

# SUMMER READING

As **First Grade** comes to a close, we want to stress the importance of summer reading. As Charlotte Mason says, “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. All too often, children plead for access to the digital market with its adrenal boosting sights and sounds. The challenge is guiding children to recognizing the life-giving beauty of a story. In order to cultivate character, build background knowledge, and nurture a love of reading, we must spend time in rich 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.

Consider what you wish to instill in your child this summer. What habits of the good life do you wish to practice? What habits of thinking and acting will influence a summer of wonder? What ideas will be cultivated through the books they read? How will you build a desire to escape into a book and relish its mysteries and surprises?

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.

## Rising 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders: Summer Reading List

Please have your child read widely and often both with you and independently! The list below is meant to provide you with some ideas for summer book selections for your incoming second grader, but it is only the beginning.

Fairy tales Fables Tall tales Folk tales Books by Beatrix Potter Hans Christian Andersen	Any books by Syd Hoff Amelia Bedelia books by Peggy Parish Frog and Toad books by Arnold Lobel	Magic School Bus books and picture books related to: sun, moon, & stars, light & sound, simple machines, human cells, Westward Expansion, The Civil War, immigration
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“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**

