

## Cornerstone Classical School Required and Recommended Summer Reading

*Stories have that capacity to bestow images to memory, even in the youngest child, that become metaphors for the moral imagination. ... With these images and metaphors, the moral imagination draws these correspondences in life that enable us to make judgments, to choose good over evil, to do what is right.*

--Dr. Vigen Guroian *Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia*

Studies show that TV watching decreases IQ and that reading increases IQ scores. We tell parents that if they want to affect their child's test scores, reading should become a priority in the home. However, it is not just reading that increases intelligence. It is also the environment in which reading occurs. A home which supports reading is one in which the parents are not yelling all the time, the TV is off, and siblings behave in a civil manner so that the reading child is able to sit and read with minimal distractions in the background. To read, a child must learn to ignore distractions. The structure of a home environment which allows and encourages reading forms the backbone of academic achievement and growth.

Even more than this, it is through reading that we tend the souls of our children, teaching them what is good, true, and beautiful. Above all, God has given us His Word. As Christians, we must be readers, for without the Word, we cannot engage the world.

With this in mind, Cornerstone encourages its families to prioritize reading. We hope you find some favorites among these offerings! These selections are just a starting point for great books for your student! Feel free to look at resources such as *Honey for Child's Heart* and *Honey for a Teen's Heart* by Gladys Hunt for more ideas. For ideas for family read-alouds, visit Sarah Mackenzie's Read-Aloud Revival Booklist, which can be found online at <https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

**If you have children across a wide age range, you do not need to do more than one read-aloud at a time.** Many of the chapter books in the lists below work for multiple ages. If you are in this situation and need help, please call the office, we will be glad to make a recommendation that will work for your family.

### **New Students Entering Grades Five or Above**

Students new to Cornerstone and entering Grades Five or above who have not read *The Chronicles of Narnia* should read at least two books from the *Chronicles of Narnia* series in addition to the required reading listed below.

## Summer reading list selections for students entering Preschool

Required:

Two family read-alouds, plus any 15 picture books (or exchange 10 picture books for an additional chapter book)

These websites have great booklists. <https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>.  
<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

### Recommended Reading List

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

C.W. Anderson\*

Jill Barklem\*

Jan Brett\*

Virginia Lee Burton\*

Eric Carle\*

Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire\*

Laurent de Brunhoff\*

Marjorie Flack\*

Don Freeman

*Corduroy*

Paul Galdone\*

James Herriot

*James Herriot's Treasury for Children*

Russell Hoban\*

Lois Lenski\* (not the chapter books)

*Mr. Small series*

*Little series*

Robert McCloskey\*

Peggy Parish\*

Cynthia Rylant

*Henry and Mudge series*

Richard Scarry

*Richard Scarry's Please and Thank You Book*

Esphyr Slobodkina

*Caps for Sale*

Robert Louis Stevenson

*A Child's Garden of Verses*

Tasha Tudor\*

Brinton Turkle\*

## Summer Reading List Selections for Students Entering Kindergarten

### Summer Reading List for Kindergarten

Required: Two family read-alouds, plus any 15 picture books (or exchange 10 picture books for an additional chapter book)

These websites have great booklists. <https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>  
<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

### Recommended Reading List

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author)

**Series/Title**

C. W. Anderson\*

*Billy and Blaze* series

Jan Brett\*

Virginia Lee Burton\*

Eric Carle\*

Laurent de Brunhoff\*

Robert McCloskey\*

Paul Galdone\*

Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire\*

Peggy Parish

*Amelia Bedelia* series

Tasha Tudor\*

Brinton Turkle\*

Thornton W. Burgess\*

P.D. Eastman\*

Maj Lindman

*Flicka, Ricka, and Dicka* series

*Snipp, Snapp, Snurr* series

*Harry, the Dirty Dog* series

*Mr. Small* series

*Curious George* series

Gene Zion

Lois Lenski

H.A. Rey

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade One

Required:

Two family read-alouds—chapter books

Student reading—twenty minutes per day (for independent readers), three to five days per week

These websites have great booklists. <https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>  
<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>

### Recommended Reading List

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author)

**Series/Title**

*Billy and Blaze series*

*A Little Princess*

*St. George and the Dragon*

*Chronicles of Narnia*

*Shakespeare's Stories for Young Readers*

*Amelia Bedelia series*

*A Child's Garden of Verses*

*Childhood of Famous Americans*

*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*

*Emperor's New Clothes (and others)*

*Flat Stanley*

*If You Give A Mouse A Cookie*

*Madeline (and others)*

*Ox-Cart Man*

*Paper Crane*

*Shy Little Kitten*

*St. George and the Dragon*

*Thunder Cake*

*Velveteen Rabbit*

*Are You My Mother?*

*Green Eggs and Ham*

*Leo the Late Bloomer*

*New Coat for Anna*

*George the Drummer Boy*

(& other History I Can Read books)

C.W. Anderson

Francis Hodges Burnett

Virginia Lee Burton\*

Margaret Hodges

C.S. Lewis

A.A. Milne\*

E. Nesbit

Peggy Parish

Beatrix Potter\*

Robert Louis Stevenson

various authors

J. Viorst

Hans Christian Anderson

Jeff Brown

Laura Joffe Numeroff

Ludwig Bemelmans

Robert McCloskey\*

Donald Hall

Molly Bang

Cathleen Schurr

Margaret Hodges

Patricia Polacco

Margery Williams

P. D. Eastman

Dr. Seuss

Robert Kraus

Harriet Ziefert

Nathaniel Benchley

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade Two

Required:

Two family read-alouds—chapter books

Student reading—twenty minutes per day, three to five days per week

These websites have great booklists. <https://biblicalhomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>  
<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>

### Recommended Reading List

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

C.W. Anderson\*

Jill Barklem\*

Walter Brooks\*

Frances Hodges Burnett

*A Little Princess*

Virginia Lee Burton\*

Alice Dalgliesh\*

Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire\*

Genevieve Foster

*George Washington's World*

Jean Fritz\*

James Herriot

*James Herriot's Treasury for Children*

Margaret Hodges

*St George and the Dragon*

Paul Hutchens

*Sugar Creek Gang series*

C.S. Lewis

*Chronicles of Narnia*

A.A. Milne\*

E. Nesbit

*Shakespeare's Stories for Young Readers*

Peggy Parish\*

Beatrix Potter\*

Robert Louis Stevenson

*A Child's Garden of Verses*

Patricia St John

*Treasures of the Snow* (unabridged version)

Various

*Childhood of Famous Americans series*

Laura Ingalls Wilder\*

Irene Hunt

*Across Five Aprils*

Sid Fleischman

*The Whipping Boy*

J.R.R. Tolkien

*The Hobbit*

Rachel Field

*Hitty, Her First Hundred Years*

Carol Brink

*Caddie Woodlawn*

Gertrude Chandler Warner

*The Boxcar Children*

Betty MacDonald

*Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*

H. Gramatley

*Little Toot*

R. Stiles

*My Father's Dragon*

Nancy Levinson

*Clara and the Bookwagon*

Arnold Lobel

*Frog and Toad*

Cynthia Rylant

*Henry and Mudge Series*

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade Three

Required: One family read-aloud. Any three chapter books for independent reading. Our recommended list is below.

These websites have great booklists. <https://biblicalhomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>  
<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>

### Recommended Reading List

<b><u>Author</u></b>	<b><u>Title/Series</u></b>
Louisa May Alcott	<i>Little Women</i>
Michael Bond	<i>Paddington</i> series
Carol Ryrie Brink	<i>Caddie Woodlawn</i>
Frances Hodges Burnett	<i>Secret Garden</i>
Sheila Burnford	<i>The Incredible Journey</i>
Padraic Colum	<i>Children's Homer</i>
Dorothy Canfield Fisher	<i>Understood Betsy</i>
Genevieve Foster	<i>Augustus Caesar's World</i>
Margaurite Henry	<i>Misty of Chincoteague</i> series
Irene Hunt	<i>Across Five Aprils</i>
Norton Juster	<i>The Phantom Toolbooth</i>
Charles and Mary Lamb	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia</i> series
Hugh Lofting	<i>The Story of Doctor Doolittle</i>
Maud Hart Lovelace	<i>Betsy-Tacy</i> series
Marie McSwigan	<i>Snow Treasure</i>
E. Nesbit	<i>Shakespeare's Stories for Young Readers</i>
Sterling North	<i>Rascal</i>
Jane Poter	<i>Just David</i>
George Selden	<i>Cricket in Times Square</i>
Johanna Spyri	<i>Heidi</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>The Hobbit</i>
Laura Ingalls Wilder	<i>Little House on the Prairie</i> series

The following titles are assigned school-year readings in Grade Three. *Jayhawker, Old Yeller, Charlotte's Web, Cricket in Times Square, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, A Christmas Carol, The Horse and His Boy, Archimedes and the Door of Science, The Trumpet of the Swan, The Bronze Bow*

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade Four

Required: One family read-aloud, plus any three chapter books for independent reading. Our recommended list is below.

These websites have great booklists.

<https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>

<b><u>Author</u></b>	<b><u>Title/Series</u></b>
Louisa May Alcott	<i>Little Women</i>
Michael Bond	<i>Paddington series</i>
Carol Ryrie Brink	<i>Caddie Woodlawn</i>
Frances Hodgson Burnett	<i>Secret Garden</i>
Sheila Burnford	<i>The Incredible Journey</i>
Padraic Colum	<i>Children's Homer</i>
Dorothy Canfield Fisher	<i>Understood Betsy</i>
Genevieve Foster	<i>Augustus Caesar's World</i>
Margaurite Henry	<i>Misty of Chincoteague series</i>
Irene Hunt	<i>Across Five Aprils</i>
Norton Juster	<i>The Phantom Toolbooth</i>
Charles and Mary Lamb	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia series</i>
Hugh Lofting	<i>The Story of Doctor Doolittle</i>
Maud Hart Lovelace	<i>Betsy-Tacy series</i>
Marie McSwigan	<i>Snow Treasure</i>
E. Nesbit	<i>Shakespeare's Stories for Young Readers</i>
Sterling North	<i>Rascal</i>
Jane Potter	<i>Just David</i>
George Selden	<i>Cricket in Times Square</i>
Johanna Spyri	<i>Heidi</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>The Hobbit</i>
Laura Ingalls Wilder	<i>Little House on the Prairie series</i>

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade Five

Required:

1. One family read-aloud, C.S. Lewis' *The Silver Chair*, and one book from the lists below. Enrolled students may come by the office to pick up a copy of the required reading.
2. Pick a family read-aloud from one of the following booklists.  
<https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

Students new to Cornerstone and entering Grades Five or above who have not read *The Chronicles of Narnia* should read at least two books from the *Chronicles of Narnia* series in addition to the required reading listed below.

Additional recommended titles:

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

Lloyd Alexander	<i>Chronicles of Prydain</i> series
Lewis Carroll	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>
Alfred Church	<i>Aeneid for Boys and Girls</i>
Emily Dickinson	Poetry
William Pene DuBois	<i>Twenty-One Balloons</i>
Walter Farley	<i>Black Stallion</i> series
Robert Frost	Poetry
Charles and Mary Lamb	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>
Madeline L'Engle	<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>
Lois Lenski* (not the easy readers)	<i>Strawberry Girl</i> <i>San Francisco Boy</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia</i> series
Lucy Maud Montgomery	<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> series
Noel Streatfeild	<i>Ballet Shoes</i>
Corrie ten Boom	<i>The Hiding Place</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>Lord of the Rings</i> Trilogy
Various	Men of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers
Various	Women of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers

Assigned school-year reading for Grade Five includes: *Rifles for Watie*, *The Silver Chair*, *Treasure Island*, *Carry On Mr. Bowditch*, and *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*.

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grade Six

Required:

1. C.S. Lewis' *The Last Battle* and at least one book from the lists below.  
Enrolled students may come by the office to pick up a copy of the required reading.
2. One family read-aloud,

Pick a family read-aloud from one of the following booklists.

<https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

Students new to Cornerstone and entering Grades Five or above who have not read *The Chronicles of Narnia* should read at least two books from the *Chronicles of Narnia* series in addition to the required reading listed below.

Additional recommended titles:

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

Lloyd Alexander	<i>Chronicles of Prydain</i> series
Lewis Carroll	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>
Alfred Church	<i>Aeneid for Boys and Girls</i>
Emily Dickinson	Poetry
William Pene DuBois	<i>Twenty-One Balloons</i>
Walter Farley	<i>Black Stallion</i> series
Robert Frost	Poetry
Charles and Mary Lamb	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>
Madeline L'Engle	<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>
Lois Lenski* (not the easy readers)	<i>Strawberry Girl</i> <i>San Francisco Boy</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia</i> series
Lucy Maud Montgomery	<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> series
Noel Streatfeild	<i>Ballet Shoes</i>
Corrie ten Boom	<i>The Hiding Place</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>Lord of the Rings</i> Trilogy
Various	Men of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers
Various	Women of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers

Grade Six assigned school-year reading includes: *Twenty-one Balloons*, *The Call of the Wild*, *White Fang*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grades Seven and Eight

Required:

1. Genesis and Exodus

2. Pick a family read-aloud from one of the following booklists.

<https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>.

Students new to Cornerstone and entering Grades Five or above who have not read The Chronicles of Narnia should read at least two books from the Chronicles of Narnia series in addition to the required reading listed below.

Additional Recommended Titles:

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

Jane Austen*	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
G.K. Chesterton*	<i>Father Brown Mysteries</i>
James Fenimore Cooper	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>
Emily Dickinson	Poetry
Robert Frost	Poetry
C.S. Forester	<i>Horatio Hornblower series</i>
Alex and Bret Harris	<i>Do Hard Things</i>
James Herriot	<i>All Creatures Great and Small</i>
Lois Lenski* (not the easy readers)	<i>Indian Captive, the Story of Mary Jamison</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia series</i>
John Piper	<i>Don't Waste Your Life</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Julius Caesar</i>
	<i>Hamlet</i>
	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
	<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
Elizabeth George Speare	
Corrie ten Boom	<i>The Hiding Place</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>Lord of the Rings Trilogy</i>
Various	Men of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers
Various	Women of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers

## Summer Reading Selections for Students Entering Grades Nine through Twelve

Required:

1. John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*

Enrolled students may come by the office to pick up a copy of *Pilgrim's Progress*.

2. Pick a family read-aloud from one of the following booklists.

<https://biblicalthomeschooling.org/classical/celoop/1000.html>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/recommends>

Students new to Cornerstone and entering Grades Five or above who have not read *The Chronicles of Narnia* should read at least two books from the *Chronicles of Narnia* series in addition to the required reading listed below.

Additional Recommended Titles:

**Author** (\*indicates any book by that author) **Title/Series**

Jane Austen*	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
G.K. Chesterton*	<i>Father Brown Mysteries</i>
James Fenimore Cooper	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>
Emily Dickinson	Poetry
Robert Frost	Poetry
C.S. Forester	<i>Horatio Hornblower series</i>
Alex and Bret Harris	<i>Do Hard Things</i>
James Herriot	<i>All Creatures Great and Small</i>
Lois Lenski* (not the easy readers)	<i>Indian Captive, the Story of Mary Jamison</i>
C.S. Lewis	<i>Chronicles of Narnia series</i>
John Piper	<i>Don't Waste Your Life</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Julius Caesar</i>
	<i>Hamlet</i>
	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
	<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
Elizabeth George Speare	
Corrie ten Boom	<i>The Hiding Place</i>
JRR Tolkien	<i>Lord of the Rings Trilogy</i>
Various	Men of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers
Various	Women of Faith series, Bethany House Publishers