

Rising 5TH Grade Summer Reading Assignment - 2026

MUST DO: For your summer reading assignment, you will choose a book to read and complete a project to turn in on the first day of school. You will be presenting your project to your class.

- The following reading list consists of books whose authors have created characters who learn and grow demonstrating virtues of faith, hope, love, courage, justice, forgiveness, and service. These are wonderful character traits to read about and emulate!
- You may choose a book that is not on this list if you know of one you would like to read and can highlight a virtuous character.

Once you have read your book work on your project:

Make a poster that shows what readers can learn about virtue from the main character (or other virtuous character) of your chosen book. You may show your character demonstrating virtue in a scene from the book or make a collection of scenes. Think about how the character demonstrates the virtues of faith, hope, love, courage, justice, forgiveness, service, etc. Illustrations should be accompanied by a written description of what virtue the character exhibited and what they said, did, and/ or thought to show the virtue. Please make your poster illustrations neat and colorful. Writing should be bold and easy to read. Many books highlight several virtues so feel free to point out multiple virtues you saw as you create your poster! Be sure your poster includes: the book title, author's name, name(s) of the featured character(s), clearly identified virtue(s) and your name.

AND

MAY DO:

- You are encouraged to read more than one book this summer. Record the book(s) you read on the Reading Log page included in this packet. Be sure to have your parent(s) sign your log.
- Additional Option - Play RINGO (Reading BINGO) by reading different types of books and tracking them on the Reading Log page, including the type of book. Complete RINGO by reading each of the types of books in a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal list. Be sure to have your parent(s) sign your log.
 - Want a bigger challenge? Read a book of each type listed.

Book Options to Consider for your Poster Project

Faith:

The Boy Who Saved Cleveland Brown - by James Gribbin
Drita, My Homegirl - by Jenny Lombard
Perfectly Chelsea - by Claudia Mills
So B. It - by Sarah Weeks
The World According to Humphrey - by Betty Birney

Hope:

Souder - by William H. Armstrong
The Absolute Value of Mike - by Kathryn Erskine
Ballet for Martha - by Jan Greenberg
Touch Blue - by Cythia Lord
Al Capone Does My Shirts - by Gennifer Choldenko

Love:

Crow Call - by Lois Lowry
The Dancing Pancake - by Eileen Spinelli
Elska - by Cathy Hapka
The Home-Run King - by Pat McKissack
Love, Aubrey - by Suzanne LaFleur
Bread and Roses Too - by Katherine Paterson

Justice:

Abe's Honest Words - by Doreen Rappaport
Clara Barton - by Stephen Krensky
Coretta King - by Ntozake Shange
The Lemonade Crime - by Jacqueline Davies
Rickshaw Girl - by Mitali Perkins
Ruby Holler - by Sharon Creech

Courage:

Amelia Earhart: The Legend of the Lost Aviator - by Shelley Tanaka
Freedom Train - by Evelyn Coleman
Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom - by Carole Weatherford
Night Boat to Freedom - by Margot Raven
We Are the Ship - by Kadir Nelson

Forgiveness:

The Book of the Maidservant - by Rebecca Barnhouse
Bobby vs. Girls - by Lisa Yee
Circle of Secrets - by Kimberley Little
The Friendship Doll - by Kirby Larson
Swindle - by Gordon Korman

Service:

Ten Inventors Who Changed the World - by Clive Gifford
Just for Elephants - Carol Buckley
Saint Francis of Assisi: A Life of Joy - by Robert Kennedy
Special Delivery - Sue Stauffacher

Rising 5th GradeSummer Reading

RINGO

Realistic Fiction	Graphic Novel	Science Fiction	Sports/ Arts Focused	Mystery
Fantasy	Historical Fiction	Memoir	Realistic Fiction	Informational Text
Humor	Audiobook	CHOICE	Poetry or Novel in Verse	Realistic Fiction
Biography	Set in Another Country	Realistic Fiction	Faith/ Devotional	Book in a Series
Animal as the Main Character	Fantasy	Novel Made into a Movie	Play/ Drama	Adventure

Ideas/ Examples:

Faith/ Devotional - *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, *Devotional for Action Bible*, *Action Bible*

Memoir - books from the *Dear America* Series, *Diary of Anne Frank*

Novel in Verse - *Love that Dog* by Sharon Creech

Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading Log (& RINGO Tracker)

Name: _____

Books Read

Title	Author	Type of Book (RINGO)	Date Completed

You may record any additional books read on a separate piece of paper :-)

Parent Signature: _____