

Fisher Island Day School
Summer 2019 Recommended Reading List

Entering Kindergarten Summer-Reading Suggestions

(Students are not expected to read these on their own)

- *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* By Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* (and other titles) By Bill Martin Jr.
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* (and other titles) by Eric Carle
- *Green Eggs and Ham* (and other titles) by Dr. Seuss
- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Poky Little Puppy* by Janette Sebring Lowrey
- *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper
- *Are You My Mother?* by P.D. Eastman
- *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* (and other titles) by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- *Rosie's Walk: with audio recording* (and other titles) by Pat Hutchins

Entering First Grade Summer-Reading Suggestions

- *Frog and Toad* By Arnold Lobel
- *Nate the Great Series* By Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
- *Cam Jansen Series* By David A. Adler
- *Arthur Series* By Mark Brown
- *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* By William Steig
- *Leo the Late Bloomer* By Robert Kraus

Entering Second Grade Summer-Reading Suggestions

- *Mr. Wayne's Masterpiece* By Patricia Polacco
- *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* By Kevin Henkes
- *A Fine, Fine School* By Sharon Creech
- *Dear Max* By Sally Grindley
- *Soupy Saturdays with the Pain and the Great One* By Judy Blume

Entering Third Grade Summer-Reading Suggestions

- *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater
- *The BFG* By Roald Dahl
- *Lucky Enough* By Fred Bowen
- *Wonder* By R.J. Palacio
- *I was a Third Grade Science Project* By Mary Jane Auch
- *Third Grade Angels* By Jerry Spinelli
- *Jelly Belly* By Robert Kimme Smith

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Entering Fourth Grade Summer-Reading Suggestions

- *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jennifer Holm
- *The Third Mushroom* by Jennifer Holm
- *Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer Holm
- *Full of Beans* by Jennifer Holm

Entering Middle School Summer-Reading Suggestions

This list of books introduces the student to a wide variety of cultures and experiences both in America and around the globe. These books will expose students to a variety of themes that will be discussed in their classes. Exploring literature throughout history will set the stage for an exciting year of discussions in their American and World History classes. Please take note of the summaries and age recommendations from Common Sense Media when making your selections.

***ONE CRAZY SUMMER* BY RITA WILLIAMS-GARCIA**

Delphine and her sisters are thoughtful, delightful characters. Cecile (the mother) abandoned her three daughters when they were infants and makes no apology for it -- she doesn't want them to visit her and she barely cares for them. But there is more to Cecile's character than just being a deadbeat mom, as she represents changing times in America. The story is set in 1968 Oakland, California, and as such, civil action and unrest are part of the story.

Common Sense: age 11+

***THE KITE FIGHTERS* BY LINDA SUE PARK**

In a riveting narrative set in fifteenth-century Korea, two brothers discover a shared passion for kites. Kee-sup can craft a kite unequalled in strength and beauty, but his younger brother, Young-sup, can fly a kite as if he controlled the wind itself. Their combined skills attract the notice of Korea's young king, who chooses Young-sup to fly the royal kite in the New Year kite-flying competition — an honor that is also an awesome responsibility. Although tradition decrees, and the boys' father insists, that the older brother represent the family, both brothers know that this time the family's honor is best left in Young-sup's hands.

This touching and suspenseful story, filled with the authentic detail and flavor of traditional Korean kite fighting, brings a remarkable setting vividly to life.

Grades 5-8

***STELLA BY STARLIGHT* BY SHARON M. DRAPER**

Things have been peaceful in eleven-year-old Stella's small North Carolina town for awhile. Peaceful doesn't mean equal. In the Jim Crow South, Stella notices the nicer white school building and the fact that the white doctor doesn't treat African Americans. But the KKK hasn't been active in a long time. Until in 1932, with the Depression making finding work hard for everyone, the Klan resurrects itself. And when Stella's Dad decides to vote with two other black men, Stella's family and her entire community are in danger.

Common sense: age 9+

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ESPERANZA RISING BY PAM MUÑOZ RYAN

Esperanza lived a privileged life in Mexico, with a protective father, servants, and a closet full of beautiful dresses. But when her father dies, she and her mother must leave everything behind. They settle in a Californian camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza must learn to adjust to a life of hard physical labor. The poor working conditions cause many Mexican workers to strike. Esperanza believes in their cause, but also wants to earn enough money to bring her Abuelita to America.

Common sense: age 10+

THE NIGHT DIARY BY VEERA HIRANANDANI

Nisha is twelve in 1947 when India becomes independent from Britain and splits into two countries: India and Pakistan. The divide is supposed to reduce tensions between Hindus and Muslims. But Nisha is both, half Muslim and half Hindu. She's not sure where she belongs. She writes her accounts of civil unrest and danger in a diary full of letters to her dead mother—hoping that she can find a way to feel whole again.

Common sense: age 10+

I LIVED ON BUTTERFLY HILL BY MARJORIE AGOSÍN, TRANSLATED BY E.M. O'CONNOR

Eleven-year-old Celeste Marconi has lived an idyllic existence filled with family and friends in Valparaiso, Chile. But in 1973, a new government takes over, declaring that anyone involved in art or political protest are dangerous dissidents. With an increased military presence and classmates “disappearing” without explanation every day, Celeste is scared. Her parents go into hiding and send Celeste to America to be safe. She adjusts to a new life in Maine, but never stops dreaming of Chile and missing her parents.

Common sense: age 10+

THE RED PENCIL BY ANDREA DAVIS PINKNEY

Amira Bright is a 12-year-old girl living with her loving family in the Darfur region of Sudan. In simple free-verse poetry, she recounts life's everyday ups and downs, such as watching her disabled sister learn to play soccer, sleeping with her sheep for comfort after a dust storm, or trying to convince her traditional mother to let her go to school. When the Janjaweed, brutal armed militias, attack her village, her father is killed and her beloved sheep burned alive. She walks with her mother, her sister, and other survivors to a dismal refugee camp, so traumatized she can no longer speak. But then an aid worker's special gift helps her unlock her pain -- and a dream for herself.

Common Sense age 11+

HATTIE BIG SKY by Kirby Larson

Hattie Big Sky is about a teenage orphan who moves to Montana after inheriting her uncle's homestead claim. The book gives readers a good sense of what life was like during World War I. In particular, Hattie watches neighbors of German descent face discrimination, including violence, though nothing worse than a barn-burning and a kick takes place here. Hattie is good-hearted and hardworking, and soon learns to stand up for what she believes in and the people she cares about, even when she puts herself in danger. Readers who enjoy this book may want to read the sequel, *Hattie Ever After*, published in 2013.

Common Sense: age 10+

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ECHO By Pam Muñoz Ryan

Echo is a historical novel with a fantasy element. It includes information about the beginning of the Holocaust, the Great Depression, and what life was like in America after Pearl Harbor, including how Japanese people were sent to internment camps. Readers also will learn that in some California school districts in the 1940s, kids with Mexican ancestry were sent to separate and inferior schools. The three main protagonists -- Friedrich, Mike, and Ivy -- all face injustice: Nazi soldiers call Friedrich "the ugly son of a Jew-lover" after taking his father to a labor camp; Mike and Frank are at the mercy of a cruel and calculating orphanage director and later get thrown out of a store, suspected of being thieves; Ivy must go to a school for Mexican students. They learn about other injustices, too (for example, the family that owns the farm Ivy lives on is sent to a Japanese internment camp). There's some violence, from fistfights to war injuries, and one soldier dies. But the protagonists speak up in their own way for what's right and continue to think of ways to help others who also are suffering. They eventually learn "to hope for the best and that no matter how much sadness there is in life, there are equal amounts of maybe - things'll - get-better-someday-soon."

Common Sense: 11+