

4th Grade Summer Reading List 2026

Rising Fourth Graders

Hello Parents and Students,

Rising fourth graders are asked to read a minimum of three books this summer. The first book is selected for you as your required reading book, *Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer L. Holm. There is also a graphic novel version that students may read. You are also asked to choose two additional books. I have attached a list with suggestions, but students can read any books they would like. Any additional books should be added to the reading log sheet.

Required Book:

***Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer L. Holm**
2011 Newbery Honor Book

Set during the Great Depression, this historical fiction book follows a girl named Turtle who is forced to move from New Jersey to Key West, Florida, to live with relatives she's never met. She discovers secrets, scams, and even buried pirate treasure! Before she knows what's happened, Turtle finds herself coming out of the shell she's spent her life building, and as she does, her world opens up in the most unexpected ways.

After completing the required book, complete the attached worksheet and return it to Mrs. Burt on the first day of school, along with your reading log.

Additional Required Books: Choose two (2) additional books. Of course, students may read as many books as they would like! I have included a list of suggested titles, but students may also read books of their choice. Please keep a book log that includes the title, author, and number of pages for each book you read, and have a parent sign it. I will also collect this on the first day of school.

Book Suggestions

Genre	Title and Author
Realistic Fiction (Humorous)	Chocolate Fever by Robert K. Smith Freckle Juice by Judy Blume Henry Huggins by Beverly Cleary (series) How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell No Talking by Andrew Clements Ramona Quimby by Beverly Cleary (series) Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume (series)
Realistic Fiction	Comeback Kids by Mike Lupica (series) Flush, Hoot, Scat, or Chomp by Carl Hiaasen (companion books) The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart The Vanderbeekers of 141 st Street by Karina Yan Glaser (series)
Action/Adventure	A Week in the Woods by Andrew Clements Far North by Will Hobbs How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell (series) Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein (series) Princess Academy by Shannon Hale** (series) Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket (series) Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick
Mystery	Benjamin Pratt and the Keepers of the School by Andrew Clements (series) Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman (series) The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan (39 Clues series) The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart (series) The Secret Series by Pseudonymous Bosch

	(series) The Sherlock Files by Tracy Barrett (series)
Animal (fantasy or adventure)	The Black Stallion by Walter Farley (series) Kavik the Wolf Dog by Walt Morey Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist by R. L. LaFevers (series) Runaway Ralph by Beverly Cleary Stuart Little by E.B. White The Cricket in Times Square/Chester by George Seldon (series) The Wild Robot by Peter Brown (series)
Fantasy	11 Birthdays and companion books by Wendy Mass (series) All the Answers by Kate Messner The BFG by Roald Dahl Castle in the Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop (series) Fablehaven by Brandon Mull (series) Half Magic by Edward Eager (series) The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer (series) The Magic Keepers by Erica Kirov (series) Upside-Down Magic by Sarah Mlynowski, Myracle, and Jenkins (series) Whatever After by Sarah Mlynowski (series) Tuesdays at the Castle by Jessica George (series)
Historical Fiction	All of a Kind Family by Sydney Taylor (series) American Girl by various authors (series) Dear America by various authors (series) The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder (series) Morning Girl by Michael Dorris Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan (series) The Whipping Boy by Sid Fleischman
Biographies and Autobiographies	A Girl from Yamhill by Beverly Cleary Biographies by various authors (series by Sterling Children's Books) Boy by Roald Dahl Chocolate by Hershey: A Story About Milton S. Hershey by Betty Burford Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman Model T: How Henry Ford Built a Legend by David Weitzman Who Was... by various authors (series by Grosset & Dunlap)

Please return this on the first day of school!

Name _____

Summer Book Log

<u>Book Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Page Count</u>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		

Turtle in Paradise

At the very end of the novel, Turtle says: “I’ve lived long enough to learn the truth: not all kids are rotten, and there are grown-ups who are as sweet as Necco Wafers.” (p. 177). Reread the very first paragraph (p. 3), and then compare and contrast Turtle’s attitude toward adults and children at the beginning of the novel and at the end of the novel.

	Adults	Children
Turtle’s attitude at the beginning of the novel		
Turtle’s attitude at the end of the novel		

In complete sentences, explain one event from the novel that caused Turtle’s feelings about adults and children to change.
