# 5th Grade Summer Reading List

Rising Fifth Grade students are required to read *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Hunt and two additional books. They may choose books from this list or other books of a comparable reading level. *Students should not read: Home of the Brave, The Wild Robot, Wishtree and Wonder* as they will read them in class during the school year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Booked</strong></td>
<td>Kwame Alexander</td>
<td>Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.</td>
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<td><strong>After Zero</strong></td>
<td>Christina Collins</td>
<td>When Elise leaves homeschooling for public school, she copes by speaking as little as possible, but soon her silence becomes an impediment to friendship and to dealing with family secrets.</td>
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<td><strong>Sweep: the Story of a Girl and her Monster</strong></td>
<td>Jonathan Auxier</td>
<td>In nineteenth-century England, after her father’s disappearance Nan Sparrow, ten, works as a “climbing boy,” aiding chimney sweeps, but when her most treasured possessions end up in a fireplace, she unwittingly creates a golem.</td>
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<td><strong>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</strong></td>
<td>Kelly Barnhill</td>
<td>An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.</td>
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<td><strong>The War I Finally Won</strong></td>
<td>Kimberly Bradley</td>
<td>As the frightening impact of World War II creeps closer and closer to her door, eleven-year-old Ada learns to manage life on the home front.</td>
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<td><strong>Artemis Fowl</strong></td>
<td>Eoin Colfer</td>
<td>When a 12 year old evil genius tries to capture a fairy demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.</td>
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<td><strong>Out of My Mind</strong></td>
<td>Sharon Draper</td>
<td>Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.</td>
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<td><strong>In Your Shoes</strong></td>
<td>Donna Gephart</td>
<td>Miles is an anxious boy who loves his family’s bowling center. Amy is the new girl at school who tries to write her way to her own happily-ever-after and does not want to live above her uncle’s funeral home. Then Miles and Amy meet in the most unexpected way... and it is the beginning of everything.</td>
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<td><strong>The Tale of Despereaux</strong></td>
<td>Kate DiCamillo</td>
<td>★Newbery Winner★ 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Space Case: a Moon Base Alpha novel</strong></td>
<td>Stuart Gibbs</td>
<td>Dashiell Gibson, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, has to solve a murder of one of the moon’s most prominent doctors.</td>
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The Book of Boy
by Catherine Murdock ★ Newbery Honor Winner
In 1350, a boy with a large hump on his back becomes the servant of a shadowy pilgrim on his way to Rome, who pulls the boy into a dangerous expedition across Europe to gather the seven precious relics of Saint Peter.

When the Sea Turned to Silver
by Grace Lin
Pinmei, a storyteller’s granddaughter, must find the Luminous Stone that Lights the Night to rescue her grandmother, who has been kidnapped by the Tiger Emperor.

When Friendship Followed Me Home
by Paul Griffin
Seventh-grader Ben, always an outsider, is led into a deep friendship with Halley, who is being treated for cancer, by the special dog he and his adoptive mother take in.

Fast Break and other titles
by Mike Lupica
Since his mother’s death, Jayson, twelve, has focused on basketball and surviving but he is found out and placed with an affluent foster family of a different race, and must learn to accept many changes, including facing his former teammates in a championship game.

Sweeping Up the Heart
by Kevin Henkes
A novel about loss, loneliness, and friendship that tells the story of the spring break that changes seventh-grader Amelia Albright’s life forever.

Merci Suarez Changes Gears
by Meg Medina ★ Newbery Winner
Merci Suarez relies on her close, extended family as she goes through many changes during her sixth-grade year at Florida’s Seaward Pines Academy.

Very Rich
by Polly Horvath
Ten-year-old Rupert, from a very large, very poor family, accidentally becomes part of an eccentric rich family’s life beginning at Christmas, and soon sees that wealth is not everything.

Inkling
by Kenneth Oppel
When an inkblot, who can write, listen, learn, and draw, jumps out of Mr. Rylance’s sketchbook, Ethan believes he may be the answer to their problems and names him Inkling.

Hello Universe
by Erin Kelly ★ Newbery Winner
The lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully’s prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

Heroes of Olympus Series
by Rick Riordan
Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for “bad kids,” find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself.

Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere
by Julie T. Lamana
At the end of August 2005, ten-year-old Armani is looking forward to her birthday party in New Orleans, where she and her extended family live, but Hurricane Katrina is on the way, bringing destruction and tragedy in its wake.

Counting By 7s
by Holly Sloan
Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.