

**SUMMER READING LIST
5TH GRADE
2009-2010**

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

I have selected four books for the fifth grade summer reading list to help the children develop and maintain their love for reading. The book list includes the titles, authors and brief descriptions of the plots. I am requiring each incoming fifth grade student to select two of the three books to read over the summer. Upon the return to school in August, the fifth graders will be writing about the two books they read over the summer.

There are many reasons why I encourage summer reading. Reading increases vocabulary, improves spelling, strengthens writing skills and develops comprehension skills, to name a few. Please encourage your child to read daily during the summer. As parents, you can lead by example. Take time daily to read to your child or immerse yourself in a good book. Read as a family! The benefits are amazing.

**Sincerely,
Claudia Hilligoss
Language Arts Teacher**

Ruby Holler

by

Sharon Creech

Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins Dallas and Florida have grown up in a terrible orphanage, but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.

The Birchbark House

by

Louise Erdrich

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

Survivors: True Stories of Children of the Holocaust

**By
Allen Zullo**

True-life accounts of nine Jewish boys and girls, whose lives spiraled into danger and fear as the Holocaust overtakes Europe. What they all shared was the unshakable belief in-- and hope for-- survival. Their legacy of courage in the face of hatred will move you, captivate you, and, ultimately, inspire you.

Bud, Not Buddy

**by
Christopher Paul Curtis**

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.