

Summer 2025 Required Readings | 5th and 6th Grade

Continue reading even when school is out for the summer!. Reading promotes fluency, increases children's vocabulary, stimulates their imagination, expands their knowledge of the world, and increases/maintains their comprehension skills. To prevent the typical "summer slide" students experience when not in school, we are requiring students to read. Each grade level has developed a specific reading assignment (see your grade level below). These are also some resources and many offer prizes.

- Sign up for your local library summer reading program. The Harker Heights summer library program has kicked off and offers many great opportunities. The Killeen Public Library also has a summer reading program with prizes when completed.
- Read books on-line through Open Library, Story Line online, Tumble books, Goodread Free shelves, and many more. All for free.
- **Barnes & Noble** Summer reading: read any 8 books, complete the B&N reading journal form (<https://www.barnesandnobleinc.com/our-stores-communities/summer-reading-program/>); take the form to any B&N store and pick your free book from their list.
- **Half-Price Books** Summer reading camp: <https://www.hpb.com/summer-reading.html>
- **H.E.Buddy's Summer Reading program**: read 10 books, submit their form and win prizes. <https://www.heb.com/static-page/H-E-Buddy-Reading-Club>
- **MWR Library Summer Reading program**. Sign up and check it out at Casey Memorial Library at Fort Cavazos. <https://www.armymwr.com/programs-and-services/libraries/summer-reading-program>
- **Pizza Hut Camp Book It!** Meet your monthly reading goals and earn a free, one-topping personal pan pizza. <https://www.bookitprogram.com/book-it-for-parents>
- **Read Aloud America** <https://readaloudamerica.org/summer-reading-program/>
Embark on an adventure with Take a Story-Cation: Your Family's Summer Reading Journey Through the 7 Continents! This free program takes your family on an exciting tour across the continents, through the magic of stories.
- **Reading Rockets** <https://www.readingrockets.org/literacy-home/literacy-tips-activities/reading-adventure-packs>
- **RIF (Reading is Fundamental)**: Summer reading program: <https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/summer> Collection of free e-books to interactive materials on [Literacy Central](https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/summer) and the [Literacy Central app](https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/summer) for on the go
- **Scholastic**: a completely free digital destination which offers stories, characters, games, and a community of readers, the more students read, the more digital experiences they earn. Check it out! <https://kids.scholastic.com/kid/homebase/>
- **Sonlight Summer Reading Challenge**: <https://www.sonlight.com/homeschool/homeschool-101/sonlight-media/ebooks/summer-reading-printables#signupform>

Entering 5th Grade

Required reading: Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls (10 copies available in the office)

Complete the assignment (attached)

Additional Reading Options – Triple Crown books
Available to be checked out through the front office.

CROWN (4th & 5th grade) Read all 10 by April 25, 2026 and earn a reading award

Ripley Fire Station Five by W. Bruce Cameron
Uprooted: A Memoir About What Happens When Your Family Moves Back by Ruth Chan
My NOT-SO-GREAT French Escape by Cliff Burke
Always Anthony by Terri Libenson
Detective Beans & The Case of the Missing Cat by Li Chen
Black History Heroes: Chadwick Boseman King of Wakanda: A Hero On and Off the Screen by Chris Singleton & Ryan Van Cleave

Entering 6th Grade

Required reading: The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (copy available in the office)

- Plot Diagram
- Character Trait Chart for one main character: be creative when creating your character trait chart.

Additional Reading Options – Triple Crown books
Available to be checked out through the front office.

LAMPLIGHTER (6th – 8th grade) Read all 10 by April 25, 2026 and earn a reading award
The Mona Lisa Vanishes by Nicholas Day
Freewater by Amina Luqman-Dawson
It's Not Bragging If It's True: How to be Awesome at Life by Zaila Avant-Garde
The Misfits: A Royal Conundrum by Lisa Yee
Black Girl You Are Atlas by Renée Watson
The Secret Language of Birds by Lynne Kelly

The Red Door by Rachel Lulich
Ways to Build Dreams by Renée Watson
Poetry Comics by Grant Snider
The Lost Library by Rebecca Stead

Need to do some review? Want to get a preview of next year? Visit this web site!

→ [BJU Press After School Help](#) – great videos and you can review 4th grade math and language skills and get a head start on 5th grade skills.

Students should be fluent with all math facts including addition/subtraction facts to 20 and multiplication/division fact 0-12.

→ www.mathplayground.com
→ <https://www.prodigygame.com/Memberships/math/>
→ www.coolmath.com
→ www.funbrain.com
→ <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/k-8-grades>
→ www.getepic.com
→ https://xtramath.org/#/signin/teacher_other

The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Madd Science by Kate Mckinnon
Maggie and the Mountain of Light by Mark Snoad
When We Flew Away: A Novel of Anne Frank Before the Diary by Alice Hoffman

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→ [BJU Press After School Help](#) – great videos and you can review 5th grade math and language skills and get a head start on 6th grade skills

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→ www.mathplayground.com
→ <https://www.prodigygame.com/Memberships/math/>
→ www.coolmath.com
→ www.funbrain.com
→ <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/k-8-grades>
→ www.getepic.com
→ https://xtramath.org/#/signin/teacher_other

Summer Reading Assignment

For Students Entering 5th Grade – 2025/2026

Book Title: Where the Red Fern Grows

Author: Wilson Rawls

Book Report Instructions

Please complete the following book report neatly in cursive on lined notebook paper. Use complete sentences, proper punctuation, and write your best! This assignment will be your first grade of 5th grade.

1. Book Information

- Title of the Book
- Author
- Number of Pages

2. Story Summary

Write a summary for each part of the story. Be sure to include important details.

- Beginning of the Story – What happens at the start?
- Middle of the Story – What are some important events that take place?
- End of the Story – How does the story end?

3. Cause and Effect

- Choose one important event in the book and explain:
 - What happened? (Cause)
 - How did it affect the story or the characters? (Effect)

4. Character Influence

- Think about how one character influenced the main character. Write about:
 - The name of the character
 - How they influenced the main character
 - If the main character changed because of them
 - If the influence was positive or negative, and why

Due Date:

Please bring your completed, handwritten report on the first day of school.

We can't wait to hear your thoughts on this powerful story and see your beautiful cursive writing!