Ascent Classical Academy of Northern Denver

K-8 Recommended Summer Reading



Our recommended summer reading list contains high-quality reading material that will prepare your child for the coming school year. We recommend that parents pre-read texts to determine what they feel is appropriate for their child's development – and what they will enjoy!

There is no required assignment for students rising into grades K-6 for the 2024-2025 school year. **Students entering grades 7 & 8 must complete a required summer reading assignment.**

All lists below are prepared for students rising to each grade.

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

- Mother Goose's Nursery Rhymes Robert Frederick Publishers
- The Random House of Mother Goose, Arnold Lobel
- The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables, Don Daily
- Curious George books, H. A. Rey
- Books by Dr. Seuss such as:
 - The Cat in the Hat
 - \circ Fox in Socks
 - \circ Green Eggs and Ham
 - Horton Hears a Who
 - If I Ran the Zoo
- Books by Beatrix Potter such as:
 - Peter Rabbit
 - The Tale of Benjamin Bunny
 - The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck
 - \circ The Tale of Tom Kitten
- Fairy tales such as:
- Goldilocks
- The Three Little Pigs
- The Ugly Duckling
- The Velveteen Rabbit

2nd Grade

- Beatrix Potter: The Complete Tales, Beatrix Potter
- The Biggest Bear, Lynd Kendall Ward
- The Blue Fairy Book, Andrew Lang
- The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables, Don Daily
- The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh, A.A. Milne

- *George and Martha* series, James Marshall
- The House at Pooh Corner, A.A. Milne
- James and the Giant Peach, Roald Dahl
- Just So Stories, Rudyard Kipling
- *The Magic School Bus* (specifically books about weather, magnets, tools, the body, insects, animals, and plants), Various Authors
- The Magic Tree House series, Mary Pope Osbourne
- Pinocchio, Carlo Collodi
- Treasury of Grimm's Fairy Tales, The Brothers Grimm
- Treasury of Hans Christian Andersen Fairy Tales, Hans Christian Andersen

3rd Grade

- American Tall Tales, Mary Pope Osbourne
- *Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White
- The Cricket in Times Square, George Selden
- Dealing with Dragons, Patricia C. Wrede
- Falling Up, Shel Silverstein
- Little House on the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder
- The Magic Tree House series, Mary Pope Osbourne
- Matilda, Roald Dahl
- Mr. Popper's Penguins, Richard Atwater
- Peter Pan, J.M. Barrie
- Phantom Tollbooth, Norton Juster
- The Pushcart War, Jean Merrill
- *Ramona Quimby* series, Beverly Cleary
- Stuart Little, E.B. White

4th Grade

- Aladdin and Other Arabian Nights Stories, Philip Smith
- Black Beauty, Anna Sewell
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Roald Dahl
- Dangerous Journey, Oliver Hunkin
- D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
- D'Aulaire's Book of Norse Myths, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
- From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, E.L Konigsburg
- Guns for General Washington, Seymour Reit
- *The Jungle Book*, Rudyard Kipling
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH, Robert C O'Brien
- Poppy, Avi
- The Reluctant Dragon, Kenneth Grahame
- Swiss Family Robinson, Johann Wyss
- Twenty-One Balloons, William Pene DuBois
- Where the Sidewalk Ends, Shel Silverstein

5th Grade

- Anne of Green Gables Series, Lucy Maud Montgomery
- Boy's King Arthur by Sidney Lanier
- Cheaper By the Dozen, Ernestine Gilbreth Carey
- Dancing Shoes, Noel Streatfeild
- Heidi, Johanna Spyri
- King Arthur and His Knights, Maude Radforde Warren
- The Magic City, Edith Nesbit
- Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry
- The Princess and the Goblin, George MacDonald
- The Shakespeare Stealer, Gary Blackwood
- Stories of Robin Hood Told to the Children, H.E. Marshall
- The Sword in the Tree, Clyde Robert Bulla
- Treasure Island: A Young Reader's Edition of The Classic Adventure, Robert Louis Stevenson
- A Wrinkle in Time, Madeline L'Engle

6th Grade

- Don Quixote (Core Classics Series edition, abridged)
- The Eagle of the Ninth, Rosemary Sutcliff
- The Giver, Lois Lowry
- The Golden Fleece, Padraic Colum
- Half Magic, Edward Eager
- Little Women (Core Classics Series edition, abridge)
- Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, Eleanor Coerr
- The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett
- The Secret of Platform Thirteen, Eva Ibbotson
- The Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth George Speare
- *Sounder,* William Armstrong
- Tales from Shakespeare, Charles and Mary Lamb
- Up From Slavery (Dover Thrift Edition), Booker T. Washington
- The Westing Game, Ellen Raskin
- The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Elizabeth George Speare
- Books from the *Redwall* series, Brian Jacques

7th Grade

- Required: The Hobbit (75th Anniversary Edition; ISBN 978-0547928227), J.R.R. Tolkien
- Archimedes and the Door of Science, Jeanne Bendic
- Augustus Caesar's World, Genevieve Foster
- Herodotus and the Road to History, Jeanne Bendic
- *The Story of the World, Vol. 1*, Susan Wise Bauer
- The Story of the World, Vol. 3, Susan Wise Bauer
- *Tanglewood Tales*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, Jules Verne

8th Grade

- Required: Shane (ISBN: 978-0544239470), Jack Schaefer
- The Ballad of the White Horse, G.K. Chesterton
- Captains Courageous, Rudyard Kipling
- A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, Mark Twain
- *Gods and Heroes*, Edith Hamilton
- *The Invisible Man*, H.G. Wells
- Land of Hope, Young Readers' Edition, Wilfred McClay
- *The Story of the World* series, Susan Wise Bauer
- The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Robert Louis Stevenson
- Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis