

**Gill St. Bernard's School's
Fifth Grade Summer Reading Assignments - 2008**

The purpose of summer reading at Gill St. Bernard's is to help promote a reading habit in our students. It is clear from the research that students who have developed an active reading habit do better on standardized tests including the SAT's. It is also clear that students who learn to enjoy reading and do it on a regular basis are better prepared for the academic tasks they face day to day in school.

The following list is offered as a guide to students for summer reading selections. Each student entering grade 5 is expected to read three books over the summer months. One title is required, and two *may* be chosen from the list of suggested selections. The two non-required books *do not* necessarily have to come from the suggested list. This allows a student to follow his or her personal interest.

If a student has already read the required readings, the student must review the book before the start of school. Activities related to the required book are planned for the first days back to school, and all students must be prepared to participate. All of the books on this list are reviewed and can be ordered on Amazon.com.

Entering 5th Graders

Required Book:

[A Long Way from Chicago](#) by Richard Peck

Suggested Selections:

[The Twenty-one Balloons](#) by William DuBois
[Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator](#) by Roald Dahl
[My Brother Sam is Dead](#) by Collier and Collier
[Window of Time: A Story](#) by Karen Weinberg
[A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin](#) by Karen Hesse
[The Root Cellar](#) by Janet Lunn
[Little House on the Prairie](#) by Laura Ingalls Wilder
[Maniac Magee](#) by Jerry Spinelli
[Girls Think of Everything](#) by Catherine Thimmesh, Melissa Sweet
[The Series of Unfortunate Events](#) by Lemony Snicket (a series of 11 books)
[The Princess Diaries \(Series\)](#) by Meg Cabot
[Sunder](#) by William A. Armstrong
[The Children of Green Knowe](#) by L. M. Boston
[The Fighting Ground](#) by Avi
[The Watsons go to Birmingham](#) by Christopher Paul Curtis
[Soccer Scoop](#) by Matt Christopher
[The Cay](#) by Theodore Taylor
[Shiloh](#) by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
[Poppy](#) by Avi
[City of Ember](#) by Jeanne DuPrau
[Redwall](#) by Brian Jacques
[No More Dead Dogs](#) by Gordon Korman
[The Tale of Despereaux](#) by Kate DiCamillo

Assignments:

Grade 5:

1. It is strongly suggested that the **required book** be read towards the end of the summer so that students are better able to recall the plot of the story. Several discussions, activities, and a writing assignment will be based on the required reading book during the opening days of the school year.
2. Complete the attached forms for **the two non-required books**.
3. Keep a comprehensive list of **all** books read during the summer on the attached sheet, "Summer Reading 2008 – Books Read"