

Summer Reading 2025 for those entering 5th Grade

This summer you will be reading two books.

“Reading is a passport to countless adventures.”
– Mary Pope Osborne



Required book: *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham

Our classroom activities for the first few weeks of school will be based upon this novel.

Choice Book:

Read one (or more!) of the books on the following list. Complete a project on your favorite book from this list, selecting from the project ideas provided below. You will present your book to the class using your project. Make sure to include all the story elements in your project (characters, setting, plot (events, conflict, and resolution)).

Bring your project to school by Monday, August 18.

- *Homer Price* by Robert McCloskey
- ***My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George
- ***Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
- ***Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard and Florence Atwater
- ***The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White
- *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- *The Green Ember* by S.D. Smith
- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg

Book Project Choices for Summer Reading 2025

1. Design a diorama depicting a scene from your story. On the outside of the box, write and display the title and author, characters/character traits, story events (plot), problem (conflict) and resolution.
2. Make a collage using photographs, pictures and words from magazines, newspapers, or catalogs. Each item you include in your collage should be related to your story in some way. Be sure to include the title and author. Write a paragraph telling why you chose the pictures and words.
3. Make a “treasure box” out of a shoe box. On the outside of the box, make it look like a treasure box, complete with straps and buckle/clasp. On the inside, make or find at least five items related to your story. Put the items in the box, along with an index card description of each item and its importance in the story.
4. Video Book Talk- Design and produce a commercial to “sell” your book and hook readers. The video should be 3-5 minutes long. Review the book, explaining its strengths, and what type of reader would enjoy this book and why. Please include the story elements, but don’t spoil the ending. You should write up your “script” to submit with your video
- ** 5. "Be a Movie Critic!" After reading your selected text, write a one-paragraph opinion piece stating why the movie is a good or bad representation of the original book. Ask yourself: Are the characters different than you imagined? Are the events in a different order? Did the movie add parts that are not in the book? Did the movie totally change the feeling of the book? You might notice something else beyond these questions. Include what you notice 😊 HINT Read the book first. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to notice what is different in the movie. (This must be completed if you choose one of the books that also has a movie.)