

## Grades 5 & 6 Summer Reading List

Choose **ONE** book (that you have not read before) to read this summer from the list below. It would be a good idea to take notes while you are reading and be ready to discuss when you return. Attached you will find a list of questions to answer **in your own words** and turn in on the first day of school. These questions will be your first reading grade for the school year.

### Fiction

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling

Lexile: 880

Harry receives a letter on his 11th Birthday inviting him to Hogwarts, School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry discovers he is not only a wizard but a famous one.

*Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz (Book 1 of the *Alex Rider* series)

Lexile: 670

They said his uncle Ian died in a car accident. But Alex Rider knows that's a lie, and the bullet holes in the windshield prove it. Yet he never suspected the truth: his uncle was really a spy for Britain's top secret intelligence agency. And now Alex has been recruited to find his uncle's killers...

*New Kid* by Jerry Craft

Lexile: 330

A timely, honest graphic novel about starting over at a new school where diversity is low and the struggle to fit in is real.

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper

Lexile: 700

Eleven-year-old Melody is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. Most people—her teachers, her doctors, her classmates—dismiss her as mentally challenged because she can't tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her disability. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.

## **Nonfiction**

*Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming

Lexile: 930

On May 21, 1937, the most famous female pilot of all time, Amelia Earhart, set out to do the impossible: circumnavigate the globe at its widest point—27,000 miles in all. Just six weeks later, she disappeared over the Pacific Ocean. Eighty years have passed since that fateful flight; and still, Amelia's plane has never been found. Discover the thrilling life and tragic end of America's most famous trailblazing flier with this impeccably researched and masterfully crafted book from acclaimed author Candace Fleming.

*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

Lexile: 980

Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia. This book, based on Swanson's adult bestseller, "Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer," is a true account for young readers about John Wilkes Booth's assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States.

### **Summer Reading Questions**

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer each of the following questions below for your book choice to turn in on the first day of school. Write at least 2-3 sentences per question to turn in for your first reading grade. Also be prepared to discuss your book choice. The following questions are meant to help you analyze and summarize your book. If you need help with the questions you may ask a parent or friend. You can email me at [bschettler@gastonday.org](mailto:bschettler@gastonday.org) if you have further questions or need help selecting a book.

1. What made you choose this book? Is it similar to other books you've read before?
2. From whose point of view is the story told, and how does this point of view shape the story?
3. Which character is most similar to you in this story? Why?
4. Who is your least favorite character in this story? Why?
5. What would you have changed about this story?