

Grade Four
Summer Reading

Required Reading List

Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech

With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

Mapping Penny's World by Loreen Leedy

After learning about maps in school, Lisa maps all the favorite places of her dog Penny.

Measuring Penny by Loreen Leedy

Lisa learns about the mathematics of measuring by measuring her dog Penny with all sorts of units, including pounds, inches, dog biscuits, and cotton swabs.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Fourth-grader Peter Hatcher finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem.

Recommended Reading List

Series: Reading your way through a series of books is a great way to spend summer days! Here are some suggestions to get you started on the fun:

American Girls by various authors

These beautiful books explore the real world as it was in the American Girls' times. The clear, appealing text comes alive with the voices of real girls from the past who tell their stories in letters and diaries. These visually stunning books feature both modern and historical illustrations and photos.

Bunnicula by James Howe

The madcap tales of the beloved vampire bunny, Bunnicula, and his animal pals, Harold, Chester, and Howie.

Clementine by Sara Pennypacker

While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building. Follow the further adventures of Clementine in *The Talented Clementine* and *Clementine's Letter*.

Dear America by various authors

Written in a diary format, each historical novel is extensively researched from actual letters and diaries, allowing readers to experience the daily lives of girls from different times in American history.

Hank Zipzer by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver

Inspired by the true life experiences of celebrity Henry Winkler, whose undiagnosed dyslexia made him a classic childhood underachiever, this series is about the high-spirited and funny adventures of a boy with learning differences.

Hardy Boys by Franklin W. Dixon

This is an adventure series that has catered to the dreams of each generation of readers. Throughout its history, the stories have changed steadily with the times and are ready to be introduced to a new generation.

Indian in the Cupboard by Lynn Reed Banks

A nine-year-old boy receives a toy Native American, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and embarks on an adventure when the toy comes to life and befriends him.

My Name is America by various authors

A ground-breaking, adventure-based historical fiction series written in journal format and designed to appeal to boys.

Nancy Drew by Carolyn Keene

Nancy Drew has been a landmark heroine for girls since her Depression-era debut in 1930. Clever, resourceful and independent, Nancy uses courage and common sense to solve adventurous mysteries.

Orphan Train by Joan Lowery Nixon

A young widow makes the ultimate sacrifice of love and sends her children west on the orphan train to find better lives with new families.

Ralph S. Mouse by Beverly Cleary

The adventures of a boy and a little mouse who wants to ride his toy motorcycle.

Ramona Quimby by Beverly Cleary

This series documents Ramona's hilarious and heartwarming struggles to make her way in a perplexing world.

Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka

Scieszka's tongue-in-cheek humor sets the pace for his award-winning tales in this zany series. This wacky trio, Joe, Jodie, and Anna, keeps warping in and out of Brooklyn in these space-and-time, travel adventures.

Wayside School by Louis Sachar

Unusual things happen in the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg's father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

Other titles you may enjoy:

All Star Fever by Matt Christopher *** any title by this author ***

Bus Mercer, shortstop for the Peach Street Mudders, wants desperately to be picked for the county all-star team, but he breaks his parents' rules for riding his new bike, and feelings of guilt affect his game.

The BFG by Roald Dahl *** any title by this author***

Kidnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.

The Conch Bearer by Banerjee Divakaruni

Twelve-year-old Anand is entrusted with a conch shell that possesses mystical powers and sets out on a journey to return the shell to its rightful home many hundreds of miles away.

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal. Also check out *The Wright 3* by this same author.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship. Follow Greg's further adventures in the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw*.

Each Little Bird That Sings by Deborah Wiles

Comfort Snowberger is well acquainted with death since her family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so the ten-year-old is unprepared for the series of heart-wrenching events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation with the sudden death of her beloved great-uncle Edisto.

Freckle Juice by Judy Blume

Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

Hitty, Her First Hundred Years by Rachel Field

Hitty, a doll carved from mountain ash in the nineteenth century, has many adventures as she travels around the world with different owners.

Homer Price by Robert McCloskey

Six episodes in the life of Homer Price including one in which he and his pet skunk capture four bandits and another about a donut machine on the rampage.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Kid in the Red Jacket by Barbara Park

Howard, the new kid in town, fears for his future when his only friend is a weird neighbor.

The Kite Fighters by Linda Sue Park

In Korea in 1473, eleven-year-old Young-sup overcomes his rivalry with his older brother Kee-sup, who as the first-born son receives special treatment from their father, and combines his kite-flying skill with Kee-sup's kite-making skill in an attempt to win the New Year kite-fighting competition.

A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein

A collection of humorous poems and drawings by one of the great writers of poetry for children. His other titles include: *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and *Falling Up!* You'll enjoy them all.

The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Fours Sisters, Two Rabbits and a Very Interesting Boy by Jeanne Birdsall

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

The Random House Book of Poetry for Children edited by Jack Prelutsky

Opening poems for each section especially written for this anthology by Jack Prelutsky. Includes indexes. More than 550 poems by American, English, and anonymous authors.

Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech

Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins Dallas and Florida have grown up in a terrible orphanage but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.

Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs. Follow the further adventures of Shiloh in *Shiloh Season* and *Saving Shiloh*.

The Twits by Roald Dahl

The misadventures of two terrible old people who enjoy playing nasty tricks and are finally outwitted by a family of monkeys.