

5th Grade Summer Reading List

Rising 5th Graders:

Students will have two required reading selections this summer. Each student should complete the following assignments about each book.

Required Reading:

[Out of My Mind](#) (realistic fiction) by Sharon Draper

“Eleven year old Melody Brooks has a photographic memory. Her head is like a video camera that is always recording. Always. And there’s no delete button. She’s the smartest kid in her whole school – but NO ONE knows it. Most people – her teachers and doctors included – don’t think she is capable of learning, and up until recently, her school days consisted of listening to the same preschool-level alphabet lessons again and again. If only she could speak up, if only she could tell people what she thinks and knows...but she can’t because Melody can’t talk. She can’t walk. She can’t write. Being stuck inside her head is making Melody go out of her mind – that is until she discovers something that will allow her to speak for the first time ever. At last Melody has a voice...but not everyone around her is ready to hear it.”

[The Boy Who Painted the World](#) (realistic fiction) by Melody Bremen

“Indigo is a boy with a dream. He wants to be a famous artist when he grows up, but he’s never had a real family or a home. He spends his nights in a shelter and his days working odd jobs to buy new art supplies.

Jade is his best friend who has helped feed him and keep him safe. When she is arrested for shoplifting, Indigo sets off on a journey where he finds new people, and the courage to pursue his dreams.

Follow Indigo on a journey that teaches him the meaning of friendship, family... and shows him that dreams really do come true.”

Required Writing About the Literature:

For each book, please consider the question: Does everyone in a community have the same needs? Type a well developed paragraph where you:

- describe the main character's needs,
- describe how they deal with challenges
- compare and contrast the way they are treated by different people in the community,

These assignments will be due the first week of school and should be **an example of your best writing.**