



## BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST

Grades 5-8 2024-2025

### REQUIRED Reading & Assignments for Students Entering Grades 5 - 8

**5th Grade:** Students entering Grade 5 must read TWO books from this list and complete the required assignment:

Dear Mr. Henshaw – Beverly Cleary  
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes – Arthur Conan Doyle  
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler – Konigsburg  
The Story of My Life – Helen Keller  
Loser – Jerry Spinelli  
Maniac Magee – Jerry Spinelli  
My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George  
Number the Stars – Lois Lowry  
Shiloh – Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
Sign of the Beaver – Elizabeth Speare  
The Egypt Game – Zilpha Snyder  
Old Yeller – Fred Gipson  
The Watsons Go To Birmingham – Christopher Paul Curtis

**Required Assignment:** A summary of the two required reading books should be written on 4" x 6" index cards using the following format and will be due the first week of school:

Student's Name

Title of Book & Author

Setting – where the story takes place

Main Characters

Summary – brief description of the main events in the story as well as comment regarding a favorite/interesting part of the book.

Please bring books to use in class. We will be completing a book project in class after summer vacation.

**6th Grade:** Students entering Grade 6 must read TWO books from this list and complete the required assignment:

The Phantom Tollbooth – Norton Juster  
White Fang – Jack London  
Inkheart – Cornelia Funke  
The White Giraffe – Lauren St. John  
Lyddie – Katherine Paterson  
Thief Lord – Cornelia Funke  
Bud, Not Buddy – Christopher Paul Curtis  
The View From Saturday – E.L. Konigsburg  
Julie of the Wolves – Jean Craighead George  
A Week in the Woods – Andrew Clements  
Heat – Mike Lupica  
A Dog's Life – Ann M. Martin  
The Library Card – Jerry Spinelli

## 2024 Summer Reading for Junior High (entering Grades 7 and 8)

Grades 7 and 8 have a BINGO card to complete. Each grade has a different BINGO version.

Students must fill five (5) squares in the same way Bingo is played—across, down, diagonally, or the four corners and the center square. I encourage you to complete more than one BINGO, but only one is required. List your reading choices on the back of the BINGO card. Parents, please confirm the selections by initialing your student's list.

Your reading choices must be at a 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level or higher. *Highlights* magazine is one acceptable exception that counts as a magazine choice. If you are not sure of a book's reading level, you can do an online search. Sites such as Scholastic, Google, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble are just a few places where you can search for a book's reading level.

Friends and family members can give you recommendations for great summer reading. Ask around! Browse online, too. Search places like PBS's *The Great American Read* for lots of choices.

**GRADE 7 and 8 ASSIGNMENTS: Please note that weapons or any representations of weapons are absolutely prohibited in school projects. School policy will be enforced.**

Complete a Story Grammar Worksheet (provided with this packet) for each novel/story you read. For any selection that is not a novel/story (magazine, cook book, website, poetry, puzzle/activity book), complete the provided 3-2-1 Worksheet. If you need to, make more copies of the sheets.

You are required to complete one assignment for one of your reading choices. Choose from the assignments listed below. **Please keep in mind that some of the assignments go with specific reading choices. For example, the recipe assignment goes with reading a cookbook.**

Make sure your name is on each worksheet and assignment. All assignments are due the first week of school.

**Amazon Listing Novel Project**—Use the template I provided to create your own version of an Amazon listing. Make sure you include all of the elements from the template (suggestion: use small poster board).

**Go High-tech**—Create a video, PowerPoint, Google Slides, animation, or use an app to “present” your book selection. Be sure you create it in a format that can be shared with the class.

**Design a Book Jacket**—Include title, author, summary notes (characters; setting; plot, including conflict), and any creative designs or illustrations you want to include. Don't forget to use the inside flaps.

**Be a travel agent**—Research a book's setting and create your own original, professional-looking travel guide/brochure. Or, visit a National Historic Site website and create a brochure full of information about one of our nation's great attractions.

**Character Scrapbook**—Create a scrapbook that contains pictures, mementos, drawings, magazine clippings, colors, words, phrases—items that represent the character's favorite or important things.

**Name Analysis**—Research a main character's name. Write the name's meanings. Then, write a short essay (three paragraphs), either typed—double-spaced—or in pen, using cursive, that explains the ways in which the name fits the character and also how the name does not fit the character. Base your explanation on the name's meanings.

**Comic Strip/Graphic Novel Frames**—Turn your book into a series of a minimum of six (6) comic strips or graphic novel frames, highlighting key events in the novel. Include key characters, setting, and action. Don't forget to be colorful and include captions! Please use sturdy paper for this assignment. Suggestion: Create each frame on a blank 3x5 index card and arrange the cards neatly on posterboard.

**Recipe Card with Picture**—Only if you read a cook book--choose a recipe to try yourself. Take a picture of your creation and create an original recipe card. **The recipe card should not be printed from a website, but be one that you write yourself.** If you do not have any blank recipe cards at home, use a 4x6 index card and personalize it. A slightly larger index card is all right, too. Feel free to include pictures of yourself making the recipe and having fun in the kitchen!

**Diorama/Shadow Box**—Create a favorite scene from a book. Using a shoe box, or similarly sized box, use colored paper or paint to create a background setting; add characters and objects to make a miniature 3-D scene. On an index card, provide an explanation of the scene—what's going on at this point in the book; who is in the scene; why you chose this scene.

**Magazine Feature**—If you read a magazine as one of your choices, you will join the staff as a contributing writer. Regardless of the type of magazine—fashion, sports, crafting, celebrity, kids', travel, etc.—you will choose a related topic of interest and write a short article. For example, if you read *Sports Illustrated*, you may write an article about your favorite player or your pre- or post-season predictions for a sport. If you read *Highlights*, you may write a piece for kids. If you read a fashion magazine, you may write about what will be popular in the fall or new hair styles. You may choose your topic, as long as it is suitable for your magazine.

**Create a 3-D Model**—Use your experience with creating projects and models in other classes to create a 3-D model representing your book selection. Use your imagination!

**Design a Tee-shirt**—Use an old tee-shirt and fabric paints and/or stitchery and embellishments to create a one-of-a-kind design highlighting your book.

**Collection of Poetry**—If you read a book of poetry, write your own collection of original poems. Try different forms and different subjects. Experiment and enjoy! Create a booklet or use a folder for your poems—or bind them in your own unique way.

**Book to Movie**—Show us you are an aspiring Hollywood talent. Write, direct, produce, and star in the movie version of your book selection. Choose key scenes from the book, or be ambitious and write a screenplay for the entire book. Enlist your friends and family to co-star!

**Create a Case Board**--Like a real detective, create a visual aid that contains suspects, clues, evidence, theories, etc. Solve your mystery like a pro! This is a good project for a mystery or James Ponti book.

**Be a playwright**—Take a scene from your book choice and modernize it. In addition to powerful dialogue, include all the stage directions and set descriptions needed to produce a scene worthy of Broadway!

**Service Project**—Perform an act of service related to a theme of Christian values in your book selection. Provide documentation and evidence of the service you performed.

# My 2024 Summer Reading BINGO Choices

	Title and Author	Date	Parent Initials
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# Amazon Listing Novel Project

Marketing Expert. That is your new job title! Every book on Amazon.com has a listing that informs buyers about the book. Your job is to create a paper version for the novel you have read. Follow the format below.

## NEW BOOK COVER

Create a new book cover for the novel and draw it here.

Draw an important scene from your book here.

Draw another important scene from your book here.

## PRODUCT DETAILS

Include the following:  
Age Range\*Grade  
Level\*Pages\*Publisher\*

## RANK OR RECOMMEND

Choose one of the following options for this section:

- 1) Rank this book against 4 other books you have read recently
- 2) Recommend other books people may like if they are interested in this book.

## BOOK TITLE

### AUTHOR

Write a one to two sentence preview summary that will capture a potential reader and make them want to buy this book!

## SUMMARY

Write a complete summary of the book here.

## QUOTE ME

Select 3-5 quotes from the book to display here. Choose quotes that are meaningful and represent the story well.

## EDITORIAL REVIEW

Write a review of the book.

# Story Grammar

Name of the story	Author of the story	Illustrator of the story
Main characters	Other characters	
Where does the story happen?		
When does the story happen?		
What is the story about?		
What is the problem in the story?		
How is it solved?		
Did you like the story?	Yes	No
Would you tell others to read the story?	Yes	No