

## Grade 5 REQUIRED READING

- Gantos, Jack. *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*. FSG, 2004.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden*. Simon & Schuster, 2000.
- Levine, Kristin. *The Lions of Little Rock*. Puffin, 2013.
- Spinelli, Jerry. *Loser*. HarperCollins, 2003.

## Grade 6 REQUIRED READING

- Applegate, Katherine. *Wishtree*. Feiwel & Friends, 2017.
- Blackwood, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer*. Puffin, 2000.
- Buyea, Rob. *Because of Mr. Terupt*. Yearling, 2011.
- Reynolds, Jason. *Ghost*. Atheneum, 2017.

## SUGGESTED LITERATURE

### CONTEMPORARY FICTION

- Brooks, Max. *Minecraft: The Island*. Del Ray, 2017.  
A hero, stranded in the world of Minecraft, must unravel the secrets of a mysterious island to survive.
- Chanani, Nidhi. *Pashmina*. First Second, 2017.  
Colorful and deeply personal, *Pashmina* illuminates the experience of an Indian-American teenager.
- Creech, Sharon. *Moo*. HarperCollins, 2017.  
When twelve-year-old Reena and her family move to Maine, she meets and begins working for an eccentric neighbor named Mrs. Falala who has a pig named Paulie, a cat named China, a snake named Edna, and one very ornery cow named Zora.
- Glaser, Karina Yan. *The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street*. HMH, 2017.  
Five siblings have eleven days to do whatever it takes to stay in their beloved brownstone and convince their dreaded landlord just how wonderful they are.
- Grabenstein, Chris. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*. Yearling, 2016.  
Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious video and board game maker in the world, returns to his hometown to build a new library. Seventh grader, Kyle Keeley, wins a coveted spot as one of the twelve kids invited for an overnight sleepover in the new library. But, in order to leave the library, they must solve Mr. Lemoncello's mysterious clues and secret puzzles.

Graff, Lisa. *Absolutely Almost*. Puffin, 2015.  
A memorable story about a ten-year-old boy learning to value himself as he comes to terms with his learning disabilities.

Gutman, Dan. *The Homework Machine*. Simon & Schuster, 2007.  
Four fifth-grade students; a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker, as well as their teacher and mothers, each relate events that surround a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

Klise, Kate. *Trial by Journal*. HarperCollins, 2002.  
An illustrated novel told through journal entries, news clippings, and letters, in which Lily finds herself on the jury of a murder trial while conducting her own undercover, and humorous, investigation.

Lai, Thanhha. *Listen, Slowly*. HarperCollins, 2016.  
Lai follows up her award-winning first novel with this story of an American girl's trip from California to Vietnam. Twelve-year-old Mai experiences a culture and heritage she had not previously thought much about and, in the process, she learns a lot about her family—and herself. A 2016 *New York Times* Notable Book and *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year.

Libenson, Terri. *Invisible Emmie*. Balzer + Bray, 2017.  
Two storylines run parallel and then collide in this graphic novel when introverted Emmie meets cool Katie. Their opposite personalities teach them about each other and themselves.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. Little, Brown, 2008.  
This engaging tale has all the elements tweens find intriguing: gifted kids, dangerous missions, and a secret society where nothing is as it seems. This book is complex and unpredictable.

Tkac, John. *Talking to Water*. Southeast, 2014.  
A young Irish girl sails off to the Caribbean with her mother. Her mother dies and Claire Riley finds herself in the unlikely role of guardian to three young boys. Together they face unimaginable horrors, danger, and adventure.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Peace, Locomotion*. Puffin, 2010.  
Lonnie Motion (a.k.a. Locomotion) is starting to feel at home with his foster family. But with his foster brother away at war and his sister living somewhere else, he's got a lot on his mind.

### FANTASY AND MYSTERY

Avi. *The Book Without Words*. Disney-Hyperion, 2005.  
Thorston, an alchemist who has spent his life trying to decipher the secret contained in the Book Without Words, is on the brink of realizing his dream when he dies, leaving behind a talking raven and a servant to reap the rewards.

Balliett, Blue. *Chasing Vermeer*. Scholastic, 2005.  
When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Barnhill, Kelly. *The Witch's Boy*. Algonquin, 2015.  
Barnhill's coming-of-age fantasy features a pair of unlikely heroes, the daughter of a powerful bandit and a boy with a stutter who wields magic he can barely control. This magical novel explores big, challenging ideas and avoids tidy solutions.

Collins, Suzanne. *Gregor the Overlander*. Scholastic, 2010.  
Having suddenly found himself in a dark Underland, young Gregor learns that a prophecy has foretold of his arrival. The adventures he now goes on will help him solve the mystery of his own father's disappearance.

Foxlee, Karen. *Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy*. Yearling, 2015.  
Set in a museum that gradually reveals its secrets, this high-stakes fantasy follows eleven-year-old Ophelia's efforts to rescue an imprisoned boy while discovering courage she didn't know she had.

Hawking, Lucy and Stephen. *George's Secret Key to the Universe*. Simon & Schuster, 2007.  
Noted physicist Stephen Hawking and his daughter, Lucy, provide a grand and funny adventure that explains fascinating information about our universe, including Dr. Hawking's latest ideas about black holes.

Haydu, Corey Ann. *Rules for Stealing Stars*. Tegen, 2017.  
While dealing with a sick mom, Silly and her sisters discover a magical place that gives them an escape from their complicated home life. Silly hopes the magic will save her family, but there are dark truths as well.

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors: Into the Wild*. HarperCollins, 2015.  
Rusty, a bored house kitten, is apprenticed by the ThunderClan and must struggle to fit in when the group of feral cats is threatened by the enemy, ShadowClan.

Kerr, P. B. *The Akhenaten Adventure*. Scholastic, 2004.  
When twelve-year-old twins discover that they are descended from a long line of djinn, their uncle takes them to Cairo where he begins to teach them about their extraordinary powers.

Landy, Derek. *Skulduggery Pleasant*. Harper Trophy, 2008.  
Ace detective and crackerjack sorcerer, Skulduggery Pleasant, joins up with twelve-year-old Stephanie Edgley to defeat an all-consuming ancient evil. Is it the end of the world? Over his dead body!

**Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. HarperCollins, 1994.**

Four children step through a wardrobe door and into Narnia, a land enslaved by the power of the White Witch. When almost all hope is lost, the return of Aslan, the Great Lion, signals a great change and great sacrifice.

**Pullman, Philip. *The Golden Compass*. Knopf, 2001.**

Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other children from becoming the subjects of gruesome experiments in the Far North.

**Riordan, Rick. *The Lightning Thief*. Miramax, 2006.**

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns that his father is Poseidon. Percy is sent to Camp Half Blood to prepare him to stop a war among the Gods.

**Stewart, Paul. *Beyond the Deepwoods*. Fickling, 2004.**

Twig, having always looked and felt different from his woodtroll family, travels out of his Deepwoods home to find the place where he belongs.

**Yolen, Jane. *Jason and the Gorgon's Blood*. HarperCollins, 2013.**

Jason, who will become the head of the Argonauts, leads five boys on a dangerous quest, learning along the way what it means to be in command.

### **HISTORICAL FICTION**

**Baggott, Juliana. *The Prince of Fenway Park*. HarperTorch, 2011.**

It turns out the Boston Red Sox truly are cursed and twelve-year-old Oscar Egg has to free the Cursed Creatures below Fenway to break that curse.

**de Treviño, Elizabeth Borton. *Juan de Pareja: The Story of a Great Painter and the Slave He Helped Become a Great Artist*. Square Fish, 2008.**

When the great Velázquez was painting his masterpieces at the Spanish court, his colors were expertly mixed and his canvases carefully prepared by his slave, Juan de Pareja. Juan died an accomplished and respected artist. This is his story.

**Gantos, Jack. *Dead End in Norvelt*. FSG, 2013.**

Gantos narrates a witty account of the summer he was “grounded for life” with a laugh-out-loud, dead-funny depiction of growing up in a slightly off-kilter place.

**Vawter, Vince. *Paperboy*. Yearling, 2014.**

Eleven-year-old Little Man has a mean fastball and a terrible stutter. When he takes on a paper route, he comes across numerous challenges, the worst being a run-in with a thieving bully who puts Little Man’s life in danger. Set in the segregated South, this is a page-turning story of a boy and his struggle to speak.

**Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*. Amistad, 2011.**

Set in the tumultuous year of 1968, this heartbreaking, funny tale follows three girls who travel to Oakland, CA in search of the mother who abandoned them.

**Wolk, Lauren. *Wolf Hollow*. Dutton, 2016.**

A haunting tale of America at a crossroads during World War II where one girl’s resilience and strength help to illuminate the darkest corners of history.

### **NON-FICTION**

**Bowen, James. *A Street Cat Named Bob*. St. Martin’s Griffin, 2014.**

In this touching story, a stray cat saves the life of a man who thought all hope was lost.

**Brown, Daniel James. *The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Adaptation)*. Penguin, 2016.**

The true, amazing tale of a young, working-class man from the Pacific Northwest who has the perseverance to make it to the 1936 Olympics in Germany.

**Haskins, Jim. *Champion: The Story of Muhammad Ali*. Scholastic, 2017.**

Ali faced the obstacles in his life the way he faced his opponents in the ring: bravely and with all the force at his command. This story tells of how one of the world’s greatest athletes was both despised and adored throughout his career.

**Krull, Kathleen. *Lives of the Artists: Masterpieces, Messes (and What the Neighbors Thought)*. Harcourt, 2014.**

A collection of sketches of famous artists emphasizing their unique personalities.

**McCormick, Patricia. *I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition)*. Back Bay, 2016.**

Malala’s own story of how she fought for her right to be educated in Pakistan and survived being shot by the Taliban on her way home from school.

**Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. Pantheon, 2004.**

In powerful black-and-white comic strip images, Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran during the Islamic Revolution, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah’s regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq.

**Schyffert, Bea. *The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon*. Chronicle, 2003.**

This book tells the experiences of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins and explains life on the Columbia.

**Sweet, Melissa. *Some Writer!: The Story of E. B. White*. HMH, 2016.**

A masterful biography of the life of E. B. White, beloved author of *Charlotte’s Web* and *Stuart Little*.

# **GULF STREAM SCHOOL**



## **SUMMER READING**

## **STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 5-6**