

## The Write Foundation Writing Curriculum

### Creating Sentences (CS) and Prepare to Write (PtW) Reading List

Recommended for Ages 8-12

Why read quality literature? It matters what you read.

1. The best readers are the best writers.
2. What you read is a major factor determining who you will become.
3. Quality literature encourages reading, because it is hard to put a good book down.
4. Reading is not just for fun. Reading plays a major role in brain development.

Do you want to raise your students' reading level? Read out loud to them.

Do you want to improve your students' listening skills? Read out loud to them.

#### Reading Guidelines:

- **Read** books to students. The more you read to them, the higher their level of reading and comprehension climbs. Read books out loud to them that they would not find easy to read on their own, but also read easier books out loud for sheer enjoyment.
- **Listen** to audio books. When you are going places in the car or just relaxing at home, listening to a good book captivates and entertains.
- **Encourage** students to select books to read independently. Have them read books on their own that are on their easy-to-read level and that interest them.
- **Discuss** what is read. Instead of book reports, talk to them about what they are reading. As they enjoy books, they will want to talk about them.

#### Book List Organization and Point System:

- The point groups are determined by length and reading level.
- Books are mostly listed in alphabetical order by title.
- If several books are by one author or a series by various authors, then they are included in the alphabetical order by the author's name, series title or a group title such as historical fiction.
- Books are not listed in a particular reading order.

Avoid an "easy-to-read" version of any of the books, such as those by Great Illustrated Classics. When students read dumbed down versions of books, they miss out on the depth of the story and the enjoyment of reading the book is watered down.

1. Many of these books can probably be found at your public library.
2. Amazon is a convenient way to find out more about these books through their descriptions and reviews.
3. Amazon also offers a number of these books on Kindle.

The goal is to encourage the reading of quality books that all will approve of and enjoy. Investigating these books that range from modern to classical to forgotten works of art will hopefully be an enjoyable adventure.

**The Write Foundation**  
**Creating Sentences & Prepare to Write Reading List**

**6 Point Books**

Aladdin and Other Favorite Arabian Nights Stories –  
 Philip Smith, Editor

The Bears on Hemlock Mountain – Alice Dalgliesh

The Big Wave – Pearl S. Buck

A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens

The Courage of Sarah Noble – Alice Dalgliesh

George Washington Carver – Eva Moore

History – Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire

Lief the Lucky

Columbus

Pocahontas

George Washington

Benjamin Franklin

Abraham Lincoln

Buffalo Bill

The Hundred Dresses – Eleanor Estes

Li Lun, Lad of Courage – Carolyn Treffinger

Little Pear – Eleanor Frances Lattimore

The Little Riders – Margaretha Shemin

The Minstrel in the Tower – Gloria Skurzynski

Norse Myths – Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire

Book of Trolls

Children of the Northlights

Book of Norse Myths

Rip Van Winkle – Washington Irving

Sarah Witcher's Story – Elizabeth Yates

Shoes for Everyone – Barbara Mitchell

Stone Fox – John Reynolds Gardiner

Jesse Stuart Stories

The Beatinest Boy

A Penny's Worth of Character

Red Mule

The Rightful Owner

The Whipping Boy – Sid Fleischman

The White Stallion – Elizabeth Shub

**10 Point Books**

The Apprentice – Pilar Molina Llorente

Baby Island – Carol Ryrie Brink

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever –

Barbara Robinson

Boxcar Children – Gertrude Chandler Warner

The Cabin Faced West – Jean Fritz

Castle Diary – Richard Platt

Dangerous Journey: The Story of Pilgrims Progress –  
 Oliver Hunkin

Grandma's Attic Series – Arleta Richardson

In Grandma's Attic

More Stories from Grandma's Attic

Treasures from Grandma

Other books in this series are fine.

Hank the Cowdog Series – John R. Erickson

The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog

Murder in the Middle Pasture

It's A Dog's Life

The Almost Last Roundup

Other books in this series are fine.

Helen Keller's Teacher – Margaret Davidson

The Story of my Life – Helen Keller

Henry Huggins Series – Beverly Clearly

Henry Huggins

Henry and Ribsy

Ribsy

Other Henry Huggins books count.

How to Eat Fried Worms – Thomas Rockwell

Jungle Books (not Disney) – Rudyard Kipling

Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling

The Kite Fighters – Linda Sue Park

The Lion in the Gateway – Mary Renault

Mr. Popper's Penguins – Atwater

Mountain Born – Elizabeth Yates

Saint Isaac and the Indians – Milton Lomack

Sarah Plain & Tall Series – Patricia MacLachlan

Sarah Plain & Tall

Skylark

Caleb's Story

More Perfect than the Moon

Grandfather's Dance

Socks – Beverly Clearly

The Sword in the Tree – Clyde Robert Bulla

Sugar Creek Gang Series – Paul Hutchens

The Swamp Robber

The Killer Bear

The Lost Campers

The Secret Hideout

Other books in this series are fine.

The Terrible Wave – Marden Dahlstedt

A Tree for Peter – Kate Seredy

Tuck Everlasting – Natalie Babbitt

The Year of Miss Agnes – Kirkpatrick Hill

**14 Point Books**

The Adventures of Pinocchio – Carlo Collodi

All of a Kind Family Series – Sydney Taylor  
 All of a Kind Family  
 More All of a Kind Family  
 All of a Kind Family Uptown  
 All of a Kind Family Downtown  
 Ella of All of a Kind Family

And the Word Came with Power –  
 Joanne Shetler

A Beatrix Potter Treasury – Beatrix Potter  
 Benjamin West and his cat Gimalkin –  
 Marguerite Henry

Born in the Year of Courage – Emily Crofford  
 The Breadwinner – Deborah Ellis  
 The Broken Blade – William Durbin  
 Bud Not Buddy – Christopher Paul Curtis

Building on the Rock Series (Short Stories) –  
 Joel R. Beeke & Diana Kleyn  
 How God Stopped the Pirates  
 How God Used A Thunderstorm  
 Other books in this series count.

Call it Courage – Armstrong Sperry  
 Charlotte's Web – E.B. White  
 The Children Who Stayed Alone –  
 Bonnie Bess Worline

Clubhouse Mysteries – Sharon M. Draper  
 Lost in the Tunnel of Time  
 The Buried Bones  
 The Space Mission Adventure  
 Other books in this series count.

The Cricket in Times Square – George Selden

Dear America Series – Historical Fiction  
 Various Authors  
 Standing in the Light  
 A Picture of Freedom  
 Across the Wide Open Prairie  
 I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly  
 Behind the Masks  
 Any other books in this series count.

Detectives in Togas – Henry Winterfeld  
 The Mystery of the Roman Ransom (sequel)

The Door in the Wall – Marguerite De Angeli  
 Faith Like Potatoes – Angus Buchan  
 A Gathering of Days – Joan W. Blos  
 God's Adventurer: Hudson Taylor –  
 Phyllis Thompson  
 The Great Gilly Hopkins – Katherine Paterson  
 The Heart Reader – Terri Blackstock  
 Hind's Feet on High Places – Hannah Hurnard

Holes – Louis Sachar

Homesick – Jean Fritz

Homer Price – Robert McCloskey

Horses and Healing – Kim Meeder  
 Hope Rising  
 Bridge of Hope

Horse Stories – Marguerite Henry  
 Justin Morgan Had a Horse  
 King of the Wind  
 Misty of Chincoteague  
 White Stallion of Lipizza

Humbug Mountain – Sid Fleischman  
 The Incredible Journey – Sheila Burnford  
 Just David – Eleanor H. Porter  
 Leonardo Da Vinci – Emily Hahn  
 The Little Duke – Charlotte Mary Yonge  
 Little Lord Fauntleroy – Frances H. Burnett

A Long Way from Chicago Series – Richard Peck  
 A Long Way from Chicago  
 A Season of Gifts  
 A Year Down Yonder

Madeleine Takes Command – Ethel C. Brill

Men of Faith Series – Various Authors  
 John Newton: The British Slave Trader  
 George Muller: Man of Faith and Miracles  
 Samuel Morris: The African Boy God Sent  
 Other books in this series count.

Old Yeller – Fred Gipson

Otto of the Silver Hand – Howard Pyle

Peter Pan – James M. Barrie

Pollyanna – Eleanor H. Porter

Pooh Books (Original not Disney) – A. A. Milne  
 Winnie the Pooh  
 The House at Pooh Corner

Red Sails to Capri – Melissa Weil

Shades of Gray – Carolyn Reeder

Shiloh Quartet – Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
 Shiloh

Shiloh Season

Other books in this series count.

Snow Treasure – Marie McSwigan

Stink Alley – Jamie Gilson

Tales of Robin Hood – Tony Allan

Toliver's Secret – Esther Wood Brady

The Twenty-One Balloons – Wm. Pene du Bois

Up From Slavery – Booker T. Washington

The Wright Brothers – Quentin Reynolds

**16 Point Books**

Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain  
Amos Fortune Free Man – Elizabeth Yates

Anne of Green Gables Series – L. M. Montgomery  
Anne of Green Gables  
Anne of the Island  
Anne of Avonlea  
Other books in this series count.

Archimedes and the Door of Science –  
Jeanne Bendick

Bound for Oregon – Jean Van Leeuwen  
Bud and Me – Alta Abernathy

By the Great Horn Spoon – Sid Fleischman  
Catherine Called Birdie – Karen Cushman  
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Roald Dahl

Christian Heroes, Then and Now Series –  
Janet and Goeff Bengé  
Gladys Altwood: The Adventure of a Lifetime  
David Livingston: Africa's Trailblazer  
Other books in this series count.

Follow My Leader – James B. Garfield  
Freedom Train (Harriet Tubman) – Dorothy Sterling

The Good Master– Kate Seredy  
The Singing Tree (sequel)

Gone Away Lake – Elizabeth Enright  
Heidi – Johanna Spyri

Henry Reed Series – Keith Robertson  
Henry Reed, Inc.  
Henry Reed's Journey  
Henry Reed's Babysitting Service

The Hound of the Baskervilles – Arthur Conan Doyle  
The House of Sixty Fathers – Meindert Dejong  
In Search of Honor – Donna Lynn Hess  
The Journeyman – Elizabeth Yates  
Kildee House – Rutherford George Montgomery

Life Experiences Books – Patricia St. John  
Star of Light  
The Tanglewood's Secret  
The Secret at Pheasant Cottage  
Rainbow Garden  
Treasures of the Snow  
Where the River Begins  
Three Go Searching

Little House Series – Laura Ingalls Wilder  
Little House in the Big Woods  
Little House on the Prairie  
Farmer Boy  
On the Banks of Plum Creek  
Other books in this series count.

Love Comes Softly Series – Janette Oke  
Love Comes Softly  
Love's Enduring Promise  
Love's Long Journey  
Love's Abiding Joy  
Other books in this series count.

The Magna Charta – James Daugherty  
Miracles on Maple Hill – Virginia Sorenson  
Mother Carey's Chickens – Kate Douglas Wiggin

The Mouse and the Motorcycle – Beverly Cleary  
Runaway Ralph (sequel)

Number the Stars – Lois Lowry

Penderwick Series – Jean Birdsall  
The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale  
The Penderwicks at Gardam Street  
Other books in this series count.

The Pink Motel – Carol Ryrie Brink  
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm – Kate Wiggin

Science – John Hudson Tiner  
Exploring Planet Earth  
Exploring the History of Medicine  
Exploring the World of Biology  
Exploring the World of Chemistry

Science Fiction – Jules Verne  
Around the World in Eighty Days  
Master of the World  
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea  
A Journey to the Center of the Earth  
The Mysterious Island

Sign of the Beaver – Elizabeth G. Speare

The Spirit Flyer Series – John Bibee  
The Magic Bicycle  
The Toy Campaign  
The Only Game in Town  
Other books in this series count.

Theras and His Town – Caroline Dale Snedeker  
The Trumpeter of Krakow – Eric P. Kelley

The Younguns Series – Thomas L. Tedrow  
The Younguns of Mansfield  
Frankie and the Secret  
The Circus Escape  
The Legend of the Missouri Mud Monster

Understood Betsy – Dorothy Canfield Fisher  
Warrior of the Son – Samuel Schiller

**18 Point Books**

Air Raid, Pearl Harbor – Theodore Taylor  
 Black Horses for the King – Anne McCaffrey  
 Blackships Before Troy – Rosemary Sutcliff

Blackthorn Winter – Douglas Wilson  
 Susan Creek (sequel)

The Borrowers – Mary Norton  
 The Bronze Bow – Elizabeth G. Speare  
 Bruscho – Bruce Olsen

Caddie Woodlawn – Carol Ryrie Brink  
 Magical Melons (sequel)

Calico Bush – Rachel Field  
 The Cay – Theodore Taylor  
 The Chestery Oak – Kate Seredy

Chronicles of Narnia Series – C. S. Lewis  
 The Magicians Nephew  
 The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe  
 The Silver Chair  
 The Horse and His Boy  
 Prince Caspian  
 The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

The Cross and the Switchblade – David Wilkerson

Daughters of the Faith Series – Wendy Lawton  
 The Tinker's Daughter: Mary Bunyan  
 The Captive Princess: Pocahontas  
 Ransom's Mark: Pioneer Olive Oatman  
 Courage to Run: Harriet Tubman  
 Other books in this series count.

Elsie Dinsmore Series – Martha Finley  
 Elsie Dinsmore  
 Elsie's Holiday at Roselands  
 Elsie's Girlhood  
 Elsie's Womanhood  
 Other books in this series count.

Five Little Peppers Series – Margaret Sidney  
 Five Little Peppers and How They Grew  
 Five Little Peppers Abroad  
 Five Little Peppers Midway  
 Other books in this series count.

God King: A Story in the Days of King Hezekiah –  
 Joanne Williamson  
 The Great and Terrible Quest – Margaret Lovett

Greek Mythology – Rosemary Sutcliff  
 Black Ships Before Troy: Iliad  
 The Wanderings of Odysseus: Odyssey

The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt Day – Scott O'Dell  
 Hittite Warrior – Joanne Williamson

I Am David – Anne Holm  
 Indian Captive – Lois Lenski

Kingdom's Dawn Series – Chuck Black  
 Kingdom's Dawn  
 Kingdom's Hope  
 Kingdom's Edge  
 Kingdom's Call  
 Other books in this series count.

Little Pilgrim's Progress: From John Bunyan's  
 Classic – Helen L. Taylor  
 A Little Princess – Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mad Scientists' Club Series – Bertrand R. Brinley  
 The Mad Scientists' Club  
 The New Adventures of the Mad Scientists' Club  
 The Big Kerplow  
 The Big Chunk of Ice  
 The Big Egg  
 Other books in this series count.

My Side of the Mountain – Jean C. George

Nature Study Series – Holling Clancy Holling  
 Minn of the Mississippi  
 Paddle-to-the-Sea  
 Pagoo  
 Tree in the Trail  
 Seabird

Orphan Train Adventures – Joan Lowery Nixon  
 A Family Apart  
 Caught in the Act  
 In the Face of Danger  
 A Place to Belong  
 A Dangerous Promise  
 Keeping Secrets  
 Circle of Love

The Phantom Toll Booth – Norton Juster

Rani Adventure Series – Ron Snell  
 It's a Jungle Out There!  
 Life is a Jungle  
 Jungle Calls

Rascal – Sterling North

Rachel's Tears: The Spiritual Journey –  
 Beth Ninmo, Darrell Scott  
 Sarah Bishop – Scott O'Dell

Shadows on the Sea – Joan Hiatt Harlow  
 Shepherd of the Hills – Harold Bell Wright

The Silver Pencil – Alice Dagliesh  
 They Loved to Laugh – Kathryn Worth  
 Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson

Where the Red Fern Grows – Wilson Rawls  
 Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Graham