stilton : *Thea Stilton* series
Lauren Tarshis : *I Survived* series
Sarah Weeks : *Pie, Honey AND*
Cheese
E.B. White : *Trumpet and the Swan*,
Stuart Little AND Charlotte's Web
Rita Williams-Garcia : *One Crazy*
Summer

Awesome Graphic Novels for 4th Graders:

The images in graphic novels reinforce the story. The student needs to study the pictures in order to fully understand the text, and can make inferences about the story based on both the pictures and the dialogue. Brigid Alverson writes in *School Library Journal* that "Educators agree that graphic novels are useful for teaching new vocabulary, visual literacy, and reading skills." Students also gain confidence in their reading skills by being able to decipher what is going on in the story before they have learned how to read every word.

George Beard: *The Adventures of*
Ook and Gluk series
Paige Braddock: *Stinky Cecil* series
Drew Brockington: *CatStronauts*
series
James Burks: *Bird & Squirrel* series
Frank Cammuso: *The Misadventures*
of Salem Hyde series
Jack Charbet: *Poptropica* series
Eric Colossal: *Rutabaga* series
Mike Crilley: *The Drawing Lesson*
Disney: *Cinestory Comics* - various
movies
Derek Fridolfs: *DC Comics Super*
Hero Society series

Emmanuel Guibert: *Ariol* series
Nathan Hale: *Nathan Hale's*
Hazardous Tales series
Shannon Hale: *Rapunzel's Revenge*,
Real Friends, Best Friends
Ben Hatke: *Mighty Jack AND Zita*
the Spacegirl series
Jennifer Holm: *Squish* series and
BabyMouse series
Konami Kanata: *Fuku Fuku* series
Jarrett J. Krozocska: *Lunch Lady*
series
Scott McCormick: *Mr. Pants* series
Lincoln Plerce: *Big Nate* series
Anouk Ricard: *Anna & Froga* series

Rafael Rosado: *Giant's Beware* AND *Dragons Beware*

Doug Savage: *Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy*

Chad Sell : *The Cardboard Kingdom*

Kevin Sherry: *The Yeti Files* series

Dana Simpson: *Phoebe and Her Unicorn Adventure* series

Ashley Spires: *Binky* series

Raina Telgemeier: *Smile, Sisters, Ghosts, Guts*

Sara Varon: *Bake Sale* AND *Robot Dreams* AND *SweaterWeather*

Ursula Vernon: *Hamster Princess* series

Judd Winnick: *HiLo* series

Read-Aloud Chapter Books for Parents to Read to Children:

It is wonderful to read picture books aloud to your children as long as you can, no child is too old for a picture book! However, it is also beneficial to read longer books aloud to your children that take a few sittings to finish. Reading 20 minutes before bedtime is a great way to spend time with your kids, and also share stories they will always remember. Here are some chapter books that kids enjoy during their elementary years. The content can sometimes be heavier however, so make sure and preview a book if it seems scary or too much for your child.

Avi : *Poppy*

Blue Balliett : *Chasing Vermeer*

Judy Blume : *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*

Beverly Cleary : *Ramona* series AND *Ralph* series

Andrew Clements : *Frindle*, *Janitor's Boy*, *The Landry News*, *No Talking*

Christopher Paul Curtis : *Bud, Not Buddy* AND *The Watsons Go To Birmingham*

Roald Dahl : *The BFG*, *Witches*, *Matilda*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

Jeanne DePrau : *City of Ember*

Kate DiCamillo : *Because of Winn Dixie* & *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*

Louise Fitzhugh : *Harriet the Spy*

Madeleine L'Engle : *A Wrinkle in Time*
C.S. Lewis : *Chronicles of Narnia* series (read *The Magician's Nephew* first)

Grace Lin : *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*

Lois Lowry : *Number the Stars*

L.M. Montgomery : *Anne of Green Gables*

Richard Peck : *A Long Way From Chicago*, *A Year Down Yonder*, and *A Season of Gift*

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor : *Shiloh*

Gary Paulson : *Hatchet*

Rick Riordan : *Percy Jackson* series

J.K. Rowling : *Harry Potter* series

Lemony Snicket : *A Series of Unfortunate Events*

Texas Bluebonnet Award Nominees:

3rd-6th graders in the state of Texas are eligible to vote each year for their favorite book from a list of twenty titles selected by teachers and librarians. GSES students will be learning about these books during the school year, and casting their ballots in January 2024. The winning author and illustrator receives the prestigious Texas Bluebonnet Award. Students are encouraged to read at least 5 of the 20 titles before voting.

Black Boy Joy edited by Kwame Mbalia

Blue by Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond. Illustrated by Daniel Minter

Gladys the Magic Chicken by Adam Rubin. Illustrated by Adam Rex

Haven: A Small Cat's Big Adventure by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Indelible Ann by Meghan P. Browne. Illustrated by Carlynn Whitt

Invisible by Christina Diaz Gonzalez. Illustrated by Gabriela Epstein

Leave it to Plum! by Matt Phelan

Once Upon a Tim by Stuart Gibbs. Illustrated by Stacy Curtis

Solimar: The Sword of the Monarchs by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Tales to Keep You Up At Night by Dan Poblocki. Illustrated by Marie Bergeron

The Beatryce Prophecy by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Sophie Blackall

The Dirt Book: Poems About Animals That Live Beneath Our Feet by David L. Harrison. Illustrated by Kate Cosgrove

The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza by Mac Barnett. Illustrated by Shawn Harris

The Last Beekeeper by Pablo Cartaya. Illustrated by C. Vélez Aguilera

The Last Mapmaker by Christina Soontornvat

The Legend of Gravity by Charly Palmer

The Marvellers by Dhonielle Clayton

The Polter-Ghost Problem by Betsy Urig

Thirst by Varsha Bajaj

Unbound: The Life + Art of Judith Scott by Joyce Scott with Brie Spangler, illustrated by Melissa Sweet