

SCAPA Bluegrass
Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading List
24-25 School Year

Rising 5th graders are asked to read **three** books from the list below over the summer. Upon return to school, students will take Accelerated Reader (AR) tests on the titles chosen to earn points toward a reading grade. Books on our summer reading list may be found at public libraries or local/online bookstores. To assist with student selection, a summary, Lexile level, and AR grade level/point value are included below.

If you have questions, reach out to 5th grade classroom teachers:

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For summer reading, rising 5th graders should choose any three books from the 20 titles listed below:

1. *Chasing Redbird*–Sharon Creech (790L AR:5.0/7.0)
Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self-truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.
2. *Schooled*–Gordon Korman (740L AR:4.9/7.0)
Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie, but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.
3. *Small As An Elephant*– Jennifer Richard Jacobson (790L AR:5.3/7.0)
Abandoned by his mother in an Acadia National Park campground, eleven-year-old Jack tries to make his way back to Boston before anyone figures out what is going on, with only a small toy elephant for company.
4. *Ghost*– Jason Reynolds (730L AR: 4.6/6.0)
Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race—and wins—the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun.

5. *The Swag In His Socks*– Kelly Baptist (760L AR:4.7/7.0)
Twelve-year-old Xavier Moon gets the courage to step out of the shadows when his great-uncle gives him some outlandish socks and some even stranger requests.
6. *The Last Holiday Concert*– Andrew Clements (800L AR:5.4/4.0)
Life is usually easy for popular sixth grader Hart Evans, but when his music teacher puts him in charge of the holiday concert, Hart must use all of his leadership skills to unite the other students.
7. *You Go First*– Erin Entrada Kelly (640L AR:4.7/5.0)
Over the course of a week, Charlotte and Ben, online friends connected only by a Scrabble game, intersect in unexpected ways as they struggle to navigate the turmoil of middle school.
8. *When The World Turned Upside Down*– K. Ibura (750L AR:5.0/7.0)
Friends separated during the coronavirus pandemic find ways to help others who are struggling within their community.
9. *Hoot*– Carl Hiaasen (760L AR:5.2/9.0)
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.
10. *Fast Pitch*– Nic Stone (790L AR:5.0/5.0)
Shenice Lockwood, captain of the Fulton Firebirds, is hyper-focused when she steps up to the plate. Nothing can stop her from leading her team to the 12U fast-pitch softball regional championship, but life throws some curveballs her way.
11. *All The Stars Denied*– Guadalupe Garcia McCall (790L AR:5.2/11.0)
When resentment surges during the Great Depression in a Texas town, fifteen-year-old Estrella organizes a protest against the treatment of tejanos and is later dumped with her mother and baby brother in Mexico.
12. *Pizza My Heart*– Rhiannon Richardson (840L AR:5.5/7.0)
Maya Reynolds has practically grown up in her family's Brooklyn pizza shop, Soul Slice, and is a true city girl. When her family moves to a small town in Pennsylvania to open another pizza place, everything changes.
13. *Elijah of Buxton*– Christopher Paul Curtis (980L AR:5.4/12.0)

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah, the first freeborn child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American South, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

14. *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*– Kwame Mbalia (710L AR:4.8/15)
Seventh-grader Tristan Strong tumbles into the MidPass and, with allies John Henry and Brer Rabbit, must entice the god Anansi to come out of hiding and seal the hole Tristan accidentally ripped in the sky. Book #1
15. *A Time Traveler's Theory of Relativity*– Nicole Valentine (630L AR:4.7/9.0) A few days before his birthday, Finn learns that the women of his family are time travelers and they expect him to help locate his missing mother.
16. *The Storm Keeper's Island*– Catherine Doyle (780L AR:5.5/9.0)
Fionn Boyle, terrified of the sea, must spend the summer with his older sister, Tara, and their grandfather on Arranmore, an island that has been known to make people disappear. Book #1
17. *The Van Gogh Deception*– Deron R. Hicks (750 AR:5.4/9.0)
When a young boy is discovered in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, without any recollection of who he is, he must piece together the disjointed clues of his origins while stopping one of the greatest art frauds ever. Book #1
18. *Game Changer*– Tommy Greenwald (750L AR:5.4/4.0)
While thirteen-year-old Teddy fights for his life after a football injury at training camp, his friends and family gather to support him and discuss events leading to his coma. Told through dialogue, text messages, newspaper articles, transcripts, an online forum, and Teddy's inner thoughts.
19. *Wonderstruck*– Brian Selznick (830L AR:5.4/4.0)
Twelve-year old Ben, whose story is told in words, loses both his mother and his hearing and leaves home to seek the father he never knew, while Rose, whose story is told in pictures, is also compelled to search for the something missing in her life.
20. *Artemis Fowl*– Eoin Colfer (600L AR:5.0/9.0)
Twelve-year-old Artemis Fowl is a brilliant criminal mastermind, but even he does not know what he has taken on when he kidnaps fairy Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These fairies are armed and they are dangerous. Book #1

Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books is a reading promotion program in Elementary and Middle Schools where students compete in a tournament style competition by answering questions about books on a designated book list. For Elementary, students read a total of 12 books in preparation for the Battle of the Books competition. Participation in Battle of the Books is voluntary. For more details, please reach out to Ms. Jeanene Jones, SCAPA Librarian, jeanene.jones@fayette.kyschools.us OR 859-381-3332 Ext. 41623.

24-25 Battle of the Books Elementary List

(*KBA-Kentucky Book Award Nominee)

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Published</u>	<u>AR Info. Book Level/ Points</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1.	Dogtown (*KBA Nominee)	Katherine Applegate	2023	4.3/5.0	352
2.	The Lost Library (*KBA Nominee)	Rebecca Stead	2023	4.3/5.0	215
3.	Heroes: A Novel of Pearl Harbor	Alan Gratz	2024	5.0/6.0	272
4.	Wildoak	C.C. Harrington	2022	4.8/8.0	336
5.	Swim Team (Graphic Novel)	Johnnie Christmas	2022	2.6/1.0	248
6.	Good Dogs Have A Bad Day	Rachel Wenitsky, David Sidorov Illustrator- Tor Freeman	2021	4.5/5.0	208
7.	Maizy Chen's Last Chance	Lisa Yee	2022	4.6/6.0	277

8.	Golden Ticket (*KBA Nominee)	Kate Egan	2022	5.3/6.0	240
9.	Growing Pangs (Graphic Novel) (*KBA Nominee)	Kathryn Ormsbee & Molly Brooks	2022	3.0/1.0	256
10.	Penny Draws A Best Friend (*KBA Nominee)	Sara Shepard	2023	4.1/4.0	277
11.	Trex (*KBA Nominee)	Christyn Morrell	2022	4.6/8.0	304
12.	The Superteacher Project (*KBA Nominee)	Gordon Korman	2023	5.2/9.0	304