

**HIGHLAND SCHOOL
2019 SUMMER READING
RISING FOURTH GRADE**

Summer Reading Challenge

1. We want you to read as much as you can over the summer; our expectation is that you will read daily. You should choose reading material that is a “just right” selection for you. Reading materials can include, but are not limited to, works of fiction (chapter books, picture books), magazines, nonfiction, newspapers, comic books, audio books, the Sunday comics, vacation brochures, “how-to” manuals, etc. Attached is a list of book suggestions in case you need some inspiration.

2. Readers read a wide variety of material. Please record all of the different types of reading that you do this summer on the attached reading log. **The reading log has additional instructions, so please read and follow the instructions carefully!!**

3. We would like for you to create two book recommendations based on your favorite books that you read this summer. For each of the two books (fiction or nonfiction), record the title and author on an index card. Then, write three to four sentences explaining, with evidence, why a classmate would want to read these books! Make sure to “sell” or advertise the books, but don’t give away the endings.

Come prepared on the first day of fourth grade to give one **enthusiastic** book recommendation and to begin compiling a list of books you want to read.

All components of the summer reading challenge are due on the first day of fourth grade; students will receive a participation grade for their work.

Please note that we have also included the Fauquier County Elementary Battle of the Books 2019-2020 list. If your child would like to participate in Highland’s Battle of the Books program next year, summer is a great time to get a head start on reading these books. Students are welcome to write one or both of their “recommendations” on books from this list.

Book List

Note: The reading levels for individual books in a series may be found at <http://www.arbookfind.com>. All annotations provided by Follett Destiny.

A Year Down Yonder by Richard Peck. During the recession of 1937, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.

American Girl (any in series) by various authors

Babe and Me (any in series) by Dan Gutman

The BFG by Roald Dahl

****Any book by Roald Dahl**

Bunnycula by James Howe. Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White. Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.

Childhood of Famous Americans (any in series) by various authors

The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden. In this classic tale, a musical cricket improves business at the newsstand run by Mario and his family.

Dear America (any in series) by various authors

Dogs Don't Tell Jokes by Louis Sachar. Twelve-year-old Gary, known as Goon because of his constant clowning and joke-telling, tries to change his image and make new friends at school.

Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine. In this novel based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her.

Encyclopedia Brown (any in series) by Donald Sobel

Fantastic Mr. Fox by Roald Dahl. Three farmers, each one meaner than the next, try all-out warfare to get rid of the fox and his family.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm. Eleven-year-old Ellie has never liked change. She misses fifth grade. She misses her old best friend. She even misses her dearly departed goldfish. Then one day a strange boy shows up. He's bossy. He's cranky. And weirdly enough . . . he looks a lot like Ellie's grandfather, a scientist who's always been slightly obsessed with immortality. Could this pimply boy really be Grandpa Melvin? Has he finally found the secret to eternal youth?

Frindle by Andrew Clements. When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Fudge-a-Mania by Judy Blume. Pete describes the family vacation in Maine with the Tubmans, highlighted by the antics of his younger brother Fudge.

Hank the Cow Dog (any in series) by John Erickson

Herbie Jones (any in series) by Suzie Kline

How Angel Peterson Got His Name by Gary Paulsen. Author Gary Paulsen relates tales from his youth in a small town in northwestern Minnesota in the late 1940s and early 1950s, such as skiing behind a souped-up car and imitating daredevil Evel Knievel.

How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell. Two boys set out to prove that worms can make a delicious meal.

Ida B. by Katherine Hannigan. In Wisconsin, fourth-grader Ida B. spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell. This book records the courage and self-reliance of an Indian girl who lived alone for eighteen years on an isolated island off the California coast when her tribe emigrated and she was left behind.

Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World by Mildred Pitts Walter. Suffering in a family full of females, ten-year-old Justin feels that cleaning and keeping house are women's work until he spends time on his beloved grandfather's ranch.

Lacrosse Faceoff by Matt Christopher. Eleven-year-old Garry, embarrassed when his unathletic brother joins his lacrosse team, faces a bigger problem when the team bully turns on both of them.

Lemony Snicket (any in series) by Lemony Snicket

Little House (any in series) by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck. A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Mercy Watson (any in series) by Kate DiCamillo

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo. Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

More Stories Julian Tells by Ann Cameron. More episodes in the life of Julian including a bet with his best friend Gloria, a secret project, and what happens when his brother Huey decides to be Superboy.

Ms. Leakey is Freaky! by Dan Gutman. Ella Mentry School hires a health teacher who tries to force the students to eat healthy foods and exercise, whether they want to or not.

M.V.P. The Magellan Voyage Project by Douglas Evans. Twelve-year-old Adam Story is challenged by the deposed ruler of Babababad and his mongoose companion to become the first youngster to travel around the world in forty days without an adult.

My Name is Maria Isabel by Alma Flor Ada. Third grader María Isabel, born in Puerto Rico and now living in the United States, wants badly to fit in at school, and the teacher's writing assignment "My Greatest Wish" gives her that opportunity.

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate. When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

Pippi Longstocking (any in series) by Astrid Lindgren

The Report Card by Andrew Clements. Fifth-grader Nora Rowley has always hidden the fact that she is a genius from everyone because all she wants is to be normal, but when she comes up with a plan to prove that grades are not important, things begin to get out of control.

Riding Freedom by Pam Munoz Ryan. A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, became an expert stage coach driver and moved to California, fooling everyone with her appearance.

Shredderman (any in series) by Wendelin Van Draanen

Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner. Little Willy hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.

SuperFudge by Judy Blume. Peter describes the highs and lows of life with his younger brother Fudge.

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo. The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

The Tale of Emily Windsnap by Liz Kessler. After finally convincing her mother that she should take swimming lessons, twelve-year-old Emily discovers a terrible and wonderful secret about herself that opens up a whole new world.

Tornado by Betsy Byars. As they wait out a tornado in their storm cellar, a family listens to their farmhand tell stories about the dog that was blown into his life by another tornado when he was a boy.

Wayside School (any in series) by Louis Sachar

When Life Gives You OJ by Erica S. Perl

Who Was Louis Armstrong? by Yona McDonough. Presents a short study of singer, songwriter, and jazz musician Louis Armstrong and chronicles his childhood in New Orleans and rise in the entertainment industry.

Matilda by Roald Dahl. Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to happiness and security.

Year of the Dog by Grace Lin. Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

***Any of the selections from the Battle of the Books list (See next page)

**Fauquier County
Elementary Battle of the Books List
2019-2020**

Adventure

The Wild Robot Escapes - Brown
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library - Grabenstein
Holes - Sachar

Fantasy

Peter and the Starcatchers - Barry
Gregor the Overlander - Collins
Bob - Mass

Historical

Sweep - Auxier
Dead End in Norvelt - Gantos
Full of Beans - Holm
Dash - Larson/*On TALESS2GO*

Mystery/Suspense

The House with a Clock in its Walls - Bellairs/*On TALESS2GO*
Floors - Carman/*On TALESS2GO*
All the Lovely Bad Ones - Hahn

Realistic Fiction

Because of Mr. Terupt - Buyea/*On TALESS2GO*
Rain Reign - Martin
Merci Suarez Changes Gears - Medina
**Front Desk* - Yang

Science Fiction

City of Ember - DuPrau
Running out of Time - Haddix
Tesla's Attic - Shusterman
The Mysterious Benedict Society - Stewart

*Indicates that a title is also a Virginia Readers' Choice selection this year.

