

SUMMER READING

As **Kindergarten** comes to a close, we want to stress the importance of summer reading. Charlotte Mason reminds us that, “It is in the lap of the parent that a child first explores the universe of the printed page. Children of all ages must be immersed in the world of literature.” -*When Children Love to Learn*

Today, parents and children have a multitude of enticements competing for their attention. Consider what you wish to instill in your child this summer. All too often, children plead for access to the digital market with its adrenal boosting sights and sounds. The challenge is guiding children to recognize the life-giving beauty of a story. In order to cultivate virtuous character, build background knowledge, and nurture a love of reading, we must spend time in quality literature. Reading to and with your child, and listening to them read a book to you, creates the perfect pathway to enter the world of living books and relish all of the mysteries, surprises, and wonders they contain.

Our choices change who we are and how we live. How we spend our time influences our character. Open the books, read beyond just this list, and let us give to our children one of the best gifts they could receive—time spent with you, cultivating a life-long love of reading. Review the suggested choices and discuss with your child which books might be the best book choices and then enjoy the reading journey by asking lots of questions about the ideas each book presents.

Rising 1st Graders: Summer Reading Suggestions

Please have your child read widely and often both with you and independently for a minimum of 20 minutes a day. The list below is meant to provide you with some ideas for both fiction and non-fiction book selections for your incoming first grader to read over the summer, but it is only the beginning of what you could explore together. Rhyming books are particularly helpful and delightful to read together.

Cat in the Hat Beginning Readers , by Dr. Seuss and others, such as: • The Cat in the Hat • Green Eggs and Ham • Hop on Pop • One Fish, Two Fish	Books by Beatrix Potter , such as: • The Tale of Benjamin Bunny • The Tale of Tom Kitten • Jemima Puddle-Duck	Books by A.A. Milne , such as: • Winnie the Pooh • Now We Are Six (poetry) • When We Were Very Young (poetry)
Any Mother Goose Fairy Tales or Nursery Rhymes Aesop's Fables Tall Tales	Picture books related to: The five senses, sun, moon and stars, simple machines, light and sound, plants, and animals	Picture books related to: basic maps, early explorers, American West, 13 colonies, Maya, Inca, Aztecs, Ancient Egypt

**The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**
Dr. Seuss

