

# 5th Grade Summer Reading List

Welcome To Fifth Grade 2021-2022! I am looking forward to getting to know all of you! We're going to have a GREAT year!

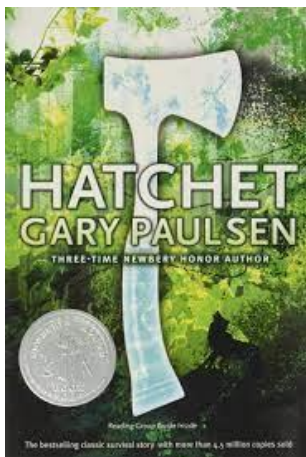
## Here is your Summer Reading Assignment:

1. **Choose 2 books** from the list. There are 9 books on the list to choose from. **(Be sure that you have not read - or – taken the AR Test for either book.)**
2. **Visit your local library to check out the books –or- go to [libby.com](https://libby.com)** with your library card number (if you cannot find your card or do not have one, you can get a library card by calling any library. The Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library will take your information and mail you a card.) You may access any library using libby.com and your library card number from that library. This allows you to take out online books to read on a device as well as audio books to listen to for free! There may be a waiting list for some selections. When you do receive your book, you have two weeks to finish before you must return the book or borrow it from the library again. You can read or listen to a book using a laptop, iPad, or your phone. If you do not open an online library account through libby.com this summer, you will do that at school in the fall. **All 5th graders must have their library “shelf” with them at school to read for AR points whenever they have extra time. Students are required to earn at least 15 AR points during every 9 week grading period.**
3. **Find a nice, quiet place to read.**
4. **Read your selections.** Begin early in the summer so that you can take your time.
5. **Send me a picture of you reading your book in your favorite spot.** My email address is [akirkpatrick@stmaryswv.org](mailto:akirkpatrick@stmaryswv.org)
6. **Keep a list of ten (10) vocabulary words** from each book. Write the words and their definitions on paper and bring those to school on the first day of class.
7. **Be ready to take the AR tests** for each book during the first week of school.



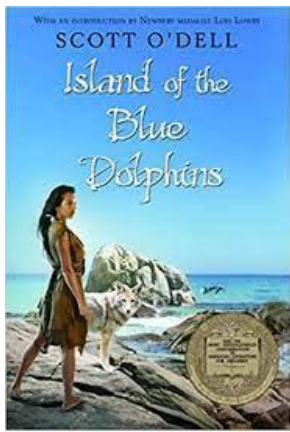
**I Am the Ice Worm** by: MaryAnn Easley - (Boys Mill Press, 1996) 127 pages. This book is sort of a girls' version of Gary Paulsen's classic Hatchet. In both stories, a teenage character is stranded in the wilderness following a plane crash. In *I Am the Ice Worm*, 14-year-old Allison is rescued from the Alaskan wild by an Inupiat trapper, who takes her to his village to stay until she can be reunited with her mother. Allison's upbringing in an upper-class family in southern California certainly didn't prepare her for this icy adventure, but she turns out to have courage and adaptability that she didn't expect. Though Allison may initially seem too "girly" for boy readers, this novel has a great blend of adventure, wilderness and family matters that will captivate boys and girls alike.

*Perfect for: Kids who like adventure stories.*



**Hatchet** by: Gary Paulsen - (Simon & Schuster, 1987) 192 pages. The story is about Brian, 13, and how he manages to survive 54 days in the Canadian wilderness after a plane crash. Brian was flying to visit his father when the pilot dies of a heart attack in mid-flight. Brian crash lands the plane into a small lake and swims out of the wreckage. He has his clothing, a tattered windbreaker and a hatchet (a gift from his mother). The novel takes us through Brian's days, how he learns patience through his experiences with failures and small successes: building a fire, fishing and hunting, making his shelter a safe one. He endures a porcupine attack, a tornado and being utterly alone for almost two months. This is a tale of adventure but, more importantly, it is a tale of character growth. This edition includes a new introduction and sidebar commentary by the author.

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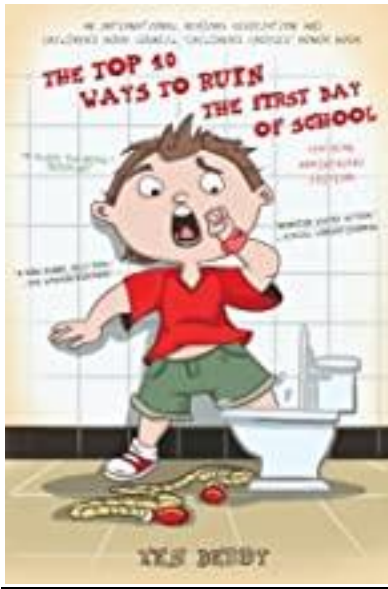
**Island of the Blue Dolphins** by: Scott O'Dell - (Yearling, 1971) 192 pages. The Newbery Medal winner for 1961, this book could be seen as a precursor to Gary Paulsen's *Hatchet*. Karana is a 12-year-old Native American who refuses to abandon her 6-year-old brother when her island, Ghalas-at (off the Southern California coast) is evacuated. Shortly thereafter, he tragically dies after being attacked by wild dogs and Karana begins her solitary wait for a ship to come for her. She waits 18 years. Karana survives by foraging, fishing in the ocean, defending herself from wild dogs and elephant seals, and hiding from the Aleut tribe. Told from her point of view, we share the details of her day-to-day life, watch the days turn into years, and wait for the ship to carry her off her lonely island. O'Dell based this novel on an actual historical figure, known as The Lost Woman of San Nicolas, who lived on the island from 1835- 1853.

*Perfect for: Kids who like historical fiction*



**On the Wings of Heroes** by: Richard Peck - (Dial Books, 2007) 148 pages. This book is a funny, poignant book about life on the home front during World War II. There is some violence: a father is knocked out with a wrench, a girl's hand is caught in a rat trap, and an old lady likes to tell tales of gruesome injuries. Families can talk about the differences between life then and now. What aspects of Davy's life sound similar to your own? Which are completely different? Does it sound like it was fun to grow up then? Is it more fun now? What else have you seen and read about World War II?

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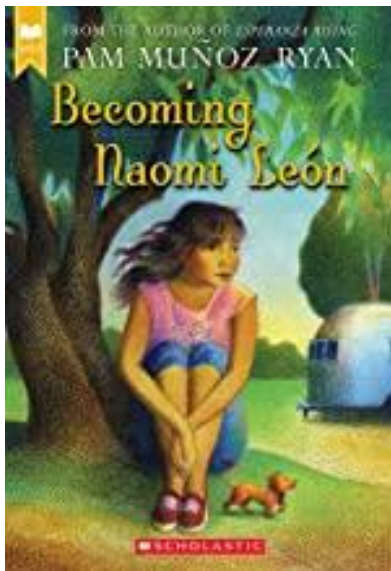
**The Top 10 Ways to Ruin the First Day of School** by: Kenneth Derby - (Holiday House, 2004) 144 pages. Tony Baloney is obsessed with David Letterman and is determined to be a guest on his show. This fast-paced, action-packed story is sure to keep the reader amused — top 10 lists and all!

*Perfect for: Kids who like humor stories.*



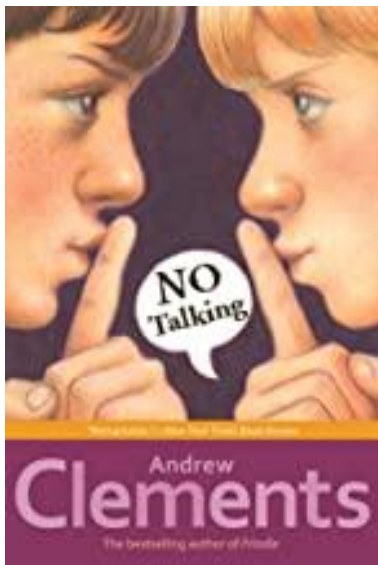
**The Homework Machine** by: Dan Gutman - (Simon & Schuster, 2006) 160 pages. Young readers will recognize their classmates and maybe themselves in the key witnesses who describe the events (interrogation-style) leading up to the discovery, use and destruction of a computer that was supposed to make kids' lives easier. It didn't.

*Perfect for: Kids who like mysteries.*



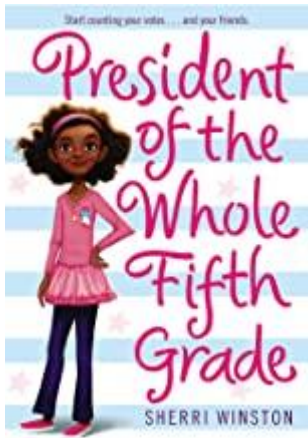
**Becoming Naomi León** by: Pam Muñoz Ryan - (Scholastic, 2004) 272 pages. Naomi León Outlaw is many things: a great sister, a kind granddaughter, and an excellent soap carver, but she is having a harder time just being Naomi. Her journey to find her own true voice and reconnect with her father takes her from a trailer park in Lemon Tree, California, to a radish-carving festival in Oaxaca, Mexico.

*Perfect for: Kids who have changed as they've grown up*



**No Talking** by: Andrew Clements, illustrated by: Mark Elliott - (Simon & Schuster, 2007) 146 pages. This is an ear-to-ear-grinningly delightful school story. Parents need to know that there is nothing to be concerned about here and lots to cheer. It's a story that even reluctant readers can love, about good-hearted children and adults who grow in compassion and understanding. Families can talk about silence and civil disobedience. Why does the silence seem so powerful? How does it change everyone's perceptions? What do you think of the standoff between Dave and the principal?

*Perfect for: Kids who like realism*



**President of the Whole 5<sup>th</sup> Grade** by Sherri Winston-(Little, Brown, 2012) 288 pages. When Brianna Justice's hero, the famous celebrity chef Miss Delicious, speaks at her school and traces her own success back to being president of her fifth grade class, Brianna determines she must do the same. She just knows that becoming president of her class is the first step toward her own cupcake-baking empire! But when new student Jasmine Moon announces she is also running for president, Brianna learns that she may have more competition than she expected. Will Brianna be able to stick to her plan of working with her friends to win the election fairly? Or will she jump at the opportunity to steal votes from Jasmine by revealing an embarrassing secret?

*Perfect for: Kids with big dreams, and the determination to achieve them.*