

The Write Foundation

Creating Sentences and Prepare to Write Reading List

Recommend for Ages 8 –12

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.

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 that are on their easy-to-read level and that interest them.
- **Avoid book reports. 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: To encourage students to read quality literature. The point groups are determined by length.

- Books are mostly listed in alphabetical order by title.
- If several books are by one author or a series by various authors, then these are included in the alphabetical order by the author's last name or a series title.
- Books are not listed in a required reading order.
- Give extra credit. For every 20 points read, 1 point could be added to the final semester grade. The teacher decides if the books must be read independently to count for extra credit. Limit to 5 points extra credit per semester.

Easy-to-Read? Abridged? Translated? Need teacher guidance and approval.

- **Avoid “easy-to-read” versions** of any books, such as those by Great Illustrated Classics.
- **Abridged** means a book has been condensed or shortened.

Where to find these books?

1. Many of these books will likely be found at a public library.
2. An easy way to find out more about these books is through Amazon or Thriftbooks descriptions and reviews.
3. A number of these books are available on Kindle.
4. Used and online bookstores offer new and used copies of many books at reasonable prices.
5. Amazon and Thriftbooks each carry most of these books.

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

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5 Point Books

Aesop's Fables (illustrator Charles Santore)
Aladdin: And Other Favorite Arabian Nights Stories – Philip Smith
The Bears on Hemlock Mountain – Alice Dalgliesh
The Big Wave – Pearl S. Buck
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
Legend of Sleepy Hollow – Washington Irving
The Little Riders – Margaretha Shemin
Li Lun, Lad of Courage – Carolyn Treffinger
Little Pear – Eleanor Frances Lattimore

Magic Treehouse Series – Mary Pope Osbourne Dinosaurs Before Dark The Knight at Dawn Other books in this series count.
The Minstrel in the Tower – Gloria Skurzynski
Paul Revere's Ride – Longfellow
Sarah Whitcher's Story – Elizabeth Yates
Shoes for Everyone – Barbara Mitchell
Stone Fox – John Reynolds Gardiner
Jesse <u>Stuart</u> Stories The Beatinest Boy Red Mule Old Ben A Penny's Worth of Character Other books by this author at this length count.
Tales of Robin Hood – Tony Allan
The Whipping Boy – Sid Fleischman
The White Stallion – Elizabeth Shub

10 Point Books

American Tall Tales – Adrien Stoutenburg
The Apprentice – Pilar Molina Llorente
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever – Barbara Robinson
The Cabin Faced West – Jean Fritz
Call it Courage – Armstrong Sperry
Castle Diary – Richard Platt
A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens
Clubhouse Mysteries – Sharon M. Draper The Buried Bones Lost in the Tunnel of Time The Space Mission Adventure Other books in this series count.
Dangerous Journey: The Story of Pilgrims Progress – Oliver Hunkin
The Door in the Wall – Marguerite De Angeli
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 count.

A Family Under the Bridge – Natalie Carlson
Jungle Books (not Disney) – Rudyard Kipling
The Little Duke – Charlotte Mary Yonge
Mountain Born – Elizabeth Yates
Rip Van Winkle – Washington Irving
Sarah Plain & Tall Series – Patricia MacLachlan Sarah Plain & Tall Skylark Caleb's Story More Perfect than the Moon Grandfather's Dance
Patricia <u>St. John</u> Series Where the River Begins Three Go Searching
The Story of My Life – Helen Keller
The Sword in the Tree – Clyde Robert Bulla
Sugar Creek Gang Series – Paul Hutchens The Swamp Robber The Killer Bear The Lost Campers Other books in this series are fine.
The Terrible Wave – Marden Dahlstedt
A Tree for Peter – Kate Seredy
The Year of Miss Agnes – Kirkpatrick Hill

15 Point Books

Archimedes and the Door of Science – Jeanne Bendick
Arabian Nights: Retold from the Classic Tales – Martin Woodside (adapter)
Baby Island – Carol Ryrie Brink
Benjamin West and his Cat Gimalkin – Marguerite Henry
Born in the Year of Courage – Emily Crofford
Bound for Oregon – Jean Van Leeuwen
Boxcar Children – Gertrude Chandler Warner Earlier books in this series count.
Bud and Me – Alta Abernathy
The Cay – Theodore Taylor
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Roald Dahl
The Children Who Stayed Alone – Bonnie Bess Worline
The Cricket in Times Square – George Selden
Daughters of the Faith Series – Wendy Lawton The Tinker's Daughter: Mary Bunyan The Captive Princess: Pocahontas Courage to Run: Harriet Tubman Other books in this series count.
A Gathering of Days – Joan W. Blos
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.
Greek Mythology – Rosemary Sutcliff Black Ships Before Troy: Iliad The Wanderings of Odysseus: Odyssey
Greek Myths (Classic Starts) – Dianne Namm
Helen Keller's Teacher – Margaret Davidson
James <u>Herriot</u> Animal Stories
How to Eat Fried Worms – Thomas Rockwell
Humbig Mountain – Sid Fleischman
In Search of Honor – Donna Lynn Hess

The Incredible Journey – Sheila Burnford
The Journeyman – Elizabeth Yates
Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling
Kingdom's Dawn Series – Chuck Black Kingdom's Dawn Kingdom's Hope Other books in this series count.
The Kite Fighters – Linda Sue Park
The Lion in the Gateway – Mary Renault
A Long Way from Chicago Series – Richard Peck A Long Way from Chicago A Season of Gifts Other books in this series count.
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.
Mr. Popper's Penguins – Atwater
Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
Gene Stratton <u>Porter</u> Freckles Laddie
The Red Badge of Courage – Stephen Crane
Saint Isaac and the Indians – Milton Lomack
Shades of Gray – Carolyn Reeder
Sign of the Beaver – Elizabeth G. Speare
Socks – Beverly Cleary
Patricia <u>St. John</u> Series The Tanglewood's Secret The Secret at Pheasant Cottage Rainbow Garden
Tuck Everlasting – Natalie Babbitt
E.B. <u>White</u> Charlotte's Web Stuart Little Trumpet of the Swan
The Wright Brothers – Quentin Reynolds

20 Point Books

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	Horse Stories – Marguerite Henry Misty of Chincoteague King of the Wind Other books in this series count.
Amos Fortune Free Man – Elizabeth Yates	Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O'Dell
Andersen's Fairy Tales – H. C. Andersen	Julie of the Wolves – Jean Craighead George
A Beatrix Potter Treasury – Beatrix Potter	Just David – Eleanor H. Porter
The Borrowers – Mary Norton	Kildee House – Rutherford George Montgomery
The Broken Blade – William Durbin	Leonardo Da Vinci – Emily Hahn
Building on the Rock Series – Joel R. Beeke & Diana Kleyn How God Stopped the Pirates Other books in this series count.	The Magna Charta – James Daugherty
Catherine Called Birdie – Karen Cushman	The Spirit Flyer Series – John Bibee The Magic Bicycle The Toy Campaign Other books in this series count.
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.	Mouse and the Motorcycle – Beverly Clearly Other books in this series count.
The Dragon Rider Who Saved the World: Trilogy – Ted & Rachelle Dekker	My Side of the Mountain – Jean C. George Other books in this series count.
The Escape – A. Vander Jagt	Old Yeller – Fred Gipson
Far out the Long Canal – Meindert Dejong	Orphan Train Adventures – Joan Lowery Nixon A Family Apart Caught in the Act Other books in this series count.
Follow My Leader – James B. Garfield	Otto of the Silver Hand – Howard Pyle
Freedom Train (Harriet Tubman) – Dorothy Sterling	The Pink Motel – Carol Ryrie Brink
God King: A Story in the Days of King Hezekiah – Joanne Williamson	Pollyanna – Eleanor H. Porter
The Good Master – Kate Seredy	Pooh Books (Original not Disney) – A. A. Milne Winnie the Pooh The House at Pooh Corner
The Great and Terrible Quest – Margaret Lovett	Rascal – Sterling North
The Great Gilly Hopkins – Katherine Paterson	The Secret Garden – Frances H. Burnett
The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt Day – Scott O'Dell	Snow Treasure – Marie McSwigan
Henry Huggins Series – Beverly Clearly Henry Huggins Henry and Ribsy Ribsy Other Henry Huggins books count.	Patricia <u>St. John</u> Series Star of Light Treasures of the Snow
Homesick – Jean Fritz	Stink Alley – Jamie Gilson
James <u>Herriot</u> Cat Stories	The Twenty-One Balloons – Wm. Pene du Bois
	The Younguns Series – Thomas L. Tedrow The Younguns of Mansfield Frankie and the Secret The Legend of the Missouri Mud Monster
	Up from Slavery – Booker T. Washington
	Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Graham

25 Point Books

Across Five Aprils – Irene Hunt
The Adventures of Pinocchio – Carlo Collodi
Air Raid, Pearl Harbor – Theodore Taylor
Black Horses for the King – Anne McCaffrey
The Bronze Bow – Elizabeth G. Speare
Bruscho – Bruce Olsen
By the Great Horn Spoon – Sid Fleischman
Carry on Mr. Bowditch – Jean Lee Latham
Calico Bush – Rachel Field
The Chestery Oak – Kate Seredy
Chronicles of Narnia Series – C. S. Lewis The Magicians Nephew The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe Other books in this series count.
Dear America Series – Historical Fiction Various Authors Across the Wide-Open Prairie I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly Any 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.
Frontiersmen (Heroes of History) – Janet Benge Daniel Boone Davy Crockett Other books in this series count.
The Golden Goblet – Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Heidi – Johanna Spyri
Henry Reed Series – Keith Robertson Henry Reed, Inc. Henry Reed's Journey Henry Reed's Babysitting Service
James <u>Herriot</u> If Only They Could Talk Vet in a Spin

Hope Rising: Stories from the Ranch of Rescued Dreams – Kim Meeder
Hittite Warrior – Joanne Williamson
I Am David – Anne Holm
Kidnapped – Robert Louis Stevenson
Kon-Tiki – Thor Heyerdahl
Lassie, Come Home – Eric Knight
A Lantern in Her Hand – Beth Streeter Aldrich
Little Lord Fauntleroy – Frances H. Burnett
A Little Princess – Frances Hodgson Burnett
Marco Polo: his travels and adventures – George Makepeace Towle
Miracles on Maple Hill – Virginia Sorenson
Mother Carey's Chickens – Kate Douglas Wiggin
Peter Pan – James M. Barrie
Gene Stratton <u>Porter</u> Girl of the Limberlost
The Prince and the Pauper – Mark Twain
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm – Kate Wiggin
<u>The Roman Britain Trilogy</u> – Rosemary Sutcliff Eagle of the Ninth The Silver Branch The Lantern Bearers
The Singing Tree – Kate Seredy
Sarah Bishop – Scott O'Dell
Shadows on the Sea – Joan Hiatt Harlow
The Silver Pencil – Alice Dagliesh
Tales from Shakespeare – Charles Lamb
Theras and His Town – Caroline Dale Snedeker
Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
The Trumpeter of Krakow – Eric P. Kelley
Warrior of the Son – Samuel Schiller

30 Point Books

Adam of the Road – Elizabeth Janet Gray
Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain
Big Red – Jim Kjelgaard
Caddie Woodlawn – Carol Ryrie Brink
Calico Captive – Elizabeth G. Speare
Crown and Covenant – Douglas Bond Duncan's War King's Arrow Rebel's Keep
Detectives in Togas – Henry Winterfeld The Mystery of the Roman Ransom (sequel)
Dutch Tales – Meindert Dejong Dirk's Dog Bello The Wheel on the School
Elsie Dinsmore Series – Martha Finley Elsie Dinsmore Elsie's Holiday at Roselands Elsie's Girlhood Other books in this series count.
God's Smuggler – Brother Andrew
Gone Away Lake – Elizabeth Enright
The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien
Johnny Tremain – Esther Hoskins Forbes
Lad: A Dog – Albert Payson Terhune

Little House Series – Laura Ingalls Wilder Little House in the Big Woods Little House on the Prairie Farmer Boy Other books in this series count.
Little Britches Series – Ralph Moody Little Britches: Father and I Were Ranchers Man of the Family The Home Ranch Other books in this series count.
Mara, Daughter of the Nile – Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Penderwick Series – Jean Birdsall The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale The Penderwicks at Gardam Street Other books in this series count.
The Ramsay Scallop – Frances Temple
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry – M. D. Taylor
The Shining Company – Rosemary Sutcliff
Snow in the River – Carol Ryrie Brink
Stowaway – Karen Hesse
Summer of the Monkeys – Wilson Rawls
Swift Rivers – Cornelia Meigs
Where the Red Fern Grows – Wilson Rawls