



IFS 5ème Summer Reading List (ENGLISH)

Read at least one fiction and one non-fiction book from this list (or other **English** books) to prepare for 5ème next year. Do not feel obligated to choose your book from this list! This is just to help if you are looking for some additional books! Check out the current 5ème's recommendations!

To check the Lexile level of a book not on this list, try: <https://hub.lexile.com/find-a-book/search>

FICTION BOOKS

- ***Kensuke's Kingdom*** by Michael Morpurgo [730L]
When Michael's father loses his job, he buys a boat and convinces Michael and his mother to sail around the world. It's an ideal trip - even Michael's sheepdog can come along. It starts out as the perfect family adventure - until Michael is swept overboard. He's washed up on an island, where he struggles to survive. Then he discovers that he's not alone. His fellow-castaway, Kensuke, is wary of him. But when Michael's life is threatened, Kensuke slowly lets the boy into his world. The two develop a close understanding in this remote place, but the question of rescue continues to divide.
- ***The Last Kids on Earth and the Zombie Parade (Series)*** by Max Brallier [570L]
The zombies are disappearing. This might seem like a good thing, since zombies eat your brains, but normal human kid Jack Sullivan is suspicious. He keeps hearing an eerie shrieking noise that seems to be almost *summoning* the zombies—but to where, and for what (probably) foul purpose? Jack, his three best friends (maybe the only people left on Earth), and their pet monster Rover need to get to the bottom of this. Along the way, they encounter a lot more than they bargained for, including a giant Wormungulous, a pizza parlour monster hangout, an ancient evil who destroys worlds, and a stereo system that is totally the bomb. Can Jack figure out why the zombies are vanishing...before he and his friends are next?
- ***The Quest for Paradise: The Return to the Kingdom of Fantasy (Series)*** by Geronimo Stilton [540L]
Holey cheese! Join Geronimo as he returns to the Kingdom of Fantasy in this sequel to the very first Geronimo Stilton hardcover adventure! In this adventure, the Queen of the Fairies invites Geronimo back to her fantastical world to help in the quest for the true heart of happiness. This time Geronimo rides on the wings of a rainbow-colored dragon as he makes his way through seven fantastic lands. From the land of sweets to the land of fairy tales, it's an incredible journey he'll never forget!
- ***Hunger Games (Trilogy Series)*** by Suzanne Collins [810L to 830L]
In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But Katniss has been close to death before—and survival, for her, is second nature. Still, if she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity and life against love.
- ***Twilight (Series)*** by Stephenie Meyer [670L to 720L]
Isabella Swan's move to Forks, a small, perpetually rainy town in Washington, could have been the most boring move she ever made. But once she meets the mysterious and alluring Edward Cullen, Isabella's life takes a thrilling and terrifying turn. Up until now, Edward has managed to keep his vampire identity a secret in the small community he lives in, but now nobody is safe, especially Isabella, the person Edward holds most dear. The lovers find themselves balanced precariously on the point of a knife, between desire and danger. Deeply sensuous and extraordinarily suspenseful, *Twilight* captures the struggle between defying our instincts and satisfying our desires. This is a love story with bite.

- ***First Class Murder (Book 3, Series)*** by Robin Stevens [740L]
 Hazel Wong and Daisy Wells are taking a vacation across Europe on world-famous passenger train, the Orient Express—and it's clear that each of their fellow first-class travellers has something to hide. Even more intriguing: There's rumour of a spy in their midst. Then, during dinner, a bloodcurdling scream comes from inside one of the cabins. When the door is broken down, a passenger is found murdered—her stunning ruby necklace gone. But the killer has vanished, as if into thin air. The Wells & Wong Detective Society is ready to crack the case—but this time, they've got competition.
- ***Death on the Nile: A Hercule Poirot Mystery: The Official Authorized Edition (Book 17, Hercule Poirot Mystery Series)*** by Agatha Christie [740L]
 The tranquillity of a luxury cruise along the Nile was shattered by the discovery that Linnet Ridgeway had been shot through the head. She was young, stylish, and beautiful. A girl who had everything...until she lost her life. Hercule Poirot recalled an earlier outburst by a fellow passenger: "I'd like to put my dear little pistol against her head and just press the trigger." Yet under the searing heat of the Egyptian sun, nothing is ever quite what it seems. A sweeping mystery of love, jealousy, and betrayal, *Death on the Nile* is one of Christie's most legendary and timeless works.
- ***Breathe (Book 2, Trilogy Series)*** by Penni Russon [710L]
 Six months have passed since Undine discovered the powerful magic within her and very nearly threw the entire world into chaos. Life has gone back to normal—almost. The magic still swirls relentlessly below her surface, demanding that she break her promise not to use it. And then there's Trout. Trout, with his messy, unrequited love for Undine. Trout, who can't sleep and who roams the streets at night instead. Trout, so desperate to learn about Undine's magic that he's willing to trust a mysterious young woman who knows an awful lot about him, about Undine, and about chaos theory. As their lives continue to both unravel and coalesce, Undine and Trout feel drawn back to the Bay, where it all began. Is Undine stronger than the magic she contains? Is she more girl than magic, or more magic than girl?
- ***Black Boy*** by Richard Wright [950L]
 Wright's once controversial, now celebrated autobiography measures the raw brutality of the Jim Crow South against the sheer desperate will it took to survive as a black boy. Enduring poverty, hunger, fear, abuse, and hatred while growing up in the woods of Mississippi, Wright lied, stole, and raged at those around him—whites indifferent, pitying, or cruel and blacks resentful of anyone trying to rise above their circumstances. Desperate for a different way of life, he may his way north, eventually arriving in Chicago, where he forged a new path and began his career as a writer. At the end of *Black Boy*, Wright sits poised with pencil in hand, determined to "hurl words into this darkness and wait for an echo." More than seventy-five years later, his words continue to reverberate. "To read *Black Boy* is to stare into the heart of darkness," John Edgar Wideman writes in his foreword. "Not the dark heart Conrad searched for in Congo jungles but the beating heart I bear."
- ***Hades' Pet Hellhound (Book 9, Hopeless Heroes Series)*** [530L]
 What the Hades? Tim's used to solo time-travel but now there's a 'friend' along for the ride. I'll get you for this, Cinderella! When things go south after some bird spotting, Tim has to avoid being burnt alive, eaten alive or dead alive. But the Underworld is full of dangers, and the local music isn't exactly lifting his spirits.
- ***Ares*** by Jayson Adams [820L]
 Commander Kate Holman is on the verge of her life's dream as the leader of the first manned mission to Mars. Minutes before setting foot on the red planet, her world comes crashing down when she's abruptly relieved of command. Replaced by the mission's security officer, she learns that a secret military objective is the true reason for their journey.
- ***Might of the Minotaur (Graphic Novel)*** by David Campiti [GN690L]
 Poseidon helps Minos become King of Crete and Minos agrees to sacrifice a white bull in his honour. When Minos reneges on the deal, Poseidon teams up with Eros to deceive Minos's wife Pasiphae, who then gives birth to a Minotaur. Minos imprisons the beast in a labyrinth. Will the Minotaur ever escape?
- ***The BFG*** by Roald Dahl [720L]
 The BFG is no ordinary bone-crunching giant. He is far too nice and jumbly. It's lucky for Sophie that he is. Had she been carried off in the middle of the night by the Bloodbottler, or any of the other giants—rather than the BFG—she would have soon become breakfast. When Sophie hears that the giants are flush bunking off to England to swollomp a few nice little chiddlers, she decides she must stop them once and for all. And the BFG is going to help her!

- ***Stargirl*** by Jerry Spinelli [590L]
Stargirl. From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of colour and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of “Stargirl, Stargirl.” She captures Leo Borlock’s heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal. In this celebration of nonconformity, Newbery Medallist, Jerry Spinelli, weaves a tense, emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill and inspiration of first love.
- ***The Giver*** by Lois Lowry [760L]
Life in the community where Jonas lives is idyllic. Designated birthmothers produce new children, who are assigned to appropriate family units. Citizens are assigned their partners and their jobs. No one thinks to ask questions. Everyone obeys. Everyone is the same. Except Jonas. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. Gradually Jonas learns that power lies in feelings. But when his own power is put to the test—when he must try to save someone he loves—he may not be ready. Is it too soon? Or too late?
- ***Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life (Book 1, Series)*** by James Patterson [680L]
Rafe Khatchadorian has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix. Luckily, he's got a fool proof plan for the best year ever, if only he can pull it off: break every rule in his school's oppressive Code of Conduct. Chewing gum in class--5,000 points! Running in the hallway--10,000 points! But when Rafe's game starts to catch up with him, he'll have to decide if winning is all that matters, or if he's finally ready to face the rules, bullies, and truths he's been avoiding.

NON-FICTION BOOKS

- ***Pirate's Life*** by Kenny Abdo [830L]
It takes a deep look into their origin, the food they ate, and the lifestyles they led. This hi-lo title is complete with thrilling and colourful photographs, simple text, glossary, and an index.
- ***The Mysteries of the Bermuda Triangle*** by Jeff Belanger [840L]
What will you find in the Bermuda Triangle? Join supernatural expert Jeff Belanger as he explores the mysterious Bermuda Triangle! What exactly makes it so mysterious? And just how many ships have disappeared there over the years? The answers to these questions and more lay inside!
- ***One Night Only: Conversations with the NHL's One-Game Wonders*** by Ken Reid [870L]
Get to know the men who fulfilled their childhood dream From the beer league to the minor league, hockey players from coast to coast often say they'd give anything to play just one game in the NHL. One Night Only brings you the stories of 39 men who lived the dream – only to see it fade away almost as quickly as it arrived. Ken Reid talks to players who had one game, and one game only, in the National Hockey League – including the most famous single-gamer of them all: the coach himself, Don Cherry.
- ***Animals (DKfindout!)*** by Andrea Mills [940L]
Animals teaches kids everything they would want to know about the animal kingdom. With beautiful photography, lively illustrations, and key curriculum information, the DKfindout! series will satisfy any child who is eager to learn and acquire facts - and keep them coming back for more.
- ***Anne Frank: Graphic Novel Adaptation*** by Anne Frank [800L]
For both young readers and adults The Diary continues to capture the remarkable spirit of Anne Frank, who for a time survived the worst horror the modern world has seen—and who remained triumphantly and heartbreakingly human throughout her ordeal. Includes extensive quotations directly from the definitive edition; adapted by Ari Folman, illustrated by David Polonsky, and authorized by the Anne Frank Foundation in Basel.

- ***National Geographic Kids Beginner's World Atlas, 4th Edition*** by NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS [830L]
In this new edition, the map experts at National Geographic have worked with a geography educator to provide: large, colourful maps specifically created for readers 7 to 10 years old; updated facts and statistics about the world's land, people, and animals; bright, bold photographs; information on what a map is and how to read a map key; a useful glossary, metric conversion chart, and index; the most up-to-date, relevant information about the world at an age-appropriate level. The perfect reference for kids to learn about lands close to home or oceans away—ideal for classroom use, homework help, and armchair exploration!
- ***Extreme Sports (Fact to Fiction)*** by David Orme [450L]
Get the facts about extreme sports before reading a story about having to participate in extreme sports...to survive.
- ***The NBA: A History of Hoops—Golden State Warriors*** by Jim Whiting [830L]
This high-interest title summarizes the history of the Golden State Warriors professional basketball team, highlighting memorable events and noteworthy players such as Stephen Curry.
- ***Sports*** by Pierre-Marie Valat [AD630L]
Colourful artwork, overlays, and a concise but informative text introduce young sports fans to a variety of sports from around the world, from American football to cricket to basketball.
- ***Cristiano Ronaldo*** by Mari Schuh [520L]
Cristiano Ronaldo is a standout professional soccer forward. Learn about his childhood and his rise to becoming a soccer superstar.
- ***Team Sports at the Paralympics*** by Matt Bowers [570L]
The Paralympics are here and there's so much to see! From fast paced team sports to intense individual races, the world's best athletes with disabilities come together to compete in Olympic-style games. High-impact photography will keep readers engaged while learning about athletes who compete for a gold medal. A photo-illustrated book for elementary readers about Paralympic football, sitting volleyball, and goalball events. Includes descriptions of each of these men's and women's team sports. Readers will be introduced to some rules and how they may differ from their Olympic counterpart. Includes Q&A features, table of contents, photo captions, glossary, further resources, and index.
- ***Diego Rivera: His World & Ours*** by Duncan Tonatiuh [AD 1040L]
This charming book introduces one of the most popular artists of the twentieth century, Diego Rivera, to young readers. It tells the story of Diego as a young, mischievous boy who demonstrated a clear passion for art and then went on to become one of the most famous painters in the world. Duncan Tonatiuh also prompts readers to think about what Diego would paint today. Just as Diego's murals depicted great historical events in Mexican culture or celebrated native peoples, if Diego were painting today, what would his artwork depict? How would his paintings reflect today's culture?
- ***Trombone Shorty*** by Troy Andrews [760L]
Hailing from the Tremé neighbourhood in New Orleans, Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews got his nickname by wielding a trombone twice as long as he was high. A prodigy, he was leading his own band by age six, and today this Grammy-nominated artist headlines the legendary New Orleans Jazz Fest.
Along with esteemed illustrator Bryan Collier, Andrews has created a lively picture book autobiography about how he followed his dream of becoming a musician, despite the odds, until he reached international stardom. Trombone Shorty is a celebration of the rich cultural history of New Orleans and the power of music.
- ***Meet My Neighbour the Hip Hop Dancer*** by Marc Crabtree [790L]
Neighbours are all kinds of people and do all kinds of things. Meet one who is a hip-hop dancer.

CURRENT 5ÈME STUDENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS

- ***Charlotte's Web*** by E. B. White [680L]
Some Pig. Humble. Radiant. These are the words in Charlotte's Web, high up in Zuckerman's barn. Charlotte's spiderweb tells of her feelings for a little pig named Wilbur, who simply wants a friend. They also express the love of a girl named Fern, who saved Wilbur's life when he was born the runt of his litter. E. B. White's Newbery Honour Book is a tender novel of friendship, love, life, and death that will continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.
- ***Maybe He Just Likes You*** by Barbara Dee [630L]
Barbara Dee explores the subject of #MeToo for the middle grade audience in this heart-wrenching—and ultimately uplifting—novel about experiencing harassment and unwanted attention from classmates. For seventh-grader Mila, it starts with some boys giving her an unwanted hug on the school blacktop. A few days later, at recess, one of the boys (and fellow trumpet player) Callum tells Mila it's his birthday, and asks her for a "birthday hug." He's just being friendly, isn't he? And how can she say no? But Callum's hug lasts a few seconds too long, and feels...weird. According to her friend, Zara, Mila is being immature and overreacting. Doesn't she know what flirting looks like? But the boys don't leave Mila alone. On the bus. In the halls. During band practice—the one place Mila could always escape. It doesn't feel like flirting—so what is it? Thanks to a chance meeting, Mila begins to find solace in a new place: karate class. Slowly, with the help of a fellow classmate, Mila learns how to stand her ground and how to respect others—and herself.
- ***Brilliant World of Tom Gates*** by Liz Pichon [650L]
Meet Tom Gates. When his teachers don't have their beady eyes on him, he likes to draw pictures and write about stuff. Tom's teachers think he is easily distracted and "lacks focus," but that's a bit harsh—can he help it if his grumpy big sister, Delia, made him late for school (again), or that last night's homework had to be sacrificed to stave off a vicious dog attack? Master of excuses, creative storyteller, and middle-school comedian extraordinaire, Tom Gates is guaranteed to get kids turning the pages—and keep them laughing.
- ***Dear Killer*** by Katherine Ewell [720L]
Full of "can't look away" moments, *Dear Killer* is a psychological thriller perfect for fans of gritty realistic fiction such as Dan Wells' *I Am Not a Serial Killer* and Jay Asher's *Thirteen Reasons Why*, as well as television's *Dexter*. *Rule One—Nothing is right, nothing is wrong.* Kit looks like your average seventeen-year-old high school student, but she has a secret—she's London's notorious "Perfect Killer." She chooses who to murder based on letters left in a secret mailbox, and she's good—no, *perfect*—at what she does. Her moral nihilism—the fact that she doesn't believe in right and wrong—makes being a serial killer a whole lot easier...until she breaks her own rules by befriending someone she's supposed to murder, as well as the detective in charge of the Perfect Killer case.
- ***Smile, Sisters, and Guts (Trilogy Coll./Comic Book)*** by Raina Telgemeier [Lexile N/A]
Smile: The true story of how Raina severely injured her two front teeth when she was in the Sixth Grade, and the dental drama that followed! ***Sisters:*** Raina can't wait to be a big sister. Amara is cute, but she's also cranky and mostly prefers to play by herself. Their relationship doesn't improve much over the years... can they figure out how to get along? ***Guts:*** Raina has tummy trouble, and it seems to coincide with her worries about food, school, family, and changing friendships. A thoughtful, charming, and funny true story about growing up and gathering the courage to face -- and eventually conquer -- fear.
- ***Keepers of the Lost Cities (5 Book Series)*** [670L & up]
A telepathic girl is the key to an unknown world and it's up to her to save it in the thrilling Keeper of the Lost Cities series. The first five books are now available as a collectible paperback boxed set! Sophie Foster has never quite fit into her life. The reason? Sophie's a Telepath, someone who can read minds. No one knows her secret—at least, that's what she thinks...It turns out the reason Sophie has never felt at home is that, well...she isn't. And as she sets out for a new life that is vastly different from what she has ever known, telepathy is just the first of many shocking secrets that will be revealed.

- Witches: The Graphic Novel** by Roald Dahl [GN220L]
Witches are real, and they are very, very dangerous. They wear ordinary clothes and have ordinary jobs, living in ordinary towns all across the world -- and there's nothing they despise more than children. When an eight-year-old boy and his grandmother come face-to-face with the Grand High Witch herself, they may be the only ones who can stop the witches' latest plot to stamp out every last child in the country! This full-colour graphic novel edition of Roald Dahl's *The Witches*, adapted and illustrated by Eisner Award winner Pénélope Bagieu, is the first-ever Dahl story to appear in this format.
- Cherub (12 Book Series)** by Robert Muchamore [660L & up]
CHERUB agents are highly trained, extremely talented—and all under the age of seventeen. For official purposes, these agents do not exist. It is a tough job, but these agents have one crucial advantage: adults never suspect that teens are spying on them. Follow James through his training and his action-packed missions as he learns what it means to be a true CHERUB agent.
- Anisha, Accidental Detective (5 Book Series)** by Serena Patel [760L]
HELP! My super-dramatic Auntie Bindi is getting married tomorrow and she's having a mega meltdown. But sssh! I've just found a ransom note, pushed through the letter box, saying Uncle Tony, Bindi's husband-to-be, has been kidnapped, and will only be freed if the wedding is cancelled!
- Life, Death, and Gold Leather Trousers** by Fiona Foden [720L]
Clover's life is going from bad to worse. Her dad's run off with Nudie Bernice from his life drawing class; Mum's taken to either staying in bed or doing aerobics from dawn till dusk; the gorgeous new boy at school is sending very mixed messages... On top of all that, there's the whole thing with Jupe, Clover's beloved, international rock star uncle who has died. Why had he and Mum had such a falling out? And why wasn't Clover brave enough to send him the letters she'd written over the years?
- Marie Curie** by Fernando Gordon [490L]
Scientists can change the world! Marie Curie discovered two new elements. This title introduces budding scientists and engineers to Marie Curie whose discoveries changed the course of science. Photos and illustrations bring the stories of this great mind to life, and a quiz lets readers test their newfound knowledge.
- Then (2 Book Series)** by Morris Gleitzman [580L]
Felix and Zelda have escaped the death camp train, but where do they go now? They're two runaway kids in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War II and the Holocaust. Danger lies at every turn of the road. With the help of a woman named Genia and their active imaginations, Felix and Zelda find a new home and begin to heal, forming a new family together. But can it last? Morris Gleitzman's winning characters will tug at readers' hearts as they struggle to survive in the harsh political climate of Poland in 1942. Their lives are difficult, but they always remember what matters: family, love, and hope.
- Hunter (Book 4 of 7 Book Series)** by Michael Carrol [HL660L]
The defeat of the near-invincible villain Krodin has left a void in the superhuman hierarchy, a void that two opposing factors are trying to fill. The powerful telepath Max Dalton believes that the human race must be controlled and shepherded to a safe future, while his rival Casey Duval believes that strength can only be achieved through conflict. Caught in the middle is Lance McKendrick, a teenager with no special powers, only his wits and the tricks of a con artist. But Lance has a mission of his own: Krodin's ally, the violent and unpredictable supervillain Slaughter, murdered Lance's family, and he intends to make her pay.
- Fashion Academy** by Sheryl Berk [670L]
Fashion-forward MacKenzie "Mickey" Williams is thrilled to be accepted to FAB Middle School (Fashion Academy of Brooklyn), a school that serves as a training ground for the fashion designers of tomorrow. (Their motto, "We are SEW FAB"). But when her daring fashion and stellar grades turn the Fab A-listers green with envy, Mickey discovers that standing out doesn't always make it easy to fit in. So when friendly classmate JC comes up with a plan to help Mickey fit in, she decides to take the ultimate fashion risk—ditch her personal style for good. One mega makeover later, pink-haired Mickey Williams mysteriously disappears, and the trendy, blonde "Kenzie Wills" shows up on the FAB scene, blending with the other students in a way Mickey never could. But when Mickey starts to lose herself to "Kenzie," she's not sure that fitting in is worth cutting herself down to size...