

Summer Reading List
Mrs. Kester
Fifth Grade

You are required to read two (or more if you wish) books from the list below. Once you read a book please visit http://www.abcteach.com/free/b/bookreport_fun_lines1.pdf and print a copy of the book report format and complete each section. The book reports are due the first day of school in September. Thanks and have a wonderful summer.

A Face First. Priscilla Cummings, 2001. Twelve-year-old Kelly decides to cut off contact with her friends after suffering third-degree burns to her face and body in a car accident.

The Beloved Dearly. Doug Cooney, 2002. Although his father has forbidden it, Ernie, a twelve-year-old business tycoon, makes a tidy profit in the pet funeral business.

My Brother Made Me Do It. Peg Kehret, 2000. In letters to an elderly pen pal, Julie describes how her mischievous younger brother is always getting her in trouble.

Crispin: The Cross of Lead. Avi, 2002. Falsely accused of theft and marked for death, a 13 year old boy in medieval England seeks his real name and embarks on a journey when he meets up with a traveling juggler named Bear. (Newbery Medal Winner 2003)

Donuthead. Sue STauffacher, 2003. Franklin Delano Donuthead worries about everything--germs, accidents, and bullies. When Sarah enters his life, he learns about courage, friendship, and kindness. (RI Book Award Nominee 2005)

Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia. Barbara O'Connor, 2003. Burdette "Bird" Weaver has two goals in life: to be noticed in her small town of Freedom and to go to Disney World. She believes that by befriending Harlem, the new boy in class, she may well be on her way to realizing at least one of her goals. (RI Book Award Nominee 2005)

Fossil Fish Found Alive: Discovering the Coelacanth. Sally M. Walker, 2002. Thought extinct for 70 million years, this fish was found still swimming in the oceans off Africa and Indonesia.

Hana's Suitcase: A True Story. Karen Levine, 2003. A child's suitcase in a museum display leads a teacher and her class to research and discover the life of a child caught up in the Holocaust.

Jackie and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure. Dan Gutman, 1999. With his ability to travel through time by using his baseball cards, Joe goes back to 1947 to meet Jackie Robinson, turning into a black boy in the process.

The Journal of Augustus Pelletier: The Lewis and Clark Expedition. Kathryn Lasky, 2000. Twelve-year-old Augustus Pelletier, youngest member of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, keeps a journal in this fictional account of the expedition. (My Name is America Series)

The Man Who Made Time Travel. Kathryn Lasky, 2003. Lasky's well-researched accessible picture book biography of John Harrison, the brilliant 17th century inventor of the marine chronometer, is supported by Hawkes' intriguing equally well-researched paintings. (2004 Batchelder Honor Book)

The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins. Bea Uusma Schyffert, 2003. Text, illustration, charts and photos draw readers into this amazing story of the astronaut who kept Apollo 11 circling the moon.

Ruby Holler. Sharon Creech, 2002. What happens when two precocious orphans move in with an eccentric couple in a magical place called Ruby Holler? Excitement and adventure and one of the best books ever! (RI Book Award Nominee 2004)

Running Out of Time. Margaret Peterson Haddix, 1995. When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840 village, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1996 tourist site under unseen observation by heartless scientists, and it's up to Jessie to escape the village and save the lives of the dying children.

Saving Grace. Priscilla Cummings, 2003. It's the Great Depression and Grace's family has been evicted from their home. She is sent to the children's home until her father can find a job. (RI Book Award Nominee 2005)

The School Story. Andrew Clements, 2001. After twelve-year-old Natalie writes a wonderful novel, her friend Zoe helps her devise a scheme to get it accepted at the publishing house where Natalie's mother works as an editor.

A Single Shard. Linda Sue Park, 2001. Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potter's village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. (Newbery Medal Winner 2002)

Song of Sampo Lake. William Durbin, 2003. Leaving Finland behind was hard enough; then working the dangerous mines. And now Matti's family heads to their homestead, determined to build a new life in America. (RI Book Award Nominee 2004)

(RI Book Award Nominee 2005)

A Week in the Woods. Andrew Clements, 2002. The Fifth Grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who he had trouble with.

Stopping to Home. Lea Wait, 2002. After the death of their mother to smallpox, eleven-year-old Abigail must accept responsibility for her younger brother Seth as she looks for a home and family life in a small seaport town in 1806 Maine. (RI Book Award Nominee 2004)

The Tale of Despereaux. Kate DiCamillo, 2003. Despereaux, a tiny mouse with very large ears, has huge problems -he's in love with Princess Pea, banished to the dungeon, and pursued by rats. When he uncovers a plot to replace the Princess, he must be stronger and braver than he has ever been. (Newbery Award Winner 2004)