

LOWER SCHOOL

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Entering Preschool or Kindergarten

For our youngest students, we encourage parents to read aloud with their child every day from a variety of books of your choice. Sharing books together is a wonderful way to build important early literacy skills and promote a lifelong love of reading. A list of recommended books from the American Association of Library Services for Children is attached and available online at <https://bit.ly/summerrecommendedbooks> Happy Reading!

Entering 1st Grade

All books may be read independently, or as a read aloud with a parent.

All students should read:

- *Nate the Great*: Book 1 by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
- *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers

Plus, please choose 2 more books from this list:

- *We Are in a Book* by Mo Willems
- *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni
- *Henry and Mudge*: Book 1 by Cynthia Rylant
- *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss

Entering 2nd Grade

Please read all 3 books. They may be read independently, or as a read aloud with a parent.

- *Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!* by Jennifer Dussling
- *Fly Guy Presents: Insects* by Tedd Arnold
- *Magic School Bus Presents: Insects* by Scholastic

Entering 3rd Grade

Please choose 3 books from this list:

- *Stuart Goes to School* by Sara Pennypacker
- *Boxcar Children Mysteries* (any book in the series) by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- *Ivy and Bean* (any book in the series) by Annie Barrows
- *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- *Wayside School* (any book in the series) by Louis Sachar
- *Stuart Little* by E.B. White
- *Sarah Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Juana and Lucas* by Juana Medina

Entering 4th Grade

Please choose 2 books from this list, plus any other book of your choice, for a total of 3 books.

- *The Penderwicks* by Jeanne Birdsall
- *Funny Frank* by Dick King-Smith
- *Room One* by Andrew Clements
- *Harriet the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh
- *Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
- *Ida B* by Katherine Hannigan
- *Summer of the Swans* by Betsy Byars
- *Our Only May Amelia* by Jennifer Holm
- *Caleb's Story* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Wish Giver* by Bill Brittain
- *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *Gooseberry Park* by Cynthia Rylant
- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg
- *The Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes

We hope that all of our Lower School students will spend some time reading throughout the summer. We recommend that all of our students enjoy books for at least 15-30 minutes each day, whether reading independently or with a parent. Audiobooks are also an excellent way to share stories during summer activities, and are available online for free from your local public library! For more information about online resources for eBooks and audiobooks that can be accessed from home, or for extra book recommendations, please contact the Lower School Librarian, Nicole Morgan, at nmorgan@sayreschool.org.