



Dear Antilles Families,

Summer reading is an important part of your child's reading education. Research has shown that reading over the summer helps children maintain the skills and strategies they have developed during the school year, and puts them on the right track for the upcoming school year.

Remember, all students should bring required reading books with them on the first day of school and be prepared to discuss.

Students entering the Toddler Program-Grade 3 do not have required summer reading; however, listed below are also teacher suggestions ages 3-12. We encourage reading together as a family and even accomplished readers enjoy having someone read to them.

Required Summer Reading - Rising Grade 4:

1. *Because of the Rabbit*, Cynthia Lord
2. A Novel or Non-Fiction book of your choice

Required Summer Reading - Rising Grade 5:

1. *Ban This Book*, Alan Gratz
2. A Novel or Non-Fiction book of your choice

Required Summer Reading for Middle School:

Rising Grade 6

1. *The Giver*, Lois Lowry
2. *Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator*, Roald Dahl

Rising Grade 7

1. *Children of the River*, Linda Crew
2. *Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African Savanna*, Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton and Herman Viola

Rising Grade 8

1. *Flowers for Algernon*, Daniel Keys
2. *Something Out of Nothing: Marie Curie and Radium*, Carla McClafferty

Required Summer Reading for Upper School:

Rising Grade 9

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury

Rising Grade 10

Interpreter of Maladies, Jhumpa Lahiri

Rising Grade 11

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley

Rising Grade 12

The Color Purple, Alice Walker

TEACHER SUGGESTIONS FOR SUMMER READING:

Early Learners (Ages 3-5)

- *All Are Welcome*, Alexandra Penfold and Suzanna Kaufman; A warm, welcoming picture book that celebrates diversity and gives encouragement and support to all kids.
- *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, Juana Martinez-Neil; A book about a little girl and her many names which connect her to her ancestors and their amazing stories.
- *Annie's Plaid Shirt*, Stacy S. Davids; Annie wears her plaid shirt everywhere until she has to wear a dress to her uncle's wedding.
- *Awesome Science Experiments for Kids*, Crystal Chatterton; Hands on projects to get young kids excited about Science.
- *Black White Just Right!* Marguerite W. Davol; This simple story celebrates how the differences between one mother and father blend to make the perfect combination in their daughter.
- *Hip Hop Speaks to Children*, Nikki Giovanni; Poetry; Children will be encouraged to put their words to poetry and beats.
- *I Love My Purse*, Belle DeMont; Charlie loves the bright red purse that his grandmother let him have. One day, he decides to take it to school.
- *I Walk with Vanessa*, Kerascoet; This picture book tells the story of one girl who inspires a community to stand up to bullying.
- *It's Okay to be Different*, Todd Park; This book delivers the important messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence in an accessible, child-friendly format.
- *Ivy and Bean*, Annie Barrows; The moment they saw each other, Bean and Ivy knew they wouldn't be friends.
- *Julian Is a Mermaid*, Jessica Love; This book tells the story of a boy who wants to become a mermaid and participate in the Coney Island Mermaid Parade.
- *Kamala and Maya's Big Idea*, Meena Harris; Based on a true story, this picture book is about two sisters working together to create change in their community.
- *My First Book of Planets: All About the Solar System for Kids*, Bruce Betts; Blast off on an exploration of our solar system.
- *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*, Isabel Quintero; With vivid illustration and text bursting with heart, this picture book is a young girl's love letter to her hardworking dad and to memories of home that we hold close in the midst of change.
- *National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Dinosaurs*, Catherine Hughes; The prehistoric world comes alive with dinosaurs small, big, giant, and gigantic.
- *Our Favorite Day of the Year*, A.E. Ali; This picture book tells a heartwarming story of friendship and celebrating differences, when a little boy is feeling anxious about starting Kindergarten.
- *Pink is for Boys*, Robb Pearlman; An empowering and educational picture book that proves colors are for everyone, regardless of gender. Pink is for boys . . . and girls . . . and everyone!
- *Scribble Stones*, Diane Alber; A heartwarming story about a little stone who was able to spread kindness to the world.
- *Swimmy*, Leo Leoni; This book is the story of a very small fish who stands out because he is a different color from all his school.
- *The King of Kindergarten*, Derrick Barnes; This picture book is a joyful and empowering story that will give new Kindergarteners a reassuring confidence boost.
- *The Name Jar*, Yangsook Choi; Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her.

- *The Paper Bag Princess*, Robert Munsch; When the fiercest dragon in the whole world smashes Princess Elizabeth's castle, burns all her clothes, and captures her fiancé, Prince Ronald, Elizabeth takes matters into her own hands.
- *The Paper Kingdom*, Helene Ku Rhee; Expresses the joy and spirit of a loving family who turns a routine experience into something much more.
- *The Story of Ferdinand*, Munro Leaf; Ferdinand is the world's most peaceful--and--beloved little bull. While all of the other bulls snort, leap, and butt their heads, Ferdinand is content to just sit and smell the flowers under his favorite cork tree.
- *There's a Bee in My Book Bag: A Tale with Two Sides*, Lisa Martin Suber; This charming book, told from two perspectives, reveals what happens when an unexpected guest visits a classroom.
- *We Are Water Protectors*, Carole Lindstrom; Inspired by the many indigenous led movements across North America.
- *What Can I Be? STEM Careers from A to Z*, Tiffani Teachey; This book is an inspiring and easy-to-read alphabet picture book that teaches our next generation about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers.
- *Where Are You From?* Yamile Saied Mendez; A book about how an unkind question becomes an opportunity for conversation and self-acceptance- thanks to a wise grandpa.
- *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, Shel Silverstein; Poetry; A collection of poems and drawings that stretches the bounds of imagination.
- *William's Doll*, Charlotte Zolotow; A book about a boy who wants a doll.

Growing Readers (Ages 6-8)

- *All Because you Matter*, Tami Charles; Fiction; A poignant, timely and emotionally stirring picture book, this ode to Black and brown children provides a message of hope, assurance and love.
- *Alvin Ho* chapter book series, Lenore Look; Fiction; Alvin Ho is a second grader who is scared of everything, especially school. Watch him conquer his fears.
- *Beatrice Zinker Upside Down Thinker*, Shelley Johannes; Fiction; Beatrice does her best thinking upside down - Hanging from trees by her knees, doing handstands...
- *Bink and Gollie*, Kate DiCamillo; Fiction; Meet Bink and Gollie, two precocious little girls — one tiny, one tall, and both utterly irrepressible. Setting out from their super-deluxe tree house and powered by plenty of peanut butter and pancakes, they share comical adventures.
- *Dear Dragon*, Josh Funk; Fiction; A sweet and clever friendship story in rhyme, about looking past physical differences to appreciate the person (or dragon) underneath.
- *Enemy Pie*, Derek Munson; Fiction; In this funny and endearing story, one little boy learns an effective recipe for turning a best enemy into a best friend.
- *Five Thousand Awesome Facts*, National Geographic Kids; Non-Fiction; Filled with photographs this beautifully designed book is organized into two page spreads on each topic, making it easy and fun to read.
- *Flat Stanley* series, Jeff Brown; Fiction; Stanley Lampchop is squished flat by a bulletin board. He makes the best of being flat while on many action-packed adventures.
- *Fly Guy* series, Tedd Arnold; Fiction; Boy and fly meet and so begins a funny friendship filled with hyperbole, puns, slapstick, and silly drawings.
- *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*, Kevin Noble Maillard and Juana Martinez-Neal; Fiction; An evocative depiction of a modern Native American family.
- *I Have a Secret! ¡Tengo un Secreto!*: *Yunito's Adventures-Las Aventuras de Yunito, Maritere Bellas* ; Fiction; What happens when a young boy not only doesn't want to speak his native language of Spanish, he doesn't want anyone to speak Spanish to him, even at home, and doesn't want anyone at his school to know that he is of Spanish descent?

- *Knights vs. Dinosaurs Hardcover*, Matt Phelan; Fiction; This heavily illustrated novel is a hilarious, rip-roaring tale of derring-do perfect for reluctant readers,
- *Mercy Watson series*, Kate DiCamillo; Fiction; Mercy Watson's (a pig) disarming personality and hilarious hijinks are captivating early chapter-book readers everywhere.
- *National Geographic Readers series*, various authors; Non-Fiction; This series has something for everyone with a combination of photos, facts and fun on many subjects from animals to space.
- *One Hundred African-Americans Who Shaped American History*, Chrisanne Beckner; Non-Fiction; Teeming with interesting nuggets of facts and information.
- *Poop Happened!: A History of the World from the Bottom Up Paperback*, Sarah Albee; Non-Fiction; Did lead pipes cause the fall of the Roman Empire? How many toilets were in the average Egyptian pyramid? How did a knight wearing fifty pounds of armor go to the bathroom?
- *Princess in Black series*, Shannon Hale and Dean Hale; Fiction; A beginning chapter book series about an adventurous princess.
- *Princess Truly in I am Truly*, Kelly Greenawalt; Fiction; Celebration of individuality, girl power, and diversity.
- *The Adventures of Captain Underpants*, Dav Pilkey; Fiction; Fourth graders George Beard and Harold Hutchins are a couple of class clowns. The only thing they enjoy more than playing practical jokes is creating their own comic books. And together they've created the greatest superhero in the history of their elementary school:
- *The Adventures of Max and Levi: The Alpha League Book Series*, Portia Smith and Michael Johnson; Fiction; The heroic series follows 5 unlikely kids who subsequently become friends and heroes in their community.
- *The Backyard Bug Book for Kids*, Lauren Davidson; Non-Fiction; Take your child on an educational adventure bursting with colorful photographs.
- *The Crazy Case of Missing Thunder*, Tony Abbot; Fiction; Best friends, Mara, Kelly, Brian and Jeff are self-styled Goofball private eyes who solve unusual mysteries.
- *The Dragonsitter*, Josh Lacey; Fiction; The first title in a new chapter book series, written completely in e-mails, that will have readers laughing out loud and begging for more!
- *The Gumazing Gum Girl! Chews Your Destiny*, Rhode Montijo; Fiction; Gabby Gomez loves to chew bubble gum even though her mother has warned her against it. It's not like she will turn *into* gum . . . except, that's exactly what happens!
- *The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher*, Dana Alison Levy; Fiction; The start of the school year is not going as the Fletcher brothers hoped. Each boy finds his plans for success veering off in unexpected and sometimes disastrous directions
- *The Proudest Blue-A Story of Hijab and Family*, Ibtihaj Muhammad; Fiction; A universal story of new experiences, the unbreakable bond between siblings, and of being proud of who you are.
- *The Rhino who Swallowed a Storm*, LeVar Burton; Fiction; In this poetic book-within-a-book, a happy little rhinoceros is overwhelmed by a storm that sweeps away everything he loves.
- *The Skin You Live In*, Michael Taylor; Fiction; Friendship, acceptance, self-esteem, and diversity are promoted.
- *The Tree Lady*, H. Joeseeph Hopkins; Non-Fiction; The true story of how one tree-loving woman changed a city forever. This book is about a female scientist who became a gardener in San Diego and transformed it to a city of trees.
- *Violet Mackerel's Outside-the-box set*, Anna Branford; Fiction; Violet Mackerel is quite a small girl with quite brilliant ideas. Once you read *one* of these charming chapter books, you'll want to read them all!

Independent Readers (Ages 9-12)

- *As Brave as You*, Jason Reynolds; Fiction; When two brothers decide to prove how brave they are, everything backfires—literally!
- *Bobby vs. Girls (Accidentally)*, Lisa Yee; Fiction; Bobby Ellis-Chan has a really big secret: His best friend is a girl. But now he's in fourth grade, and things are changing.
- *Crenshaw*, Katherine Applegate; Fiction; As Jackson and his family are about to lose everything, a seven-foot-tall talking, skateboarding cat appears that could be the answer to his problems.
- *Dream Wolf*, Paul Goble; Fiction; A young boy and his sister lose their way and are guided by a wolf.
- *Drita, My Homegirl*, Jenny Lombard; Fiction; An unlikely friendship blossoms between Maxie, a popular fourth grader, and the new kid in class, Drita, whose family has fled the war in Kosovo.
- *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, Roald Dahl; Fiction; A story about how a clever fox steals to feed his family.
- *Fish in a Tree*, Lynda Mullaly Hunt; Fiction; A novel about three kids: Ally, Keisha, and Albert, who “set the world on fire” as they overcome challenges and conflicts. The plot begins with Ally refusing to try at school because of her learning disabilities.
- *Henry's Freedom Box*, Ellen Levine; Historical Fiction; Based on the true story of Henry Brown and his escape from slavery.
- *Hidden Figures*, Margot Lee Shetterly; Non-Fiction; The untold story of Black women mathematicians who helped to win the space race.
- *How Red Ants Got Their Color*, I. Carole Husbands; Folk Tale; Take a trip back to the Caribbean days of old when things were still simple, and people knew the answers to big questions like How did Red Ants get their Color? Take a ride from the north side of St. Thomas island to see the sights of downtown Charlotte Amalie.
- *Hurricanes*, Gail Gibbons; Non-Fiction; Informational book about hurricanes.
- *King Monte: Are You My PE Teacher?* Michael A. Woodward, Jr.; Fiction; Ten-year-old Monte has always been surrounded by his best friends: kids who look like him, live near him, and go to class with him. But when his mother pushes him into the school's honors program, Monte feels like he's stumbled into a whole new world.
- *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History*, Vashti Harrison; Biography; A beautifully illustrated mini-biographies of 40 black female trailblazers are meant to be inspiring for all readers.
- *Moonshot*, Brian Floca; Non-Fiction; Tells about the Flight of Apollo 11.
- *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters*, John Steptoe; Fairytale/Folktale; Teaches the importance of being kind.
- *My Name is Yoon*, Helen Recorvits; Fiction; A story about a Korean child who left her home and immigrated to America.
- *My Very Own Room/Mi propio cuartito*, Amanda Irma Pérez; Fiction; Five little brothers, two parents, and a house full of visiting relatives make a young Mexican American girl feel crowded.
- *National Geographic Kids-Chapters-Courageous Canine*, Kelly Millner Halls; Non-Fiction; these true stories feature fearless animals who risk their tails to save human lives
- *No Voice too Small: Fourteen Young Americans Making History*, Lindsay H. Metcalf; Biographic Poetry; An inspirational collection of poems that share the stories of young activists who each saw a problem or an injustice and acted to make the world better.
- *One Crazy Summer*, Rita Williams Garcia; Historical Fiction; An award-winning book written with insight and humor about family and identity.
- *Other Words for Home*, Jasmine Warga; Fiction; An inspiring and relatable story of a young Syrian refugee discovering who she is, where she belongs, and what it means to be brave.

- *Paper Wishes*, Lois Sepahban; Historical Fiction; 10-year-old Manami is forced to leave her home after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- *Powwow*, Karen Pheasant Neganigwane; Non-Fiction; This book provides wonderful information about the history of Native American culture and customs with beautiful full-color photos on every page.
- *Roll With it*, by Jamie Sumner; Fiction; This heartwarming book tells the story of an irrepressible girl with cerebral palsy whose life takes an unexpected turn when she moves to a new town.
- *Sweet Music in Harlem*, Debbie Taylor; Historical Fiction; C. J. needs to act fast - A photographer from Highnote magazine is on his way to photograph Uncle Click, a well-known jazz musician, but Uncle Click's signature hat is missing.
- *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, Judy Blume; Fiction; A humorous book about sibling rivalry and the importance of family.
- *Too Many Tamales*, Garo Soto and Ed Martinez; Fiction; Maria learns a valuable lesson about telling the truth.
- *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Young Readers Edition*, William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer; Non-Fiction; A drought left parts of Malawi with no crops to eat and to sell, so William decided to build a windmill to bring electricity to his villagers.
- *The Case for Loving*, Selina Alko; Nonfiction; This is the story of one brave family who fought an unfair law against interracial marriage, taking their case all the way to the Supreme Court—and winning!
- *The Crane Girl*, Curtis Manley; Fiction-Folktales; Lyrical storytelling deftly interwoven with original haiku create a magical adaptation of a popular Japanese folktale about a boy who rescues an injured crane.
- *The Great Kapok Tree*, Lynne Cherry; Fiction; Rainforest animal perspectives on deforestation.
- *The Hero Two Doors Down*, Sharon Robinson; A young sports fan gets the chance of a lifetime when baseball star Jackie Robinson becomes his next-door neighbor...and his friend! Based on a true story.
- *The One and Only Ivan*, Katherine Applegate; Fiction; Told from the point of view of Ivan, a gorilla, who tries to piece together his past with the help of an elephant named Stella as they hatch a plan to escape from captivity.
- *The Phantom Tollbooth*, Norton Juster; Fiction; Bursting with imagination and smarts, this is the tale of a little boy who takes an unrestrained joyride through an unpredictable realm where words and numbers are at war with each other.
- *The School for Good and Evil* series, Soman Chainani; Fiction; When Sophie, a girl determined to join the ranks of past students like Cinderella and Rapunzel in the School of Good, and Agatha, a seemingly natural fit for the villains in the School of Evil, get sent to the wrong schools, their fates are changed forever.
- *The Secret Lake*, Karen Inglis; Fiction; A page-turning time travel adventure for children aged 8-11.
- *The Supadupa Kid*, Ty Allen Jackson; Fiction; Javon Williams was just a normal kid until a freak accident gave him amazing superpowers.
- *We are Grateful*, Traci Sorell; Non-Fiction; An informative book about Cherokee life and culture.
- *Who Was/Who Is* series, various authors; Non-Fiction; Biographies of famous people, including famous women, inventors, activists, important historical figures, past and present.
- *Wonder*, R.J. Palacio; Realistic Fiction; Auggie has had numerous surgeries to correct facial anomalies, but when he enters school in fifth grade after years of homeschooling, he still has a face that draws nicknames like Freak and Freddy Krueger.
- *Young, Fearless, Awesome: 25 Young People Who Changed the World*, Kay Woodward; Non-Fiction; From Greta Thunberg to Malala Yousafzai, these 25 amazing young people stood up for what they believed in, spoke out against injustice, and overcame huge obstacles to make a change.

Are you looking for more? Here are a few additional websites to browse:

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/book-lists-and-recommendations/summer-reading-list-for-ages-8-to-10.html>

<https://www.common sense media.org/book-lists>

<https://socialjusticebooks.org/booklists/>

<https://www.leeandlow.com/educators/summer-reading-book-lists-k-8>