



THE FREEDOM IN EDUCATION READING LIST: RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR EVERY GRADE

sources used to create book list:

<https://compassclassroom.com/blog/classics-every-middle-schooler-read/>

<https://www.libertycommon.org/academics/great-books>

<http://www.clcawards.org/Best-Children-s-Literature-of-All-Time.html>

<https://www.naplesclassical.org/academics/summer-reading>

<https://k12.hillsdale.edu/getmedia/84355dd1-7257-4cec-b848-5fe17bfed7b6/K12-Sample-Book-List-9-22.pdf>

The Classical Reader: A Comprehensive Reading Guide for K-12 Students Perfect Paperback – May 22, 2015 by
Leslie Rayner, Christopher Perrin, PhD

Grade K	
Text Title	Author
"At the Seaside"	Robert Louis Stevenson
Brave Irene	William Steig
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom	Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
We Have a Little Garden	Beatrix Potter
Rap A Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles-Think of That	Leo and Diane Dillon
The Tiny Seed	Eric Carle
Native Americans	Beth Engel, Rosie McCormick, Cate Whittington
Tale of Peter Rabbit	Beatrix Potter
Aesop's Fables	Aesop
The Relatives Came	Cynthia Rylant
The Children's Book of Virtues	William Bennet
There Once Was a Puffin (poem)	Florence Page Jaques
The Biggest House in the World	Leo Lionni
American Poetry	John Hollander
Knuffle Bunny	Mo Willems
Llama Llama Time to Share	Anna Dewdney
Where the Wild Things Are	Maurice Sendak



Grade 1	
Text Title	Author
A Place for Birds	Melissa Stewart
City Hawk: A Story of Pale Male	Meghan McCarthy
Gilberto and the Wind	Marie Hall Ets
Lewis and Clark: Explorers of the American West	Steven Kroll
Rain Player	David Wisniewski
The Knight and the Dragon	Tomie dePaola
What Makes Day and Night	Franklyn M. Branley
Roxaboxen	Alice McLerran
Poetry for Young People (Vol. 4)	Carl Sandburg
D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths	Ingri d'Aulaire and Edgar d'Aulaire
Frog and Toad	Arnold Lobel
Sam the Minuteman	Nathan Benchley
Billy Blaze	C.W. Anderson.
A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette, Revolutionary War Double Agent	Anne Rockwell
Classic Myths to Read Aloud	William F. Russell
Cheaper by the Dozen	Frank B. Gilbreth and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey
The Ugly Duckling	Hans Christian Andersen
The Story of Ferdinand	Munro Leaf
The Mouse and the Motorcycle	Beverly Cleary
Make Way for Ducklings	Robert McCloskey



Grade 2	
Text Title	Author
A Birthday Basket for Tia	Pat Mora
Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky	Faith Ringgold
Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty	Linda Glaser
Grandfather's Journey	Allen Say
King Midas and the Golden Touch	Charlotte Craft
Pythagoras and the Ratios	Julie Ellis
Stone Soup	Marcia Brown
The Emperor's New Clothes	Hans Christian Anderson
Chanticleer and the Fox	Geoffrey Chaucer
Miss Rumphius	Barbara Cooney
The Thirteen Clocks	James Thurber
The Velveteen Rabbit	Margery Williams
Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building	Deborah Hopkinson
Squanto, Friend of the Pilgrims	Clyde Bulla
Stuart Little	E.B. White
Little House in the Big Wood	Laura Ingalls Wilder
The Princess and the Goblin	George MacDonald
Mr. Popper's Penguins	Richard and Florence Atwater
The Children's Homer: The Adventures of Odysseus and the Tale of Troy	Padraic Colum and Willy Pogany
The Cabin Faced West	Jean Fritz



Grade 3	
Text Title	Author
A Cricket in Times Square	George Selden
A Grain of Rice	Helena Pittman
Because of Winn-Dixie	Kate DiCamillo
Charlotte's Web	E.B. White
Lapin Plays Possum: Trickster Tales from the Louisiana Bayou	Sharon Arms Doucet
Louisiana Purchase	Peter Roop
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie
Treasure Island	Robert Louis Stevenson
Saint George and the Dragon	Margaret Hodges
Sarah, Plain and Tall	Patricia MacLachlan
The Great Pyramid	Elizabeth Mann
Brightly of the Grand Canyon	Marguerite Henry
Classic Myths to Read Aloud	William F. Russell
A Treasury of Poetry for Young People: Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Edgar Allan Poe, Carl Sandberg, Walt Whitman	
Ancient Greece (Interfact)	Robert Nicholson
Edna St. Vincent Millay: Poetry for Young People	Edna St. Vincent Millay, Frances Schoonmaker
Farmer Boy	Laura Ingalls Wilder
The Boxcar Children Series	Gertrude Chandler Warne
The Trumpet of the Swan	E.B. White
Detectives in Togas	Henry Winterfeld



Grade 4	
Text Title	Author
And Then What Happened, Paul Revere? (Paperstar)	Jean Fritz
Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak	Kay Winters
“How the Rhino Got His Skin	Rudyard Kipling
Liberty!: How the Revolutionary War Began	Lucille Recht Penner
Little House on the Prairie	Laura Ingalls Wilder
Paul Revere’s Ride	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
William Shakespeare and the Globe	Aliki
Where the Red Fern Grows	Wilson Rawls
“The New Colossus”	Emma Lazarus
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane	Kate DiCamillo
Johnny Tremain	Esther Hoskins Forbes
The Matchlock Gun	Walter D. Edmonds
Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?	Jean Fritz
My Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George
Redwall	Brian Jacques
Poetry for Young People: Walt Whitman	Jonathan Levin and Jim Burke
The Penderwicks	Jean Birdsall
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	E.L. Konigsburg
Little Women	Louisa May Alcott
Little Men	Louisa May Alcott
Twenty-One Balloons	William Pene du Bois



Grade 5	
Text Title	Author
A Wrinkle in Time	Madeleine L'Engle
Adventures of Don Quixote	Argentina Palacios
Giants of Science: Isaac Newton	Kathleen Krull
King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table	Thomas Malory and Rupert S. Holland
Letters from Rifka	Karen Hesse
Number the Stars	Lois Lowry
Prince Caspian	C.S. Lewis
The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis
The Birchbark House	Louise Erdrich
Shutting Out the Sky	Deborah Hopkinson
Wonderstruck	Brian Selznick
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech
The Phantom Tollbooth	Norton Juster
William Shakespeare: Poetry for Young People	David Scott Kastan, Marina Kastan
The Wind in the Willows	Kenneth Grahame
Across Five Aprils	Irene Hunt
Beowulf the Warrior	Ian Serrailier, Severin
The Mysterious Benedict Society	Trenton Lee Stewart
Call It Courage	Armstrong Sperry
Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbitt
The Perilous Road	William O. Steele



Grade 6	
Text Title	Author
A Long Walk to Water	Linda Sue Park
Bud, Not Buddy	Christopher Paul Curtis
Chains	Laurie Halse Anderson
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen
“Mother to Son”	Langston Hughes
Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Mildred Taylor
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
“The Road Not Taken”	Robert Frost
The Witch of Blackbird Pond	Elizabeth George Speare
The Hiding Place	Corrie Ten Boom
Crispin	Avi
Poetry for Young People: William Butler Yeats	Jonathan Allison and Glenn Harrington
Watership Down	Richard Adams
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi
Our Country’s Founders	William Bennett
The Children's Homer: The Adventures of Odysseus and the Tale of Troy	Colum Padriac
Homer Price	Robert McCloskey
The Scarlet Pimpernel	Baroness Orczy
Call of the Wild	Jack London
The Second Bend in the River	Jean Craighead George



Grade 7	
Text Title	Author
A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens
Blood on the River: James Town, 1607	Elisa Carbone
Brown Girl Dreaming	Jacqueline Woodson
Chasing Lincoln's Killer	James L. Swanson
Fever 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson
"Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" Speech	Patrick Henry
James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl
"The Gift of the Magi"	O. Henry
The Giver	Lois Lowry
"The Tell-Tale Heart"	Edgar Allen Poe
The Night Gardener	Jonathan Auxier
Soft Rain: A Story of the Cherokee Trail of Tears	Cornelia Cornelissen
Around the World in Eighty Days	Jules Verne
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin	
The Last of the Mohicans	James Fenimore Cooper
Sonnets	William Shakespeare
The Scarlet Pimpernel	Baroness Orczy
Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
All Quiet On The Western Front	Erich Remarque
Anne of Green Gables	L.M. Montgomery



Grade 8	
Text Title	Author
"Ain't I a Woman"	Sojourner Truth
Animal Farm	George Orwell
"Conservation as a National Duty"	Theodore Roosevelt
"Evangeline"	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
"Flowers for Algernon"	Daniel Keyes
Lord of the Flies	William Golding
Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela
Much Ado About Nothing	William Shakespeare
Nothing But the Truth	Avi
Swiss Family Robinson	Johann David Wyss
"Thank You, M'am"	Langston Hughes
The House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros
The Raven	Edgar Allen Poe
To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee
Hidden Figures	Margot Lee Shetterly
Up From Slavery	Booker T. Washington
The Complete Poems	Walt Whitman
The Last Full Measure (Civil War)	Jeff Shaara
The Picture of Dorian Gray	Oscar Wilde
Space Trilogy	C.S. Lewis
White Fang	Jack London



Grade 9-10	
Text Title	Author
Canterbury Tales	Geoffrey Chaucer
Common Sense	Thomas Paine
Dracula	Bram Stoker
Frankenstein	Mary Shelley
King Lear	William Shakespeare
Hamlet	William Shakespeare
Night	Elie Wiesel
The Count of Monte Cristo	Alexandre Dumas and Auguste Maquet
The Iliad	Homer
The Odyssey	Homer
Walden	Henry David Thoreau
A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
The Federalist Papers	Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	Washington Irving
The Prince	Niccolo Machiavelli
Moby Dick	Herman Melville
The Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Pearl	John Steinbeck
The Aeneid	Virgil



Grade 11-12	
Text Title	Author
Three Theban Plays	Sophecles
The Grapes of Wrath	John Steinbeck
The Abolition of Man	C.S. Lewis
The Screwtape Letters	C.S. Lewis
All Quiet on the Western Front	Erich Maria Remarque
The Old Man and the Sea	Ernest Hemmingway
Paradise Lost	John Milton
The Tell-Tale Heart	Edgar Allen Poe
The Raven	Edgar Allen Poe
The Republic	Plato
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare
Macbeth	William Shakespeare
On Liberty	John Stuart Mill
Metamorphoses	Ovid
The Brothers Karamazov	Fyodor Dostoevsky
The Divine Comedy	Dante
Bleak House	Charles Dickens
Beowulf	
William Wordsworth: The Major Works	William Wordsworth
T.S. Eliot: Collected Poems 1909-1962	T.S. Eliot
The Death of Ivan Ilyich	Leo Tolstoy

