

2025-2026 Cypress Summer Reading List
K – 8th Grade

REQUIRED SUMMER READING: (*Due on the first day of school, August 12, 2025*)

Entering Kindergarten:

Book: *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Jan Brett (ISBN: 0698113586)

Assignment: *Create an illustration of the beginning, middle, and ending of the story.*

Entering 1st Grade:

Book: *Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter (ISBN: 0-448-43521-7)

Assignment: *Create an illustration of the beginning, middle, and ending of the story. On each illustration label the characters.*

Entering 2nd Grade:

Book: *Stone Soup* by Marcia Brown (ISBN: 9780689711039)

Assignment: *Create an illustration depicting the virtue of charity from the story. Write a 3 sentence caption about the virtue of charity in the story and why it is important.*

Entering 3rd Grade:

Book: *Homer Price* by Robert McCloskey (ISBN: 978-0142404157)

Assignment: *Choose a story / case that was most humorous to you. Describe the case and explain what was humorous in the story. Be sure to give your answer in a 3-4 sentences paragraph.*

Entering 4th Grade:

Book: *The Cricket in Times Square* by George Selden (ISBN: 978-0312380038)

Assignment: *Write a separate paragraph of 3-4 sentences for each of the following:*

- *Choose an obstacle the cricket had to overcome and summarize that obstacle. (paragraph 1)*
- *What lessons did he learn from this challenge? (paragraph 2)*

Entering 5th Grade:

Book: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 978-0064471046)

Assignment: In the story, Edmund asks the question, "Which is the right side? How do we know that the fauns are in the right and the Queen in the wrong?" How does one know when something is right or wrong? Please write your essay in response to Edmund's questions in the form of a three paragraph essay. A well-written paragraph has a topic sentence, 3-4 supporting facts or details from the text, and a closing sentence.

Entering 6th Grade:

Book: *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster (ISBN: 978-0394820378)

Assignment: Why would Norton Juster choose a boy like Milo to be the hero of the novel? Please respond in a three paragraph essay. A well-written paragraph has a topic sentence, 3-4 supporting facts or details from the text, and a closing sentence.

Entering 7th Grade:

Book: *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 978-0064405027)

Assignment: Based on what we know of Eustace in the book, how does one become a dragon? What can be learned from Eustace's character and choices that would inevitably lead to becoming monstrous? Write a one page essay that includes specific quotes and examples from the text.

Entering 8th Grade:

Book: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (ISBN: 9780451526342)

Assignment: Near the end of the story, The Seven Commandments are reduced to one single Commandment: 'All Animals are equal but some are more equal than others.' Write a one-page essay reflecting on what this change means and what it is communicating to the animals of Animal Farm.

**See supplemental page for further reading enrichment opportunities.*

READING FOR ENRICHMENT:

(These titles are not required but are suggestions for additional reading over the summer.)

Kindergarten:

- *Flotsam* by David Wiedner (any version)
- *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* by Paul Galdone (any version)
- *Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel (any version)

1st Grade:

- *The House at Pooh Corner* by A.A. Milne (any version)
- *Go, Dog, Go* by P.D. Eastman (any version)
- *Frog and Toad All Year* by Arnold Lobel (any version)

2nd Grade:

- *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny* by Beatrix Potter (any version)
- *Animal Folk Tales of America* by Tony Palazzo (any version)
- *The Courage of Sarah Noble* by Alice Dalgliesh (any version)

3rd grade:

- *Squanto: Friend of the Pilgrims* by Clyde Robert Bulla (any version)
- *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White (any version)
- *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (any version)

4th Grade:

- *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary (any version)
- *These Happy Golden Years* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (any version)
- *The Apple and the Arrow* by Conrad Buff and Mary Buff (any version)

5th Grade:

- *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert O'Brian (any version)
- *The Magician's Nephew* by C.S. Lewis (any version)
- *Black Beauty - the Autobiography of a Horse* by Anna Sewel (any version)

6th Grade:

- *The Door in the Wall* by Marguerite De Angeli (any version)
- *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray (any version)
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls (any version)

7th Grade:

- *True Grit* by Charles Portis (any version)
- *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery (any version)
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson (any version)

8th Grade:

- *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien (ISBN-13: 978-0345538376)
- *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas (any version)
- *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (any version)