



2020 SUMMER READING

Christians are people of the Book, and this means we are people of books. While there are times of our day and our week when we lift our noses out of books, if only so that we can place our gaze upon and grow our friendship with our neighbor, we are to be a people who are steadily reading, contemplating, writing, and sharing books. Because of this, summer reading at Oak Hill, for both faculty and students, is not a begrudging burden but a gift. More specifically it is a call to mature together as a Christian community. When we read books together, when we narrow down our book lists and choose to read and have our children read from the same list of books, we create an important bond that is at the center Christian community: good ideas, good ideas found in literature no less. For those reasons, and for the reasons given in the quotes below, we are encouraging our Oak Hill families to use this book list and create an enjoyable and fruitful reading list for your children and families this summer.

“The world is full of books; but there are multitudes which are so ill written, they were never worth any man’s reading...” Isaac Watts, *The Improvement of the Mind*

“Life is too short, and time is too precious, to read every new book quite over in order to find that it is not worth the reading.” Isaac Watts, *The Improvement of the Mind*

“Tell me what you read and I will tell you what you are. In any intellectual life, books and the books we have around us do not just indicate where we started or where we have ended, but how we got there and why we did not go somewhere else or by some other path. They ground and provoke our inclination to know. Books and the intellectual life go together, provided we always remember that it is the books that are for the life of the mind and not the other way around.” James V. Schall, *The Life of the Mind*

“It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out.” – Screwtape (C.S. Lewis, *Screwtape Letters*)



PARENTS

Parents are encouraged to choose one book from each section. Get a friend or ask another couple you're close with. Read and discuss together.

Fiction, Essays, and Poetry

- *Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis
- *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens
- *Laurus* by Eugene Vodolazkin
- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *Confessions* by Augustine
- *Tremendous Trifles* by G.K. Chesterton
- *What's Wrong with the World* by G.K. Chesterton
- *Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions* by Arthur G. Bennett

On Parenting and Other

- *Life Under Compulsion: Ten Ways to Destroy the Humanity of Your Child* by Anthony Esolen
- *Notes from the Tilt-A-Whirl* by N.D. Wilson
- *Death by Living* by N.D. Wilson
- *Ten Ways to Destroy the Imagination of Your Child* by Anthony Esolen
- *Art and the Bible* by Francis Schaeffer
- *A Shot of Faith to the Head* by Mitch Stokes
- *The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in our Post-Christian World* by Rosaria Butterfield
- *Father Hunger: Why God Calls Men to Love and Lead Their Families* by Douglas Wilson
- *Future Men: Raising Boys to Fight Giants* by Douglas Wilson
- *A Call to Prayer* by J.C. Ryle
- *Your Mind Matters* by John Stott
- *Defending Boyhood: How Building Forts, Reading Stories, Playing Ball, and Praying to God Can Change the World* by Anthony Esolen



TEACHERS

Teachers are to have the following books read by teacher training in August.

The Seven Laws of Teaching by John Milton Gregory (found [here](#) and [here](#), get the second one if you can).

Humanist Educational Treatises (found [here](#) and [here](#)).

In *Seven Laws of Teaching*, come up with two quotes per chapter which stand out to you as important for you to remember and implement next year.

In *Humanist Educational Treatises*, there are four treatises. Read each. From each treatise, underline two quotes that speak to you professionally and two quotes that speak to you personally. Then underline one quote that you think should characterize Oak Hill. In all, you should have five quotes from each treatise.

Be ready to share those quotes and discuss these texts at August teacher training.



ENTERING 1ST GRADE

Parents, you should read aloud to your children, and if your child is an early reader, have your child read aloud to you. Work through this list from top to bottom with your child and see how far you get!

- *Amelia Bedelia* series by Peggy Parish
- *Paddington Bear* series by Michael Bond
- *Frances* series by Russell Hoban
- *A Visit from St. Nicholas* by C. Moore
- *Wynken, Blynken, and Nod* by Eugene Field
- *Peter Rabbit* series by Beatrix Potter
- *Frog and Toad* series by Arnold Lobel
- *Henry and Mudge* series by Cynthia Rylant
- *A Child's Garden of Verses* by R.L. Stevenson
- *Over the River and Through the Woods* by L. Child
- *Little Bear* series by Else Holmelund Minarik
- *Madeline* series by Ludwig Bemelmans
- *A Book of Nonsense* by E. Lear
- Any Cat in the Hat Beginning Reader book, not written just by Dr. Seuss, such as: *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, *Hop on Pop*, *Put Me in the Zoo*, *One Fish, Two Fish*
- Books by Beatrix Potter, such as: *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny*, *The Tale of Tom Kitten*, *The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck*
- Books and poems by A.A. Milne, such as: *Winnie the Pooh*, *Now We Are Six* (poetry), *When We Were Very Young* (poetry)
- Any Fairy Tales or Aesop's Fables
- Picture books related to: basic maps, human body, matter, electricity.



ENTERING 2ND GRADE

Parents, you should read aloud to your children, and if your child is an early reader, have your child read aloud to you. Work through this list from top to bottom with your child and see how far you get!

- *Betsy* series by Carolyn Haywood
- *Eddie* series by Carolyn Haywood
- *Freddy the Detective* series by Walter R. Brooks
- *Favorite Poems Old and New* by Ferris
- *Paul Bunyan* by Kellogg
- *In Grandma's Attic* series by Arleta Richardson
- *Billy and Blaze* series by C.W. Anderson
- *Brambly Hedge* series by Jill Barklem
- Fairy tales, tall tales, folk tales of your choice (get books illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky)
- Books by Beatrix Potter
- Stories by Hans Christian Andersen
- Any books by Syd Hoff
- Amelia Bedelia books by Peggy Parish
- Frog and Toad books by Arnold Lobel
- Magic School Bus books related to: weather, magnets, tools, human body, butterflies, frogs, chicks, plants, and insects
- The Magic Treehouse series (best read-aloud to children)



ENTERING 3RD GRADE

Parents, you should read aloud to your children, and at this age you should also have your child read aloud to you. Choose five or six books from this list and begin reading. See how far you get!

- *The 5,000-Year-Old Puzzle* by Claudia Logan
- *Adventures in Ancient Greece* by Linda Bailey
- *Ancient Rome* (DK Eyewitness Books) by Simon James
- *Pyramid* by David Macaulay
- *City: A Story of Roman Planning and Construction* by David Macaulay
- *Ancient Egypt* (History Detectives) by Philip Ardagh
- *Classic Myths to Read Aloud* by William F. Russell
- *The Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt* (Landmark Books) by Elizabeth Payne
- *For the Temple: A Story of the Fall of Jerusalem* by G.A. Henty
- *Beric the Briton: A Story of the Roman Invasion* by G.A. Henty
- *The Cat of Bubastes: A Story of Ancient Egypt* by G.A. Henty
- *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DeCamillo
- *World According to Humphrey* by Betty Birney
- *The Long Winter* by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *Henry and Ribsy* by Beverly Cleary
- *Wise Words* by Peter Leithart
- *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde
- *The Lion and the Puppy* by Leo Tolstoy



ENTERING 4TH GRADE

Parents, you should read aloud to your children, and at this age you should also have your child read aloud to you. Choose five or six books from this list and begin reading. See how far you get!

- *The Sword in the Tree* by Clyde Robert Bulla
- *Around the World in a Hundred Years* by Jean Fritz
- *Cathedral* by David Macaulay
- *Castle* by David Macaulay
- *Minstrel in the Tower* by Gloria Skurzynski
- *The Adventures of Robin Hood* by Roger Lancelyn Green
- *One Thousand and One Arabian Nights* by Geraldine McCaughrean
- *Meet Christopher Columbus* (Landmark Books) by James T. de Kay
- *The Dragon and the Raven: Or, the Days of King Alfred* by G.A. Henty
- *Wulf the Saxon: A Story of the Norman Conquest* by G.A. Henty
- *Winning His Spurs: A Tale of the Crusades* by G.A. Henty
- *The Reluctant Dragon* by Kenneth Grahame
- *Guns for General Washington* by Seymour Reit
- *Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?* by Jean Fritz
- *The Wonderful Flight to the Mushroom Planet* by Eleanor Cameron
- *The Horse and His Boy* by C. S. Lewis
- *Wise Words* by Peter Leithart
- *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde
- *St. Francis: The Poor Man of Assisi* by Tomie de Paola
- *The Lion and the Puppy* by Leo Tolstoy



ENTERING 5TH GRADE

Have your child choose three or four books to read this summer. If they finish those before August, have them choose another and read that one!

- *Abe Lincoln* by Sterling North
- *Almost Home* by Wendy Lawton
- *Indian Captive* by Lois Lenski
- *The Kidnapped Prince* by Olaudah Equiano
- *Bud Not Buddy Christopher* by Paul Curtis
- *Prince Caspian* by C. S. Lewis
- *Liberty! How the Revolutionary War Began* (Landmark Books) by Lucille Penner
- *The Landing of the Pilgrims* (Landmark Books) by James Daugherty
- *Meet Thomas Jefferson* (Landmark Books) by Marvin Barrett
- *Snow Treasure* by Marie McSwigan
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- *Meet George Washington* (Landmark Books) by Joan Heilbroner
- *Sarah Bishop* by Scott O'Dell
- *Abigail Adams* (Sower Series) by Evelyn Witter
- *Francis Scott Key* (Sower Series) by David Collins
- *Mr. Lincoln's Drummer* by G. Clifton Wisler
- *100 Cupboards* by N.D. Wilson
- *The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl



ENTERING 6TH GRADE

Have your child choose three or four books to read this summer. If they finish those before August, have them choose another and read that one!

- *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom
- *Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman
- *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord
- *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson
- *If I Perish* by Esther Kim
- *Queen Victoria: Scenes from Her Life and Reign* by G.A. Henty
- *The Spy Who Came in from the Sea* by Peggy Nolan
- *Teresa of Calcutta: Serving the Poorest of the Poor* (Sower Series) by D. Jeanene Watson
- *Florence Nightingale* (Sower Series) by David Collins
- *Thunder at Gettysburg* by Patricia Lee Gauch
- *With Lee in Virginia: A Story of the American Civil War* by G.A. Henty
- *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt
- *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry
- *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor
- *Mossflower* by Brian Jacques (or other in series)
- *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell
- *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maude Montgomery
- *City of Ember* by Jeanne Duprau



ENTERING 7TH GRADE

Have your child choose three or four books to read this summer. If they finish those before August, have them choose another and read that one!

Encouraged Reading:

- *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton (Parts I-VI)
- *The Golden Goblet* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
- *A Little History of the World* by E.H. Gombrich

History

- *The Expedition Of Cyrus* by Xenophon
- *The Children's Homer* by Colum
- *The Greeks* by H.D.F. Kitto
- *National Geographic, The Greeks: An Illustrated History* by Dianne Harris Cline
- *The Book of the Ancient Greeks* by Dorothy Mills
- *The History of the Ancient World: From the Earliest Accounts to the Fall of Rome* by Susan Wise Bauer

Historical Fiction

- *Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of 'The Iliad'* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Wanderings of Odysseus: The Story of the Odyssey* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *Mara, Daughter of the Nile* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
- *The Pharaohs of Ancient Egypt* by Elizabeth Payne
- *Tales of Ancient Egypt* by Roger Lancelyn Green
- *Tales of the Greek Heroes* by Roger Lancelyn Green
- *The Tale of Troy* by Roger Lancelyn Green
- *God King: A Story in the Days of King Hezekiah* by Joanne Williamson
- *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* by Mark Twain

Fiction

- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis
- *Father Brown: The Essential Tales* by G. K. Chesterton
- *A Kingdom Far and Clear: The Complete Swan Lake Trilogy* by Mark Helprin
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry



ENTERING 8TH GRADE

Have your child choose three or four books to read this summer. If they finish those before August, have them choose another and read that one!

Encouraged Reading

- *How the West Won* by Rodney Stark (Intro-Part I)
- *The Eagle Of The Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *A Little History of the World* by E.H. Gombrich

History

- *Famous Men of Rome* by John H. Haaren and A. B. Poland
- *Old Louisiana* by Lyle Saxon
- *Gumbo Ya-Ya: A Collection of Louisiana Folk Tales* by Edward Dreyer
- *Fabulous New Orleans* by Lyle Saxon
- *Mardi Gras...As It Was* by Robert Tallant
- *Evangeline and The Acadians* by Robert Tallant
- *All The King's Men* by Robert Penn Warren

Historical Fiction

- *Beric the Briton: A Story of the Roman Invasion* by G.A. Henty
- *For the Temple: A Tale of the Fall of Jerusalem* by G.A. Henty
- *The Young Carthaginian: A Story of The Times of Hannibal* G.A. Henty
- *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *The Eagle Of The Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Silver Branch* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Lantern Bearers* by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Last Days of Pompeii* by Edward George Bulwer-Lytton
- *A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion* by Gary M. Burge
- *Pontius Pilate: A Novel* by Paul L. Maier
- *A Week in the Fall of Jerusalem* by Ben Witherington III
- *The Lost Letters of Pergamum: A Story from the New Testament World* by Bruce W. Longenecker



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

And if you are looking for more than what is on this list, [here](#) is another resource:

Grammar School

- Anything by Roald Dahl
- *Beauty: A Retelling of Beauty and the Beast* by Robin McKinley
- *The Book of Virtues: A Treasury of Great Moral Stories* edited by William Bennett
- *Dawn* by Molly Bang
- *Dear Mili* by Wilhelm Grimm
- *The Emperor's New Clothes* by Hans Christian Anderson
- *Fables* by Aesop
- *The Hare and the Tortoise* by Caroline Castle
- *It Could Always Be Worse* by Margot Zemach
- *The King and the Golden River* by John Ruskin
- *The Little Match Girl* by Hans Christian Anderson
- *The North Wind and the Sun* by Jean de La Fontaine
- *The Pied Piper of Hamelin retold* by Sara and Stephen Corrin
- *The Sleeping Beauty* by Mercer Mayer
- *The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Anderson
- *Barry, The Bravest Saint Bernard* by Lynn Hall
- *Thomas Alva Edison: Great Inventor* by David A. Adler
- *St. Francis: The Poor Man of Assisi* by Tomie de Paola
- *The Boy Who Loved Music* by David Lasker
- *Hello Amigos!* by Tricia Brown
- *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie* by Peter and Connie Roop
- *The Microscope* by Maxine Kumin
- *The Biggest Story* by Kevin DeYoung

Logic School

Historical Fiction

- *Across the Lines* by Carolyn Reader
- *The Witch at Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls



- *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson
- *Calico Captive* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom
- *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes
- *Davy Crockett: Hero of the Wild Frontier* by Elizabeth R. Moseley
- *If I Perish* by Esther Kim
- *Jump Ship to Freedom* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier
- *The Kidnapped Prince* by Olaudah Equiano
- *Robert E. Lee, Gallant Christian Soldier* by Roddy Lee (Sowers Series)
- *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr
- *The Slave Ship* by Emma Gelders Sterne
- *The Spy Who Came in from Sea* by Peggy Nolan
- *Stonewall* by John J. Dwyer
- *Sarah Bishop* by Scott O'Dell
- *Thunder at Gettysburg* by Patricia Lee Gauch
- *The Wright Brothers Inventors, They Gave Us Wings* by Charles Ludwig (Sowers Series)

Classic Stories

- Any young adult fiction by N.D. Wilson
- Anything by Roald Dahl
- *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery
- *White Fang* by Jack London
- *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Lewis Stevenson
- *Carry on, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham
- *Amos Fortune* by Elizabeth Yates
- *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- *The Black Stallion* by Walter Farley
- *The Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne Reid Banks
- *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie
- *The Story of Doctor Doolittle* by Hugh Lofting
- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain