



The Charleston Catholic School 2025 Summer Reading List Rising Fifth Grade

CCS encourages students to read during the summer months. Reading challenges new vocabulary understanding and usage, exposes students to a variety of authors and styles of writing, and hopefully will enhance students' personal writing.

Incoming fifth graders are required to read a minimum of **2 books** over the summer. One must be from the Fifth Grade Battle Books list, and one must be from the Independent Reading list below (not a Battle Book).

1. Choose and read one book from the attached fifth-grade Battle of the Books List and complete a Battle of the Books Log Sheet. Use complete sentences in your answers. Your answers may be either written or typed.
2. Choose and read one book from the attached Independent Reading List; you do not have to fill out a log sheet for this book. However, you do have to complete the Book Talk Assignment about the independent reading book you read. See the attached rubric for the Book Talk assignment.

Battle of the Books List

Book Title	Author
Brian's Winter	Gary Paulsen
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan
The Magician's Nephew	C.S. Lewis
Maniac Magee	Jerry Spinelli
Out of My Mind	Sharon Draper
The Secret Garden	Burnett
The Boxcar Children (Series)	Warner
Ferris	Kate DiCamillo
The Underdogs	Mike Lupica

Independent Reading Book List

Book Title	Author
Frindle	Andrew Clements
Spy School	Stuart Gibbs
The Mysterious Benedict Society	Stewart
Inside Out and Back Again	Thanhha Lai
A Story of Joan of Arc	Earnest
The Hero Two Doors Down	
The Chronicles of Narnia (Series)	C.S. Lewis
The Fort	Korman
My Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George

Title of 1st book: _____

Author: _____

Date completed: _____

Please submit this paper on the first day of class in August.

Parent signature: _____

Student name: _____

Title of 2nd book: _____

Author: _____

Date completed: _____

Please submit this paper on the first day of class in August.

Parent signature: _____

Student name: _____

Name: _____

Battle of the Books Log Sheet

Title: _____

Author: _____

Date Finished: _____

Answer the following questions about the book you chose to read from the **Battle of the Books List**. Please answer the following questions on paper. Please write in complete sentences and provide examples from the book to support your answers.

- 1) What is the setting of the book?
- 2) How does the setting affect what happens in the story? Could the events have happened somewhere else?
- 3) How would the story change if it took place in a different time or place?
- 4) What clues does the author give to help you imagine the setting? Which details stood out most to you?
- 5) Who do you think is the most important character in the story, and why?
- 6) How does the main character (protagonist) grow or change from the beginning to the end?
- 7) Would you be friends with the protagonist? Why or why not?
- 8) What is the main problem or conflict in the story? Who or what is causing it?
- 9) Have you ever faced a similar problem in your own life? How did you handle it?
- 10) If you could give the main character advice about how to solve the problem, what would you say?
- 11) What events build tension or make the problem more difficult before the climax?
- 12) How is the main conflict resolved? Do you think it was a good ending? Why or why not?
- 13) If you were the author, would you have ended the story differently? How?
- 14) What lesson do you think the characters—or the readers—are supposed to learn by the end?

Book Talk Assignment

Directions: Choose **ONE** of the books that you read from the **Independent Reading List**. Prepare a short oral presentation (less than 5 minutes) that reviews the book for your classmates. See below for the list of requirements:

- 1) The book must be a 9/10 or 10/10 on your interest level. Do not review a book you would not recommend to classmates.
- 2) Your presentation must include:
 - a) The title and author of your book
 - b) Why you chose to pick it and read the book
 - c) A description of the main character(s)
 - d) The problem the main character(s) struggle within the book
 - e) What do you think the author is trying to teach you, the reader, about life?
 - f) What did you love about the book?
 - g) Who should read this book? What other books, movies, TV shows, video games, etc are similar to your book?
 - h) **DO NOT** give away the ending of the book in your presentation.

****You may create a poster or PowerPoint presentation to help you give your presentation.**