

# Incoming Fifth Graders Summer Reading

## REQUIRED READING

All fifth graders must read **THREE** books this summer. **TWO** from the required reading list and one book of their choice.

**The Serpent's Secret by Sayantani DasGupta**

*On the morning of her twelfth birthday, Kiranmala's parents disappear and a demon slams into her kitchen. She must enter another dimension to save her parents and the world.*

**The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani**

*In 1947, Nisha, half-Hindu, half-Muslim, must leave Pakistan. She and her family become refugees to find a new home.*

**Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

*Ally hides her inability to read with distracting behavior until a new teacher helps her understand that great minds don't always think alike.*

**Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly**

*Friendships form when three kids come together to rescue a boy and his guinea pig trapped in a well.*

**The Season of Styx Malone by Kekla Magoon**

*Brothers Caleb and Bobby meet new neighbor, Styx Malone. He shows them how to trade small things for bigger things, until the trades get out of control.*

**Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina**

*Merci starts 6<sup>th</sup> grade in a private school and finds out that her life is very different than her classmates.*

## Recommendations: TRY SOMETHING NEW (not required reading)

***Front Desk. Kelly Yang***

*Mia Tang has a lot of secrets. Number 1: She lives in a motel, not a big house. Every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, ten-year-old Mia manages the front desk of the Calivista Motel and tends to its guests. Number 2:...*

***All the Greys on Greene Street. Laura Tucker***

NY City, 1981. Twelve-year-old Olympia is an artist, as are her parents. Olympia roams the streets of New York with her best friends drawing whatever catches her eye. Then, in the middle of the night, Ollie's dad disappears, leaving her a note and instructions to destroy it. And someone keeps calling, looking for a missing piece of art. . . .

**Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales.** Nathan Hale

These graphic novels tell the thrilling, shocking, gruesome, and TRUE stories of American history. Read them all—if you dare!

**The Boy Who Failed Dodgeball.** Jordan Sonnenblick

Funny, outrageous things didn't stop for Jordan Sonnenblick after he left fourth grade. No, in many ways the events detailed to hilarious effect in *The Boy Who Failed Show and Tell* were but a prelude to sixth grade, a time when Jordan would have to deal with...

**Sky Wolf's Call: The Gift of Indigenous Knowledge.** Eldon Yellowhorn and Kathy Lowinger

From healing to astronomy to our connection to the natural world, the lessons from Indigenous knowledge inform our learning and practices today.

**August Isle.** Ali Standish

When Miranda arrives on August Isle where her mother spent her summers, it seems perfect. But she is soon tangled in mysteries. A haunted lighthouse, an old seafarer with something to hide and secrets from her mother's past.

**Manu.** Kelly Fernández (graphic novel)

Manu and her best friend, Josefina, live at a magical school for girls, and Manu is always getting into trouble. The headmistress believes that Manu has the potential to help people with her magic, but Manu would rather have fun than fall in line.

**The Disaster Days.** Rebecca Behrens

Hannah Steele, 13, is babysitting for only the second time, watching her two young neighbors when a powerful earthquake strikes the Pacific Northwest. There's no power, no phones, no internet, and no parents, leaving Hannah entirely on her own.

**Sal and Gabi Break the Univserse.** Carlos Hernandez

What would you do if you had the power to reach through time and space and retrieve anything you want, including your mother, who is no longer living (in this universe, anyway)?

**Guest: A Changeling Tale.** Mary Downing Hale

When her adorable baby brother is replaced by an ugly, mean changeling, Mollie is determined to find the Kinde Folke who took baby Thomas, return the changeling she calls Guest, and get Thomas back.

**Falling Short.** Ernesto Cisneros

Isaac and Marco already know sixth grade is going to change their lives. But it won't change things at home—not without each other's help.

***Lety Out Loud.* Angela Cervantes**

*Lety volunteers at an animal shelter and signs up to be the shelter's scribe, writing biographies for cats and dogs that are up for adoption. It's a tough job—she's an immigrant from Mexico, and is still learning English. A scribe competition may cause Lety to lose her job and the chance to adopt her favorite dog.*

***Maya and the Rising Dark.* Rena Barron**

*Twelve-year-old Maya is daydreaming about summer break when time pauses and color begins to bleed from the world. When creatures from African folklore come to life in the neighborhood and Maya's father goes missing, the community elders reveal the truth: Maya and her friends are godlings, and Maya's father is the Guardian of the Veil between worlds. For Rick Riordan fans.*

***Twinchantment.* Elise Allen**

*When magic and magical beings, such as twins, are outlawed in Kaloon, royal twin sisters Flissa and Sara pretend to be one princess until dark magic puts their mother's life in danger.*

***We're Not from Here.* Geoff Rodkey**

*After a year on Mars, a boy and his family migrate to the planet Choom, but the inhabitants of Choom, the Zhuri, who look like giant mosquitoes, don't really like humans. It's up to the boy and his family to change their minds if they hope to survive.*

***Fashionopolis: The Secrets Behind the Clothes We Wear.* Dana Thomas**

*An investigation into the damage wrought by the colossal clothing industry and the grassroots, high-tech, international movement fighting to reform it*

## COOL AUTHORS

*Brandon Mull*

*Katherine Applegate*

*Kwame Mbalia*

*Frank Cottrell Boyce*

*Gordon Korman*

*Pam Muñoz Ryan*

*Rita Williams-Garcia*

*Sharon Creech*

*Stuart Gibbs*

*Wendy Mass*

*Jacqueline Wilson*