



2021-2022 Trafton Academy Optional Summer Reading List Incoming Third Grade

Students are encouraged to take AR tests for each book read.

Adler, David A. ***Money Madness***. This book is a beginners guide to economics that introduces young readers to the purpose and value of money.

Barker, Dan. ***Maybe Yes, Maybe No, Maybe Maybe***. A middle child experiences the rough edges of growing up in a single-parent family.

Barretta, Gene. ***Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin***. This book focuses on many of Ben Franklin's inventions.

Bates, Sonya. ***Marsh Island***. Brothers Jake and Tommy begin to wonder if the stories about an old man living on the island are true after they become lost while camping.

Baylor,Byrd. ***Hawk, I'm Your Brother***. Lyrical storybook with spacious illustrations and poetic text.

Bell, Krista. ***If the Shoe Fits***. Cassie wants to be a dancer when she grows up but is afraid to dance in front of anyone outside her family, until the day her first jazz performance arrives, and her mother and a new friend help her to gain confidence.

Blume, Judy. ***The Once in the Middle is the Green Kangaroo***. Freddy hates being the middle one in the family until he gets a part in the school play.

Branley, Franklyn M. ***Floating in Space***. This book examines life aboard a space shuttle, describing how astronauts deal with weightlessness, how they eat and exercise, some of the work they do, and more.

Bruchac, Joseph. ***The First Strawberries***. A Native American legend about how strawberries came into the world.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. ***The Chalk Box Kid***. Nine-year-old Gregory's house does not have room for a garden, so he creates one in a surprising place.

Bunting, Eve. ***Fly Away Home***. A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal and trying not to be noticed, is given hope when he sees a trapped bird find its freedom.

Bunting, Eve. ***Going Home***. Although a Mexican family comes to the United States to work as farm laborers so that their children will have opportunities, the parents still consider Mexico their home.

Cameron, Ann. ***Julian's Glorious Summer***. When his best friend, Gloria, receives a new bike, seven- year-old Julian makes up a story about why he can't take the time to learn to ride rather than face his fears.

Catling, Patrick Skene. ***The Chocolate Touch***. Instead of gold, everything John Midas touched turned to precious chocolate.

Clement, Gary. ***The Great Poochini***. This is an adventure with Signor Poochini, an acclaimed opera singer, who must find a way out of his master's house to perform.

Clements, Andrew. ***Jake Drake, Class Clown***. Miss Bruce is the new student teacher in Jake's second-grade class, and she never smiles. Jake has a new mission in life, to be so funny that even Miss Bruce will laugh, but then things get out of hand.

Cole, Joanna. ***The Magic School Bus and the Electric Field Trip***. Ms. Frizzle's class takes a field trip to the electric company to find out what electricity is and what it does.

Cole, Joanna. ***The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System***. On a special field trip in the magic school bus, Ms. Frizzle's class goes into outer space and visits each planet in the solar system.

Crews, Donald. ***Bigmama's***. Visiting Bigmama's house in the country, young Donald Crews finds his relatives full of news and the old place and its surroundings just the same as the year before.

Estes, Eleanor. ***The Hundred Dresses***. In winning a medal she is no longer there to receive, a little Polish girl teaches her classmates a lesson.

Evans, Douglas. ***The Elevator Family***. The four members of the Wilson family decide to spend their holiday in one of the elevators at the San Francisco Hotel.

Gerstein, Mordicai. ***The Man Who Walked Between the Towers***. This book is about Philippe Petit's 1974 tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers.

Ginsburg, Mirra. ***The Chinese Mirror***. A retelling of a traditional Korean tale in which a mirror brought from China causes confusion within a family as each member looks in it and sees a different stranger.

Grimes, Nikki. ***Meet Danitra Brown***. Poems by the African American writer about the friendship of two spirited girls.

Guest, Elissa Haden. ***Iris and Walter and Cousin Howie***. Walter's favorite cousin is coming to visit, but Iris is disappointed when Howie does not turn out to be so great, or friendly, after all. (Series)

Guest, Elissa Haden. ***Iris and Walter and the Field Trip***. When best friends Iris and Walter go on a field trip to an aquarium, Walter gets lost and a worried Iris helps Miss Cherry look for him. (Series)

Hale, Bruce. ***Murder, My Tweet***. Detective Chet Gecko and his associate, Natalie Attired, take a case tailing what they think is a cheating boyfriend but are instead led to a school mystery that involves blackmail and robots. (Series)

Hall, Donald. ***Ox-Cart Man***. Describes the day-to-day life of an early nineteenth century New England family throughout the changing seasons.

Hanson, Mary. ***How to Save Your Tail***. When he is captured by two of the queen's cats, Bob the rat prolongs his life by sharing fresh-baked cookies and stories of his ancestors, whose escapades are remarkably similar to those of well-known fairy tale heroes.

Hurwitz, Johanna. ***Busybody Nora***. Nora, an inquisitive little girl who lives in a large apartment building in New York with her parents and little brother, Teddy, has many adventures--including her attempt to throw a party for all two hundred of her neighbors.

Jacobson, Jennifer Richard. ***Andy Shane and the Queen of Egypt***. Andy Shane would like to pick Egypt for his first-ever Culture Fair project, but Dolores Starbuckle says she is the Queen of Egypt, and she won't give Andy a moment's peace until he agrees to do the project together.

Kchodl, Joseph P. ***The Disappearance of Dinosaur Sue***. Join PaleoJoe and his 11-year-old sidekick Shelly as they embark on their first adventure to solve the mystery of... The Disappearance of Dinosaur Sue.

Kerley, Barbara. ***The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins***. The unforgettable story of Waterhouse Hawkins and his dinosaurs has something to teach all of us about the importance of believing in oneself, and following a dream

Kimmel, Eric A. ***A Horn for Louis***. This narrative account of the young life of jazz legend Louis Armstrong describes how he grew up in New Orleans and learned to play the trumpet.,

Kline, Suzy. ***Horrible Harry and the Holiday***. Miss Mackle's third graders share December holiday traditions--Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Three Kings' Day, and Korean New Year--with each other and with Harry's great grandfather, who has just moved to a nursing home.

Kline, Suzy. ***Horrible Harry Takes the Cake***. Horrible Harry sets out to discover who Miss Mackle is going to marry, and he takes some risky moves to be the first one to know.

Lakin, Patricia. ***Amelia Earhart: More Than a Flier***. This book profiles Amelia Earhart, who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean and who disappeared during her attempt to become the first woman to fly around the world.

Levine, Ellen. ***If You Traveled West in a Covered Wagon***. A portrait of frontier life on the Oregon Trail that puts the reader at the center of the action.

Lewis, Thomas P. ***Hill of Fire***. An easy-to-read account of the birth of Paricutin volcano in the field of a poor Mexican farmer.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***Grandfather's Dance***. As her family gathers for the wedding of her sister Anna, fourth-grader Cassie Whiting sees the many changes brought about by everyday life and finds comfort in the love of those around her, especially her grandfather.

McDermott, Gerald. ***Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale***. Indian myth in which the Lord of the Sun sends the spark of life to earth, and it becomes a Boy.

McMahon, P. J. ***The Mystery of the Swimming Gorilla***. The members of the Freaky Joe Club take on their first mission: to discover why bicycles are disappearing all over Ship's Cove.

Mohr, Nicholasa. ***Felita***. Eight-year-old Felita's parents promise she will love their new neighborhood, but their new neighbors taunt and tease Felita and her family because they are from Puerto Rico.

Monjo, F. N. ***The Drinking Gourd***. Sent home alone for misbehaving in church, Tommy discovers that his house is a station on the underground railroad.

Osborne, Mary Pope. ***High Tide in Hawaii***. Jack and Annie travel in their magic tree house back to a Hawaiian island of long ago where they make friends, learn how to surf, and encounter a tsunami. (Series)

Osborne, Mary Pope. ***Mummies in the Morning***. Jack and his younger sister take a trip in their tree house back to ancient Egypt, where they help a queen's mummy continue her voyage to the Next Life. (Series)

Peet, Bill. ***Farewell to Shady Glade***. Sixteen animal tenants of treehouse have their home demolished by glowering bulldozers.

Pennypacker, Sara. ***Clementine***. When sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

Quattlebaum, Mary. ***Jackson Jones and the Curse of the Outlaw Rose***. When Jackson and Reuben take a rose cutting from a graveyard for Mr. Kerring, events make them believe it is cursed and will continue to threaten anyone in its vicinity until it is returned.

Rau, Dana Meachen. ***Moon Walk***. When ten-year-old Tomas and his friends visit the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., he sees the Apollo 11 Lunar Module and suddenly finds that he has become Neil Armstrong as he makes his historic walk on the moon in 1969.

Reynolds, Peter H. ***Judy Moody Declares Independence***. After learning about the American Revolution on a family trip to Boston, Judy makes her own Declaration of Independence and tries to prove that she is responsible enough to have more freedoms, such as a higher allowance and her own bathroom. (Series)

Reynolds, Peter H. ***Judy Moody Saves the World***. When Judy Moody gets serious about protecting the environment, her little brother, Stink, thinks she is overdoing it, but she manages to inspire her third-grade class to undertake an award-winning, environment-saving project. (Series)

Robinson, Barbara. ***The Best Christmas Pageant Ever***. In this picture book adaptation of the novel THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER, the six horrible Herdmans, the worst children in the history of the world, take over the annual Christmas pageant.

Romanova, Natalie. ***Once There Was a Tree***. An old stump attracts many living creatures, even man; and when it is gone a new tree attracts the same creatures, who need it for a variety of reasons.

Roy, Ron. ***The Mystery at the Washington Monument***. When KC and Marshall see lights flickering at night in the Washington Monument, their investigation turns up a monkey, a hole in one of the monument stones, and a hundred-year-old mystery. (Series)

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. ***Nate the Great Saves the King of Sweden***. Rosamond

loses something and wants Nate the Great to find it. He doesn't know what she has lost or in what country she lost it. Can Nate find whatever it is without leaving his neighborhood? (Series)

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. ***Nate the Great Talks Turkey***. Nate the Great and his cousin Olivia are on the case of a runaway turkey. Unfortunately, the clues appear to contradict each other. (Series)

Silverman, Erica. ***Cowgal Kate and Cocoa: Partners***. Cocoa, the horse, herds the cows with Cowgirl Kate, helps her practice her roping skills, and wishes he could wear boots instead of horseshoes. (Series)

Soto, Gary. ***Chatos's Kitchen***. To get the "ratoncitos" little mice who have moved into the barrio to come to his house, Chato, the cat, prepares all kinds of good food: Fajitas, frijoles, salsa, enchiladas, and more.

Yin. ***Coolies***. A young boy hears the story of this great-great-great-grandfather and his brother who came to the United States to make a better life for themselves, helping to build the transcontinental railroad.