

YOUR SUMMER, YOUR STORY.

READ. RELAX. REPEAT.



**2026-27 Lower
School Summer
Reading Booklet**
Both Lower School Bolles
Campuses encourage active
reading of all types over
the summer. Enclosed is a
selection of resources to keep
your child's reading energy
going all summer long.

SUMMER READING

2026-27

RECOMMENDED READING FOR GRADES PK-2

Rising Pre-Kindergarten through Rising Grade 2 students:

- We encourage daily or nearly daily reading, whether it's independent reading, shared reading or parent/caregiver reading aloud.
- Visit your local public library for excellent summer reading incentive programs.
- The Sunshine State jr. list is on page 3 for reading inspiration for our younger readers.
- Find Bingo Boards at the end of this book to play along with your reading!

RECOMMENDED READING FOR GRADES 3-5

Rising Grade 3 through rising Grade 5 students:

- We encourage daily or nearly daily reading, whether it's independent reading, shared reading or parent/caregiver reading aloud.
- Visit your local public library for excellent summer reading incentive programs.
- Find Bingo Boards at the end of this book to play along with your reading!
- For older children, both independent reading and “brain break” reading is encouraged – no book is “too easy.”
- Grades 3-5 see Sunshine State Readers book list on page 5 for inspiration.
- Grades 3-5 have the option to complete the SSYRA Reader's Challenge, see page 4 for guidelines.

REQUIRED READING FOR RISING GRADE 5

Rising Grade 5 students:

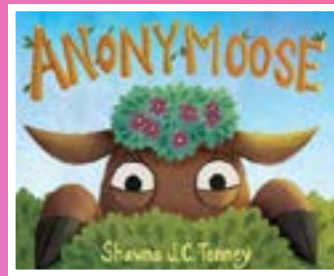
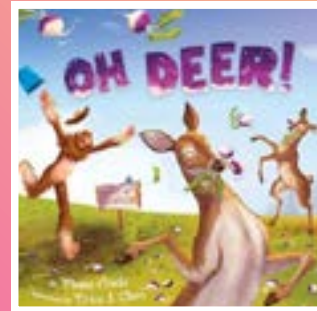
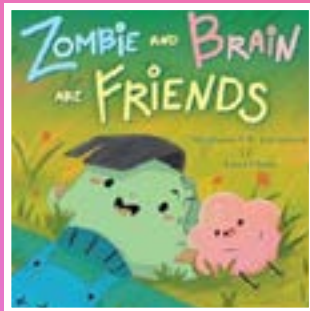
1. Choose one (1) book from the Grades 3-5 Sunshine State List on page 5.
2. Choose one (1) book from the Historical Fiction List on page 7.

Happy Reading this Summer!

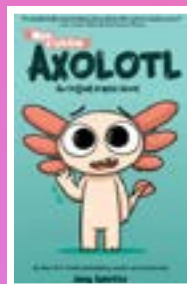
*With literary love from your school librarians,
Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Karvounis*



SSYRA Jr. 2026-2027



Early Reader Chapter Books



SUNSHINE STATE YOUNG READERS AWARD BOOKS



Each year, the Florida Association for Media in Education publishes a list of books selected by teachers and librarians highlighted as great literature for all children.

Sunshine State Young Reader Award Program lists are divided into three categories: SSYRA Jr. PK-2, SSYRA Grades 3-5 and SSYRA Grades 6-8. The titles are selected based on wide interest, a variety of narrative formats and availability in paperback.

During the summer and coming school year, our students in grades 3 through 5 are challenged to read books from the 2026-2027 SSYRA Grades 3-5 list and record their progress. In early spring, each campus will honor readers who have completed the challenge.

Please record your reading either with the enclosed form, or use the online link found at: [Ponte Vedra Beach Campus Library Summer Reading Page](#) or the [Copeland Library Summer Reading Page](#) depending on your home campus.

- Grade 3 students are challenged to read 6 or more books from the Gr. 3-5 list.
- Grade 4 students are challenged to read 8 or more books from the Gr. 3-5 list.
- Grade 5 students are challenged to read 10 or more books from the Gr. 3-5 list.

All books are available at Duval and St. Johns County public libraries, as well as from your favorite independent bookseller. Copies will also be available during the school year from the school libraries.

Please reach out with questions to:

Whitehurst Campus Librarian
Jennifer Moore

moorej@bolles.org

or

Ponte Vedra Beach Campus Librarian
Christina Karvounis

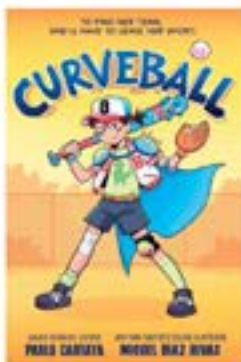
karvounisc@bolles.org



SSYRA

2026-2027

Grades 3-5



How many will you read?

Name: _____

Grade in Fall: _____



SUNSHINE STATE SUMMER READER'S RECORD

SSYRA Challenge is optional. Please see the letter on page 4 for more information.

Students: record your summer SSYRA challenge reading to submit to MS Forms in August once Library Course in Schoology is live.



TITLE _____

Favorite scene and why: _____

Trivia question: _____

_____ Answer: _____



TITLE _____

Favorite scene and why: _____

Trivia question: _____

_____ Answer: _____



TITLE _____

Favorite scene and why: _____

Trivia question: _____

_____ Answer: _____

If more spaces are needed, just copy this page.

SUMMER READING

GRADE 5 HISTORICAL FICTION



Rising Grade 5 students: 2026-27 Rising Grade 5 Historical Fiction List

- *Peacemaker* J. Bruchac (Native American Life)
- *Ancestor Approved* C. Smith (Native American Life)
- *Rebecca Rides for Freedom* E. Berne (Revolutionary War)
- *Freewater* A. Luqman-Dawson (19th Century American History)
- *Lost in Empire City* Avi (19th Century American History)
- *The Birchbark House* L. Erdrich (19th Century American History)
- *Luminous Life of Lucy* A. R. Johnson (19th Century American History)
- *One Big Open Sky* L. Cline-Ransome (Westward Expansion)
- *Hidden Treasures* J. Burton (WWI England)
- *Balto and Togo: Hero Dogs of Alaska* H. Moss (1920s)
- *The Secret of Honeycake* K. Fusco (Great Depression)
- *Hattie Mae Begins Again* S. Flake (1930s USA)
- *The War that Saved My Life* K. Bradley (World War II)
- *Max in the House of Spies* A. Gidwitz (World War II)
- *Heroes* A. Gratz (World War II)

YOUR SUMMER FUN ACTIVITIES!

Summer Reading Bingo! Color in each square as you complete the activity. Can you get 5 across, down or diagonal? BINGO!

Go play outside after you read.	Make a blanket fort and read in it.	Draw a picture inspired by the book your reading.	Read outside.	Read in bed.
Ask a grownup to teach you a new word from your reading.	Read a biography.	Read about a sport.	Read a parent-selected news story online.	Read a graphic novel.
Read out loud.	Act out a scene in your book.	FREE SPACE	Read using a flashlight.	Read a poem.
Read a fiction story.	Read a non-fiction story.	Read to a stuffed animal or a family pet.	Eat a snack while you read.	Discuss the book you are reading with your parent or a friend.
Touch your nose while you read.	Draw a character from the book you read.	Write a 3 sentence explanation of the book you read.	Read for 30 minutes.	Read when it's raining outside.

YOUR SUMMER FUN ACTIVITIES!

Create Your Own Bingo Board!

No box may be repeated.

WHERE DID YOU READ TODAY?	DRAW and LABEL A CHARACTER	NONFICTION FAVORITES	I CAN CONNECT THIS BOOK TO (self, another text, or world) BECAUSE...	TITLES of BOOKS
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Date:	Date:	FREE SPACE	Date:	Date:
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date: