

SUMMER READING

As **First Grade** comes to a close, we want to stress the importance of summer reading. Charlotte Mason reminds us that, “It is in the lap of the parent that a child first explores the universe of the printed page. Children of all ages must be immersed in the world of literature.” -*When Children Love to Learn*

Today, parents and children have a multitude of enticements competing for their attention. Consider what you wish to instill in your child this summer. All too often, children plead for access to the digital market with its adrenal boosting sights and sounds. The challenge is guiding children to recognize the life-giving beauty of a story. In order to cultivate virtuous character, build background knowledge, and nurture a love of reading, we must spend time in quality literature. Reading to and with your child, and listening to them read a book to you, creates the perfect pathway to enter the world of living books and relish all of the mysteries, surprises, and wonders they contain.

Our choices change who we are and how we live. How we spend our time influences our character. Open the books, read beyond just this list, and let us give to our children one of the best gifts they could receive—time spent with you, cultivating a life-long love of reading. Review the suggested choices and discuss with your child which books might be the best book choices and then enjoy the reading journey by asking lots of questions about the ideas each book presents.

Rising 2nd Graders: Summer Reading Suggestions

Please have your child read widely and often both with you and independently for a minimum of 20 minutes a day. The list below is meant to provide you with some ideas for both fiction and non-fiction book selections for your incoming second grader to read over the summer, but it is only the beginning of what you could explore together. The non-fiction suggestions provide inspiration and background knowledge for upcoming science and history topics.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Fairy tales Fables Tall tales Folk tales Hans Christian Andersen | Any books by Syd Hoff Amelia Bedelia books by Peggy Parish Frog and Toad books by Arnold Lobel Books by Beatrix Potter, A.A. Milne, Leo Lionni, or Dr. Seuss | Non-Fiction Suggestions: Magic School Bus books or other picture books related to: human body, butterflies, frogs, chicks, plants, insects, volcanos, electricity, The Civil War, Westward Expansion |
|--|--|---|

“Books to the ceiling,
Books to the sky,
My pile of books is a mile high.
How I love them! How I need them!
I'll have a long beard
by the time I read them.”

— **Arnold Lobel**

