

# Fifth Grade Summer Reading Suggestions

*The books on this list are not required, simply suggestions from Mrs. Griffin. Be careful! You may encounter many mysterious, hilarious, unusual, fascinating, and even frightening things.*

## Suggested Authors:

Alexander, Lloyd  
Avi  
Christopher, Matt

Clements, Andrew  
Coville, Bruce  
Gutman, Dan

Hobbs, Will  
Ibbotson, Eva  
Konigsberg, E.L.

Korman, Gordon  
Paulsen, Gary  
Spinelli, Jerry

## Fiction:

### **Balliett, Blue. Chasing Vermeer**

When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

### **Barron, T.A. The Lost Years of Merlin**

A young boy who has no identity nor memory of his past washes ashore on the coast of Wales and finds his true name after a series of fantastic adventures.

### **Carbone, Elisa. Storm Warriors**

In 1895, after his mother's death, twelve-year-old Nathan moves with his father and grandfather to Pea Island off the coast of North Carolina, where he hopes to join the all-black crew at the nearby lifesaving station, despite his father's objections.

### **Choldenko, Gennifer. Al Capone Does My Shirts**

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

### **Cooper, Susan. The Dark Is Rising Sequence**

On his eleventh birthday Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.

### **Coville, Bruce. The Monsters of Morley Manor.**

Anthony and his younger sister discover that the monster figures he got in an unusual box at an estate sale are alive, but they have no way of knowing that the "monsters" will lead them on fantastical adventures to other worlds in an effort to try to save Earth.

### **Creech, Sharon. Ruby Holler**

Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins Dallas and Florida have grown up in a terrible orphanage but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.

### **DiCamillo, Kate. The Tale of Despereaux**

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.

### **DuPrau, Jeanne. City of Ember**

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

### **Giff, Patricia. Pictures of Hollis Woods**

A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

### **Hannigan, Katherine. Ida...And Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World**

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.

### **Hoeye, Michael. Time Stops for No Mouse**

When Linka Perflinger, a jaunty mouse, brings a watch into his shop to be repaired and then disappears, Hermux Tantamoq is caught up in a world of dangerous search for eternal youth as he tries to find out what happened.

### **Hunter, Erin. Warriors (Series)**

For generations, four clans of wild cats have shared the forest. When their warrior code is threatened by mysterious deaths, a house cat named Rusty may turn out to be the bravest warrior of all.

### **Kehret, Peg. Escaping the Giant Wave**

When an earthquake creates a tsunami while thirteen-year-old Kyle is babysitting his sister during a family vacation at a Pacific Coast resort, he tries to save himself, his sister, and a boy who has bullied him for years.

### **Korman, Gordon. Island (Series of 3 books)**

Six kids are thrown together against their will on a small boat that will make a one-month journey on the Pacific Ocean. They have all been sent for different reasons. They have to learn to work together to survive a vicious storm and a shipwreck that leave them stranded in the middle of the ocean with no food, no water, and almost no hope for survival.

### **Lasky, Katherine. The Capture (Series)**

Soren, a barn owl that is captured and taken to a special school for orphaned owls, is befriended by elf owl Gylfie and together the two set out to discover what is really going on at St. Aegolius Academy.

### **Lowry, Lois. Number the Stars**

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

### **Mazer, Harry. A Boy at War (Sequel: A Boy No More)**

While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

### **Napoli, Donna Jo. North**

Tired of his mother's overprotectiveness and intrigued by the life of African American explorer Matthew Henson, twelve-year-old Alvin travels north and spends a season with a trapper near the Arctic Circle.

### **O'Connor, Barbara. Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia**

Unpopular sixth-grader Burdette "Bird" Weaver persuades the new boy at school, whom everyone thinks is mean and dumb, to be her partner for a spelling bee that might win her everything she's ever wanted.

### **Paterson, Katherine. Bridge to Terabithia**

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.

### **Peck, Richard. A Year Down Yonder**

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.

### **Philbrick, Rodman. Freak the Mighty**

At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

### **Said, S.F. Varjak Paw**

Guided by the spirit of his legendary Mesopotamian ancestor, Jalal, a pure-bred cat, leaves his home and pampered existence and sets out to save his family from the evil Gentleman who took their owner, the Contessa, away.

### **Siebold, Jan. Doing Time Online**

After he is involved in a prank that led to an elderly woman's injury, twelve-year-old Mitchell must make amends by participating in a police program in which he chats online with a nursing home resident.

### **Spinelli, Jerry. Loser**

Even though his classmates from first grade on have considered him strange and a loser, Daniel Zinkoff's optimism and exuberance and the support of his loving family do not allow him to feel that way about himself.

### **Stroud, Jonathon. The Amulet of Samarkand**

Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace.

### **White, E.B. Trumpet of the Swan**

Knowing how to read and write is not enough for Louis, a voiceless Trumpeter Swan; his determination to learn to play a stolen trumpet takes him far from his wilderness home.

### **Yolen, Jane. Wizard's Map**

Three children visiting relatives in Scotland become involved in the plans of a diabolical wizard.