

# 4th Grade Summer Reading List

## Required Reading:

DiCamillo, Kate, Because of Winn-Dixie

*When India Opal Buloni and her father, who is a preacher, move to Florida, she finds a dog at the Winn-Dixie Supermarket who changes her life.*

## Other Recommended Books:

Avi, Secret School

*The Elk Valley, Colorado schoolhouse is five miles by dirt road from the Bidson's farm. Neither Ida nor Tom Bidson is tall enough to steer, clutch, and brake the family Model T, so Felix works the car's pedals with his hands while Ida kneels in the seat to adjust the throttle and steer. This amazing feat of synchronization is just a hint of the resourcefulness put into action when their school shuts down.*

Baker, E. D., The Frog Princess

*A kiss from a frog turns a human princess into a frog herself. Together, they seek the means to become human again.*

Birdsall, Jeanne, The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy

*Four lovable girls and their widowed father share their summer vacation adventures with a local boy.*

Blume, Judy, Superfudge

*The antics of Fudge continue in this sequel to **Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing**.*

Clements, Andrew, No Talking

*Loud fifth-grade boys challenge their fifth-grade girl classmates to a contest.*

Creech, Sharon, Granny Torelli Makes Soup

*When Rosie is about to lose her best friend she heads for Granny Torrelli's kitchen. There is no better place to solve life's problems. Rosie soaks up her grandmother's wisdom as easily as she breathes in the scent of the savory soups and sauces simmering on the stove.*

Davies, Jacqueline, The Lemonade Wars

*Evan Treski and his younger sister, Jessie, get along well in many ways. They play together, and their natural talents are complementary. Jessie is a whiz in math and other school subjects, but feelings were her weakest subject. Evan is competent in the social arena, but he is not such a good student. Their relationship changes the summer between Evan's third and fourth grades, when a letter arrives announcing what the boy sees as total disaster for him. He and his bright, skipping-third-grade sister will be in the same class. Thus begins the Lemonade War over which child can make the most money during the last week before school.*

DiCamillo, Kate, The Tale of Despereaux

*From birth everyone recognizes that Despereaux is not your usual mouse. His huge ears, his love of music, his odd habit of reading rather than eating paper, and his tendency to rely on his own instincts rather than following the rules make him a misfit disowned by his parents. Will he end his days swallowed up by the castle's rat infested dungeon or will he save the lovely Princess Pea from dastardly doings?*

Estes, Eleanor, The Hundred Dresses

*Wanda Petronski lives way up in shabby Boggins Heights, and she doesn't have any friends. Every day she wears a faded blue dress, which wouldn't be too much of a problem if she didn't tell her schoolmates that she had a hundred dresses at home--all silk, all colors, and velvet, too. This lie--albeit understandable in light of her dress-obsessed circle--precipitates peals of laughter from her peers, and she never hears the end of it.*

Fitzgerald, John D., The Great Brain

*The best con man in the Midwest is only ten years old. Tom, a.k.a., the Great Brain, is a silver-tongued genius with a knack for turning a profit. When the Jenkins boys get lost in Skeleton Cave, the Great Brain saves the day. Whether it's saving the kids at school, or helping out Peg-leg Andy, or Basil, the new kid at school, the Great Brain always manages to come out on top—and line his pockets in the process.*

Gorman, Carol, *Dork in Disguise*

*On the day that he starts life in a new town at a new school, Jerry Flack takes steps to become known as Mr. Cool. Although he's done his homework on the topic, he still needs help to erase all signs of nerdiness. Salvation comes from an expected source just when Jerry is beginning to wonder if coolness is what he really wants.*

Henry, Marguerite, *Misty of Chincoteague*

*On an island off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. Among them is the most mysterious of all, Phantom, a rarely seen mare that eludes all efforts to capture her--that is, until a young boy and girl lay eyes on her and determine that they can't live without her. The frenzied roundup that follows on the next "Pony Penning Day" does indeed bring Phantom into their lives, in a way they never would have suspected. Phantom would forever be a creature of the wild. But her gentle, loyal colt Misty is another story altogether.*

Hill, Kirkpatrick, *The Year of Miss Agnes*

*Teachers never seem to last more than a year at Frederika's one room school in a rural Alaskan Athabaskan village, until an Englishwoman, a teacher unlike any they have had before, shows up in front of the class one day.*

Holm, Jennifer L., *Turtle in Paradise*

*In this Newbery Honor book, set during the Great Depression, eleven-year-old Turtle is sent to live with an Aunt she has never met in Key West, Florida. Turtle joins with her cousin and their friends in watching babies, fishing and finding secret treasure. Historical Fiction doesn't get much better than this heartwarming and enjoyable story.*

Horvath, Peggy, *Trolls*

*The Andersons are leaving for a vacation in France. In a last minute mix-up, the children's quirky Aunt Sally, a relative they have never met, flies in from Vancouver to stay with them. She wins them over with unexpected touches of serendipity and bedtime tales filled with her hair-raising childhood escapades.*

Lubar, David, *Punished!*

*Logan must speak in puns and perform three tasks using oxymorons, anagrams, and palindromes as punishment for failing to make a sincere apology to a mysterious man he meets at the library.*

Morpurgo, Michael, The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips

*Michael's grandmother sends him an unusual gift as a way of telling him some important news about herself. The gift takes Michael back to his grandmother's childhood when the English and Americans were preparing for D-Day.*

Morpurgo, Michael, Kensuke's Kingdom

*When Michael's parents lose their jobs, they decide to sell the house, buy a yacht called the "Peggy Sue," and spend a year traveling around the world. What they don't foresee is that one night Michael and his dog Stella will be swept off the ship into the Coral Sea. Washed up on an island, Michael discovers that he and Stella are not alone as he struggles to survive and attempts to light a signal fire.*

Morris, Gerald, The Adventures of Sir Lancelot the Great; The Adventures of Sir Givret the Short

*Gerald Morris recreates the world of King Arthur in these short, humorous retellings of the adventures of the Knights of the Round Table. Both of these tales recreate some of the great moments in Arthurian lore while also being laugh out loud funny. Readers will find these books hard to put down.*

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds, Shiloh

*When 11-year-old Marty Preston chances upon a mistreated beagle pup in his hometown of Friendly, West Virginia, he is not prepared for the ethical questions he has to face. Should he return the dog to its owner, only to have the animal abused again? Should he tell his parents? Should he steal food to help the poor creature?*

Schlitz, Laura Amy, The Night Fairy

*Exquisite color plates illustrate this story of Flory, a night fairy, whose wings are damaged when she is mistaken for a moth by a bat. Defenseless because she is unable to fly, but still fierce and resourceful, Flory tries to build a new life in the daytime. She learns to use her magic, even though it is still strongest at a little before midnight, during the hour she was born.*

Smith, Robert K., Chocolate Fever

*After eating too much chocolate, Henry breaks out in brown bumps that help him foil some hijackers and teach him a lesson about self indulgence.*

Winthrop, Elizabeth, The Castle in the Attic

*Before William's nanny returns to England, she gives him a very real looking miniature castle so big it can only fit in the attic. Imagine her surprise when she finds herself trapped inside.*