Summer Reading:
Fourth and Fifth Grade

For the pleasure and for the academic benefits of literature, Thrasher has an expectation for summer reading. Our hope is that you will find books you love and enjoy them deeply.

Beliefs about Summer Reading

We also want you to read a lot because it benefits you and your school when you read voraciously. Of course, we want you to read books of your choice, which is why we have titles under *Suggested Reading*. Can you read books that are not listed here? OF COURSE! You are in charge of your reading life. The important thing is that you read, read, read…and that you enjoy it!

We want you and the students in your grade level to experience some books in common so that you can talk about what you've read. That's why we have titles under *Expected Reading*.

Expected Reading

Fourth grade:

Narrative text: (expected reading)

***The Homework Machine* by Dan Gutman**

Informational text: (suggestions)

***You Wouldn't Want to be at the Boston Tea Party* by Peter Cook**

What Was the Battle of Gettysburg

by Jim O'Conner

Who Was Abraham Lincoln by Janet Pascal

Edible Science by Jodi Wheeler-Toppen

Expected Reading

Fifth Grade: Choose at least one of the following Narrative Text Selections and at least one Informational Text:

Realistic Fiction: Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Historical Fiction: The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

Fantasy: A Wrinkle in Time Madeleine L'Engle

Science Fiction: The Giver by Lois Lowry

Mystery: From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsbuerg

Informational Text: (Choose at least one)

What was Ellis Island? By Patricia Demuth

You Wouldn't Want to be a WWII Pilot

By Ian Graham

This document is also available on the Thrasher webpage:
https://thrasher.hcde.org/summer

How to Tell if a Book is Just Right for You

When you start to read a book, ask yourself three questions:

1. Can I understand it?
2. Can I talk about it?
3. Can I enjoy it?

If you can say "yes" to all three questions, you should read the book! If you say "no" to one or more questions, it may be time to abandon the book and look for another one.

Suggested Reading

CHAPTER BOOKS

Enjoy anything your favorite authors:

Treasure Hunter **series** by James Patterson

Home Sweet Motel **series** by Chris Grabenstein

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Matilda by Roald Dahl

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies

Hank the Cowdog by John R. Erickson

Spy School by Stuart Gibbs

The 13-Story Treehouse Series by Andy Griffith

***Flashback Four #1: The Lincoln Project** by Dan Gutman

The Evolution Of Calpurnia Tate

By Jacqueline Kelly

Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse

The Lightning Thief **series** by Rick Riordan

Wings of Fire; The Dragonet Prophecy

byTui T.Sutherland

Smile (Graphic Novel) by Raina Telgemeier

Jackie and Me (Baseball Card Adventure series)

By Dan Gutman

Suggested Reading

FAIRYTALES AND FOLK TALES

Mythology by Simon Basher

Jack – The True Story of Jack & The Beanstalk **(chapter book)** by Liesel Shurtliff

The Sisters Grimm: The Fairytale Detectives **(chapter book)** by Michael Buckley

American Tall Tales by Mary Pope Osborn

The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly Stupid Tales by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith

NONFICTION

What Was the March on Washington? By Kathleen Krull (What was series)

At Ellis Island; A History in Many Voices by Louise Peacock

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

When the Wolves Returned by Dorothy H. Patent

Poetry

Insectlopedia by Douglas Florian

A Brother's War: Civil War Voices in Verse by J. Patrick Lewis

The New Kid on the Block: Poems by Jack Prelutsky

Runny Babbit by Shel Silverstein