



**American Education International (AEI) Summer Reading Program
2024-2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades K-1)**

Purpose

The purpose of AEI's summer reading program is to encourage independent reading outside of school, provide students with a shared experience that can serve as a reference point for discussions in the coming school year, augment the AEI curriculum, and cultivate a love of reading.

Reading Materials

Parents of incoming kindergarten and first-grade students should read aloud at least two books from the list below to their child.

Assessment/Grading

On the first day of school, parents will receive a summer reading review sheet to be completed and returned to the teacher, which will count as a completion grade. This sheet should include the titles and authors of the books read and a signed affirmation stating, "I have read these books to my child in their entirety during the course of this past summer." No additional graded assignments will be given over the summer reading.



Book List

- Margery Williams, *The Velveteen Rabbit*
- Michael Bond, *A Bear Called Paddington*
- Robert McCloskey, *Blueberries for Sal*
- William Steig, (any book by this author, e.g., *Brave Irene*, *Doctor DeSoto*)
- Harriet Ziefert, *A New Coat for Anna*
- Don Freeman, *Dandelion*
- Hildegard H. Swift and Lynd Ward, *The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge*
- Thornton Burgess, *Big Book of Animal Stories* (or others of his animal story compilations)
- Betty MacDonald, *Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*
- Jean de Brunhoff, *Babar* (any book in the series)
- John Peterson, *The Littles* (any book in the series)
- Jerry Pinkney, *Aesop's Fables*



Summer Reading Program Affirmation Sheet

• **Student Name (print):** _____

• **Grade Level:** _____

• **Required Books:**

• _____

• _____

• **Optional Books:**

• _____

• _____

“I affirm that I have read these books to my child in their entirety during the course of the summer of 2024.”

Signature: _____



2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades 2-6)

Purpose

The purpose of AEI's summer reading program is to encourage independent reading outside of school, provide students with a shared experience that can serve as a reference point for discussions in the coming school year, augment the AEI curriculum, and cultivate a love of reading.

Reading Materials

Students are expected to read two books each summer for the summer reading program. The first book is required for all students entering a given grade, selected by faculty to augment the curriculum. The second book can be chosen from the optional book list for their grade level.

Assessment/Grading

On the first day of school, students are expected to submit a summer reading review sheet to their literature teacher for a completion grade. Students will list the books read and sign an affirmation that these books were read for the first time, in their entirety, during the past summer.



Incoming 2nd Grade

- **Required:** Peter and Connie Roop, *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie*
- **Optional:**
 - Alice Dalgliesh, *The Bears on Hemlock Mountain*
 - Beatrix Potter, *Tales from Beatrix Potter*
 - Marjorie Weinman Sharmat, *Nate the Great*
 - Gertrude Chandler Warner, *The Boxcar Children* (any book in the series)
 - Eleanor Estes, *The Hundred Dresses*

Incoming 3rd Grade

- **Required:** Patricia MacLachlan, *Sarah, Plain and Tall*
- **Optional:**
 - A. A. Milne, *The House at Pooh Corner*
 - Clyde Robert Bulla, *A Lion to Guard Us*
 - William Pene Du Bois, *The Twenty-One Balloons*
 - E. B. White, *The Trumpet of the Swan*
 - George Seldon, *The Cricket in Times Square*
 - Robert McCloskey, *Homer Price*

Incoming 4th Grade

- **Required:** C.S. Lewis, *The Horse and His Boy*
- **Optional:**
 - Lois Lenski, *Indian Captive*
 - Laura Ingalls Wilder, *Little House on the Prairie*
 - E. L. Konigsburg, *Tales from the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*
 - Oliver Hunkin, *Dangerous Journey*
 - Andrew Lang, *The Blue Fairy Book*
 - Jean Fritz, *The Cabin Faced West*



Incoming 5th Grade

- **Required:** C. S. Lewis, *The Magician's Nephew*
- **Optional:**
 - Meindert DeJong, *The House of Sixty Fathers*
 - Jeanne Bendick, *Archimedes and the Door of Science*
 - Fred Gipson, *Old Yeller*
 - Claire Huchet Bishop, *Twenty & Ten*
 - George MacDonald, *At the Back of the North Wind*

Incoming 6th Grade

- **Required:** J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*
- **Optional:**
 - Lois Lowry, *The Giver*
 - William H. Armstrong, *Souder*
 - Elizabeth George Speare, *The Sign of the Beaver*
 - Elizabeth George Speare, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*
 - Avi, *True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*
 - Hugh Lofting, *The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle*
 - Elizabeth Yates, *Amos Fortune, Free Man*



2024–2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades 7–12)

Purpose

The AEI summer reading program is designed to encourage independent reading outside of school, provide students with a shared experience for discussions in the coming school year, augment the AEI curriculum, and cultivate a love of reading.

Reading Materials

Students are expected to read two to four books (depending on the grade level) each summer. Required books are selected by faculty to augment the grade’s curriculum, while optional books are chosen by students from the grade-specific list.

Book Availability

Literature books for the school year are purchased by families for their students. Required reading books for grades 7-11 are available for checkout from the AEI library or your local library, with optional texts available on a first-come basis. These books must be returned when school resumes.

Assessment/Grading

Students must submit a summer reading review sheet on the first day of school, listing the books read and affirming that these were read for the first time, in their entirety, during the past summer. Teachers may also assign essays or other assignments related to the required books as part of the coursework.



Incoming 7th Grade

- **Required:** Baroness Orczy, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*
- **Optional (choose 1):**
 - Rudyard Kipling, *The Jungle Book*
 - Eloise Jarvis McGraw, *The Golden Goblet*
 - Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*
 - Jules Verne, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*
 - G. A. Henty, *The Dragon and the Raven*
 - G. A. Henty, *The Young Carthaginian*
 - Jean Lee Latham, *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch*

Incoming 8th Grade

- **Required:** Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- **Optional (choose 1):**
 - Madeleine L'Engle, *A Wrinkle in Time*
 - Richard Adams, *Watership Down*
 - Jules Verne, *Around the World in Eighty Days* (original and unabridged)
 - Marjorie Rawlings, *The Yearling*
 - Mark Twain, *The Prince and the Pauper*



Incoming 9th Grade

- **Required:**
 - Aeschylus, *The Persians and Seven Against Thebes* (pages 88-152)
 - Plutarch, *Makers of Rome* (Cato the Elder, Tiberius Gracchus, Gaius Gracchus, and Mark Antony, pages 119-193 & 271-349)
- **Optional (choose 1):**
 - Lloyd Douglas, *The Robe*
 - George Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion*
 - Henryk Sienkiewicz, *Quo Vadis*
 - Lew Wallace, *Ben Hur*
 - Louis de Wohl, *Citadel of God: A Novel about Saint Benedict*
 - Louis de Wohl, *The Restless Flame: A Novel about Saint Augustine*

Incoming 10th Grade

- **Required:**
 - Robert Bolt, *A Man for All Seasons*
 - Sir Thomas More, *Utopia*
- **Optional (choose 1):**
 - G. K. Chesterton, *Saint Thomas Aquinas: The Dumb Ox*
 - G. K. Chesterton, *Saint Francis of Assisi*
 - Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Idylls of the King*
 - T. H. White, *Once and Future King*
 - Sigrid Undset, *Catherine of Siena*
 - Augustine, *On Christian Doctrine* (De Doctrina Christiana)
 - Richard of St. Victor, *The Mystical Ark, or Benjamin Major*



Incoming 11th Grade

- **Required:**
 - Carrie Young, *Nothing to Do but Stay*
 - Mark Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
 - David McCullough, *1776* (excerpts: pages 44–69, 75–112, 135–140, 212–229, 241–246, and 272–294)
- **Optional (choose 1):**
 - Wendell Berry, *Jayber Crow*
 - Willa Cather, *Death Comes for the Archbishop*
 - Ernest Hemingway, *A Farewell to Arms*
 - John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*
 - Owen Wister, *The Virginian*
 - Marilynne Robinson, *Gilead: A Novel*
 - Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

Incoming 12th Grade

- **Required:**
 - Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment*
 - C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (included in *The C. S. Lewis Signature Classics: An Anthology*)
 - Robert Penn Warren, *All the King's Men* (part of the Senior literature book package)
- **Suggested, though not required:**
 - Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*
 - John Milton, *Paradise Lost*
 - Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
 - Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*
 - Jane Austen, *Emma*



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- Anthony Doerr, *All the Light We Cannot See*
- George Eliot, *Middlemarch*
- William Makepeace Thackeray, *Vanity Fair*
- Victor Hugo, *Les Miserables*
- Alexander Solzhenitsyn, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*



Summer Reading Program Affirmation Sheet

• **Student Name (print):**): _____

• **Grade Level:** _____

• **Required Books:**

- _____
- _____
- _____

• **Optional Books:**

- _____
- _____

“I affirm that I have read these books for the first time, in their entirety, during the course of the summer of 2024.”

Signature: _____