



Themes Book List by Grade Level
(For students in rising 1st-4th grade)

In addition to reading our required Lower School summer selection, *My Mouth is a Volcano* by **Julia Cook**, we ask students in rising 1st-4th grade to read at least one book from our Four Pillars and Maker Innovation Book list and at least one book from their grade-level theme list.

Rising 1st Grade Level Theme: The Community of the School

Westlandia - Paul Fleischman
We Don't Eat Our Classmates - Ryan T. Higgins
Our Class is a Family - Shannon Olsen
Stick and Stone - Beth Ferry
Sammi the Seagull: A Day at Jersey Shore - Eric Breiner

Rising 2nd Grade Level Theme: Monmouth County History, the Lenape and Landmarks of NJ

G is for Garden State - Eileen Cameron
Fry Bread - Kevin Noble Maillard
Rainbow Crow - Nancy Van Laan
...Or one from any of these NJ Authors: Margery Cuyler, Theanne Griffith, Daniel Kirk

Rising 3rd Grade Level Theme: Immigration, Migration, and Westward Expansion

Grandfather's Journey - Allen Say
Mango Abuela and Me - Meg Medina
The Name Jar - Yangsook Choi
Carmela Full of Wishes - Matt de la Pena
Dreamers - Yuyi Morales
My Name is Maria Isabel - Alma Flor Ada
Planet Omar - Zanib Mian
Hand Me Down Magic: Stoop Sake Treasure - Haydu Uribe

Rising 4th Grade Level Theme: Independence, Leadership, and the Forming of the U.S.

Shh! We're Writing the Constitution - Jean Fritz
We The Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution - David Catrow
What Can a Citizen Do? - Dave Eggers
D for Democracy - Elissa Grodin
I Survived the American Revolution - Lauren Tarshis
Ranger in Time: Night of Soldiers and Spies - Kate Messner