

Dear Faith Christian Elementary School families,

Summer break is an excellent opportunity for our students to nurture their love for reading and learning. At FCS, we believe that fostering a passion for literature and knowledge is academically enriching and also spiritually uplifting, as it aligns with our Christian values of seeking wisdom and understanding.

The FCS elementary school **Summer Reading Initiative** encourages our students to stay academically engaged during the break.

Here are the details:

Book Selection

- Students will receive a pre-selected book list for the grade level they will enter for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Students in grades 3-5 are required to select and read at least two chapter books from the list.
- For grades 1 and 2, students are required to read at least 4 picture books in June and 4 picture books in July.
- Students are encouraged to read as much as possible and of course more than the required amount of books.

Reading Log

- A reading log is attached for students to keep track of the books they read over the summer.
- Students are to return their reading log(s) to their teacher when they return to school in the fall.
- Students will use the reading log(s) to find the books they read in Accelerated Reader at school, in their classroom.

Reading Comprehension Tests

- Students will take Accelerated Reader comprehension reading tests on the books they read over the summer in Renaissance when they return to school in August.
- These tests will assess their understanding of the stories, characters, themes, and lessons learned.
- Students will test on summer readings during the first week of school with their teacher.
- Teachers will average students' AR test results; the average will be recorded as a **Reading Test** grade in the first quarter of the school year.

Purpose and Benefits

- The FCS Elementary **Summer Reading Initiative** aims to prevent the "summer slide" and maintain students' reading skills and comprehension abilities.
- Engaging with quality literature enhances reading proficiency, critical thinking skills, and overall academic preparedness.
- The carefully selected books will reinforce Christian values and moral lessons, fostering spiritual growth alongside intellectual development.

You can help your child's reading journey this summer by discussing the books, exploring themes and lessons together, and fostering an environment that promotes intellectual curiosity and spiritual growth. You may also consider having your child write journal entries and illustrate their thoughts about the characters, setting, plot, and main ideas with each entry can help reinforce their understanding and prepare them for the AR tests he/she will take at the beginning of the school year.

Enclosed is our book list; arranged by grade level with the book level (**BL**) following each title. Students are not limited to the books on our list. If students read a book not on our list, please be sure to verify the book is an **AR** testable book using the following link for Accelerated Reader <https://www.arbookfind.com/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx>

Our summer reading initiative will be an enriching experience for our students, nurturing their minds and souls while promoting a lifelong love for reading and learning. Thank you for your continued support in your child's academic and spiritual development. May this summer be a time of growth, enrichment, and blessings for you and your family.

Blessings,



Valerie Rose, Ed. S.
Elementary Principal
Faith Christian School

Faith Christian School: *Summer Reading Initiative*

Suggested Summer Reading List

Incoming Kindergarten and 1st Grade Students

- The Adventures of Beekle, by Dan Santat
- The Book with No Pictures, by B. J. Novak
- They Boy Who Grew a Forest: The True Story of
- Jadav Payeng, by Sophia Gholz
- The Day The Crayons Quit, by Drew Daywalt
- Don't Throw it to Mo!, by David A. Adler
- Dragons Love Tacos, by Adam Rubin
- Good Night Owl, by Greg Pizzoli
- Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Wise Brown
- Inch, by Inch, by Leo Lionni
- Mr. Tiger Goes Wild, by Peter Brown
- My Father's Dragon, by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run! by Mike Twohy
- Press Here, by Hervé Tullet
- A Sick Day for Amos McGee, by Phillip Cristian Stead
- Too Tall Houses, by Gianna Marino
- Waiting, by Kevin Henkes
- We Are Growing, by Mo Willems
- Favorite Authors:
- Series Kids Love:
- Biscuit, by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- Books, by Pete Oswald
- Clifford, by Norman Bridwell
- Dog Man, by Dav Pilkey
- Dragon Masters, by Tracey West
- Elephant and Piggie, by Mo Willems
- Fly Guy, by Ted Arnold
- Henry & Mudge, by Cynthia Rylant
- Junie B. Jones, by Barbara Park
- Magic Treehouse, by Mary Pope Osborne
- Pete the Cat, by Eric Litwin
- The Questioners, by Andrea Beaty
- Who Was/Who Is, published by Penguin Books
- Young Cam Jansen, by David A. Adler
- Don't Forget Non-Fiction:
- National Geographic Kids Series
- Have you Heard the Nesting Bird?, by Rita Gray
- Because of an Acorn, by Lola M. Schaefer
- The Airport Book, by Lisa Brown
- Hatching Chicks in Room 6, by Caroline Arnold
- Octopuses One to Ten, by Ellen Jackson
- Giant Squid, by Candace Fleming
- The Hole Story of the Doughnut, by Pat Miller
- Hot Air, by Margorie Priceman
- Great Books to Read to Your Child:
- Stuart Little, by E. B. White Ramona the Pest, by Beverly Cleary
- Winnie the Pooh, by A. A. Milne A Bear Called Paddington, by Michael Bond

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Suggested Summer Reading List

Incoming 2nd Grade Students

- Bulla, Clyde. Daniel's Duck (BL2.0)
- Frascioni, Antonio. The House that Jack Built (BL2.2)
- Hoff, Syd. Sammy the Seal (BL2.0)
- Hoff, Syd. Danny and the Dinosaur (BL2.3)
- Krauss, Ruth. The Carrot Seed (BL1.9)
- Lionni, Leo. Inch by Inch (BL1.8)
- Littledale, Freya. The Magic Fish (BL2.9)
- Lobel, Arnold. Frog and Toad Are Friends (BL2.9)
- Seuss, Dr. Beginner Books (BL1.5)
- Seuss, Dr. Bright and Early Books (BL1.5)
- Tabak, Simms. There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly (BL2.1)
- Wood, Audrey. Quick as a Cricket (BL1.7)
- Carle, Eric. The Very Hungry Caterpillar (BL2.9)
- Daugherty, James. Andy and the Lion (BL3.6)
- Duvoisin, Roger. Petunia (BL3.1)
- Flack, Marjorie. Angus and the Ducks (BL2.5)
- Freeman, Don. Corduroy (BL3.5)
- Galdone, Paul. The Little Red Hen (BL2.9)
- Galdone, Paul. The Three Billy Goats Gruff (BL3.0)
- Hoban, Russell. Bedtime for Frances (BL2.7)
- Keats, Ezra. Peter's Chair (BL1.8)
- Marshall, James. George and Martha (BL2.1)
- McGovern, Ann. Stone Soup (BL3.1)
- Minarik, Else. Little Bear (BL.1)
- Numeroff, Laura. If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (BL2.7)
- Parish, Peggy. Amelia Bedelia (BL.4)
- Rey, Margaret & H.A. Curious George (BL3.0)
- Sharmat, Marjorie. Nate the Great (BL2.0)
- Zion, Gene. Harry the Dirty Dog (BL3.1)
- Buckley, Helen. Grandmother and I (BL.6)
- Coerr, Eleanor. The Josefina Story Quilt (BL2.7)
- De Regniers, Beatrice. May I Bring a Friend? (BL2.7)
- Ets, Marie. Just Me (BL2.6)
- Gramatky, Hardie. Little Toot (BL4.7)
- Hader, Berta. The Big Snow (BL4.3)
- Keats, Ezra. Whistle for Willie (BL2.5)
- Lewis, Kim. Floss (BL2.9)
- Lowry, Jannette. The Poky Little Puppy (BL4.1)
- McCloskey, Robert. Make Way for Ducklings (BL4.1)
- Piper, Watty. The Little Engine That Could (BL3.5)
- Potter, Beatrix. The Tale of Peter Rabbit (BL4.2)
- Sendak, Maurice. Where the Wild Things Are (BL3.5)
- Turkle, Brinton. Thy Friend, Obadiah (BL3.4)
- Ward, Lynd. The Biggest Bear (BL3.9)
- Wilder, Laura. My First Little House Books (BL3.2-3.7)
- Williams, Vera. A Chair for My Mother (BL3.4)

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Suggested Summer Reading List

Incoming 3rd Grade Students

- Cannon, Janell. *Stellaluna* (BL3.5)
- Galdone, Paul. *The Gingerbread Boy* (BL3.2)
- Galdone, Paul. *The Three Bears* (BL 3.6)
- Galdone, Paul. *The Three Little Pigs* (BL 3.2)
- Kessel, Joyce. *Squanto and the First Thanksgiving* (BL3.6)
- Roop, Peter and Connie. *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie* (BL2.2)
- Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale* (BL3.1)
- Yolen, Jane. *Owl Moon* (BL3.2)
- Bemelmans, Ludwig. *Madeline* (BL3.1)
- Calhoun, Mary. *Cross-Country Cat* (BL 3.9)
- DeBrunhoff, Jean. *The Story of Babar* (BL3.9)
- Flack, Marjorie. *The Story about Ping* (BL4.3)
- Gag, Wanda. *Millions of Cats* (BL3.5)
- Gauch, Patricia. *Thunder at Gettysburg* (BL3.5)
- Haywood, Carolyn. *Betsy & Billy* (BL4.2)
- Hope, Laura Lee. *The Bobbsey Twins* (BL4.3)
- Leaf, Munro. *The Story of Ferdinand* (BL3.7)
- Loveless, Maude. *Betsy-Tacy* (BL4.0)
- Politi, Leo. *Song of the Swallows* (BL4.6)
- Steig, William. *Doctor De Soto Goes to Africa* (BL4.1)
- Taha, Karen. *A Gift for Tia Rosa* (BL3.2)
- Warner, Gertrude. *The Boxcar Children* (any book from the series (BL 2-4)
- Ziefert, Harriet. *A New Coat for Anna* (BL3.5)
- Anderson, C. W. *Billy and Blaze* (BL3.7)
- Aardemas, Verna. *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears* (BL4.0)
- Harness, Cheryl. *Three Young Pilgrims* (BL4.4)
- McCloskey, Robert. *Blueberries for Sal* (BL4.1)
- McCloskey, Robert. *Lentil* (BL4.8)
- McCloskey, Robert. *One Morning in Maine* (BL4.4)
- Mowat, Farley. *Owls in the Family* (BL5.0)
- Sebag-Montefiore, M. *The Railway Children Young Reader* (BL3.6)
- Sobol, Donald. *Secret Agents Four* (BL4.8)
- West, Jerry. *The Happy Hollisters* (BL4.3)

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Suggested Summer Reading List

Incoming 4th Grade Students

- Atwater, Richard. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* (BL5.6)
- Farley, Walter. *The Black Stallion* (BL5.2)
- Fleischman, Sid. *The Whipping Boy* (BL3.9)
- Gannett, Ruth. *My Father's Dragon* (BL5.6)
- Lewis, C. S. *The Horse and His Boy* (BL5.8)
- White, E. B. *Charlotte's Web* (BL4.4)
- White, E. B. *Stuart Little* (BL6.0)
- Winterfeld, Henry. *Detectives in Togas* (BL5.1)
- Bulla, Clyde. *A Lion to Guard Us* (BL2.9)
- Bulla, Clyde. *Shoeshine Girl* (BL2.7)
- Cleary, Beverly. *Henry Huggins* (BL4.7)
- Dalgliesh, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble* (BL3.9)
- Gardiner, John. *Stone Fox* (BL4.0)
- Hall, Donald. *Ox-Cart Man* (BL4.5)
- Kellogg, Steven. *Paul Bunyan* (BL5.0)
- MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* (BL3.4)
- McSwigan, Marie. *Snow Treasure* (BL5.3)
- Scieszka, Jon. *The Time Warp Trio: Sam Samurai* (BL3.8)
- Sobol, Donald. *Encyclopedia Brown Series* (BL4.0-5.0)
- Warner, Gertrude. *The Box-Car Children* (excluding vol. 1) (BL4.6)
- Collodi C. *Pinocchio* (BL5.3)
- Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague* (BL5.3)
- Hope, Laura Lee. *The Bobbsey Twins* (BL4.1-5.0)
- Hurwitz, Johanna. *Aldo Applesauce* (BL4.7)
- Lindgren, Astrid. *Pippi Longstocking* (BL3.8)
- Milne, A. A. *Winnie the Pooh* (BL4.6)
- Rupp, Rebecca. *Dragon of Lonely Island* (BL5.0)
- Wilder, Laura. *Little House on the Prairie* (BL4.9)
- Bailey, Carolyn. *Miss Hickory* (BL5.9)
- Bond, Michael. *Paddington* (BL5.2)
- Cleary, Beverly. *Ramona* (BL4.0-5.0)
- Estes, Eleanor. *The Moffats* (BL5.2)
- Fritz, Jean. *The Cabin Faced West* (BL5.1)
- Holling, H. C. *Paddle-to-the-Sea* (BL5.4)
- Kipling, Rudyard. *Just So Stories* (BL6.4)
- Lawson, Robert. *Rabbit Hill* (BL6.4)
- McCloskey, Robert. *Homer Price* (BL6.6)
- Peretti, Frank. *The Door in the Dragon's Throat* (BL5.9)
- Streatfeild, Noel. *Ballet Shoes* (BL5.7)

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Suggested Summer Reading List

Incoming 5th Grade Students

- Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer* (BL5.2)
- Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden* (BL6.3)
- Dahl, Roald. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (BL4.8)
- de Angeli, Marguerite. *The Door in the Wall* (BL6.2)
- Du Bois, William Pene. *Twenty-one Balloons* (BL6.8)
- Estes, Eleanor. *Ginger Pye* (BL 6.0)
- Henry, Marguerite. *King of the Wind* (BL5.4)
- Lewis, C. S. *Prince Caspian* (BL5.7)
- Norton, Mary. *The Borrowers* (BL5.3)
- Sis, Peter. *Starry Messenger: Galileo* (BL4.8)
- Stanley, Diane and Peter Vennema. *Bard of Avon* (BL 6.2)
- Stanley, Diane. *Joan of Arc* (BL6.9)
- Alexander, Lloyd. *The Book of Three* (BL5.3)
- Armstrong, William. *Souder* (BL 5.3)
- Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting* (BL 5.0)
- Burnett, Frances H. *A Little Princess* (BL6.0)
- Carlson, Natalie. *The Family Under the Bridge* (BL4.7)
- Estes, Eleanor. *The Hundred Dresses* (BL 5.4)
- Knight, Eric. *Lassie Come-Home* (BL5.4)
- L'Engle, Madeleine. *A Wrinkle in Time* (BL 4.7)
- Lenski, Lois. *Prairie School* (BL 3.1)
- Lenski, Lois. *Strawberry Girl* (BL 4.8)
- McSwigan, Marie. *Snow Treasure* (BL 5.3)
- Sereby, Kate. *The Good Master* (BL 4.4)
- Speare, Elizabeth. *The Sign of the Beaver* (BL 4.9)
- Taylor, Sydney. *All-of-A-Kind Family* (BL 4.9)
- Thurber, James. *Many Moons* (BL4.5)
- Wilson, N. D. *100 Cupboards* (BL4.2)
- Farley, Walter. *The Black Stallion* (BL5.2)
- Funke, Cornelia. *Inkheart* (BL5.4)
- George, Jean C. *My Side of the Mountain* (BL5.2)
- Grahame, Kenneth. *The Reluctant Dragon* (BL4.9)
- Hanes, Mari. *Two Mighty Rivers* (BL5.7)
- Jacques, Brian. *Redwall* (BL5.6)
- Lofting, Hugh. *The Voyages of Dr. Dolittle* (BL3.8)
- Morey, Walt. *Gentle Ben* (BL4.8)
- Street, James. *Good-bye My Lady* (BL5.7)
- Travers, P. I. *Mary Poppins* (BL6.1)
- Field, Rachel. *Calico Bush* (BL6.2)
- Lawson, Robert. *Ben and Me* (BL6.9)
- Robertson, Keith. *Henry Reed, Inc.* (BL5.5)
- Robinson, Barbara. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (BL5.1)

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Suggested Summer Reading List

The following books are included for students who want to challenge themselves to books above their current reading level.

We encourage parents to preview the challenge books below before their student reads any of them to ensure the appropriateness of the book for their student.

Challenge Books

- Forbes, Esther. *Johnny Tremain* (BL5.9)
- Lathan, Jean. *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* (BL 4.1)
- Lewis, C. S. *The Silver Chair* (BL 5.7)
- Lewis, C. S. *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (BL 5.9)
- Swift, Jonathan. *Gulliver's Travels* (excerpts) (BL 5.5)
- Beatty, Patricia. *Turn Homeward, Hannalee* (BL 4.9)
- Brink, Carol. *Caddie Woodlawn* (BL 6.0)
- Byars, Betsy. *The Summer of the Swans* (BL 4.9)
- Cleary, Beverly. *Dear Mr. Henshaw* (BL 4.9)
- De Jong, Meindert. *The Wheel on the School* (BL 4.7)
- Enright, Elizabeth. *Thimble Summer* (BL 5.7)
- Gates, Doris. *Blue Willow* (BL 6.5)
- Gipson, Fred. *Old Yeller* (BL 5.0)
- Hanes Mari. *Two Mighty Rivers* (BL 5.7)
- O'Brien, Robert. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* (BL 5.1)
- Rawls, Wilson. *Where the Red Fern Grows* (BL 4.9)
- Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square* (BL 4.9)
- De Jong, Meindert. *The House of Sixty Fathers* (BL 5.5)
- George, Jean Craighead. *Julie of the Wolves* (BL 5.8)
- Montgomery, Lucy. *Anne of Green Gables* (BL 7.3)
- O'Dell, Scott. *Island of the Blue Dolphin* (BL 5.4)
- Pearce, Philippa. *Tom's Midnight Garden* (BL 6.1)
- Porter, Eleanor. *Pollyanna* (BL 5.2)
- Rawls, Wilson. *Summer of the Monkeys* (BL 4.8)
- Spyri, Johanna. *Heidi* (BL 3.0-3.7)
- Wyss, Johann. *Swiss Family Robinson* (BL 3.2)
- De Jong, Meindert. *Journey from Peppermint Street* (BL 5.10)
- MacDonald, George. *The Princess and the Goblin* (BL 6.1)
- North, Sterling. *Rascal* (BL 7.1)
- Serey, Kate. *The White Stag* (BL 6.6)
- Terhune, Albert. *Lad: A Dog* (BL 7.1)
- Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Hobbit* (BL 6.6)

