



2023-2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades K-1)

Purpose

The purpose of Hillsdale Academy'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 Hillsdale Academy curriculum, and cultivate a love of reading.

Reading Materials

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

Assessment/Grading

On the first day of school parents will be sent a summer reading review sheet that should be completed and returned to the teacher and will count for a completion grade. This sheet should include the titles and authors of the two books that were read to the student as well as a signed affirmation that, "I have read these books to my child in their entirety during the course of this past summer." While material from the books may be woven into class discussions, 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; i.e., *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: _____

List the titles and authors of the books that you read this summer for the summer reading program and then sign the affirmation below.

Required:

Optional:

I affirm that I have read these books to my child in their entirety during the course of the summer of 2023.*

Signature: _____

*(If a required book has been read before, you are affirming here that you read it AGAIN, completely, in the summer of 2023. Optional books must be new this summer.)



2023-2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades 2-6)

Purpose

The purpose of Hillsdale Academy'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 Hillsdale Academy 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 and is read by all students entering a given grade. The required book for each grade has been selected by the faculty because of the ways that it augments the curriculum for that grade. The second book may be selected by individual students from the list of optional books for their grade level. In the case of both required and optional books, students must read full versions of the text (i.e., not abridged, edited, or graphic versions).

Assessment/Grading

On the first day of school students are expected to submit the attached summer reading review sheet to their literature teacher that will count 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. While material from the required book may be woven into class discussions, no additional graded assignments will be given over the summer reading.

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. Kongisburg, *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*



Summer Reading Program Affirmation Sheet

Student name (print): _____

Grade level: _____

List the titles and authors of the books that you read this summer for the summer reading program and then sign the affirmation below.

Required:

Optional:

I affirm that I have read these books for the first time, in their entirety, during the course of the summer of 2023.*

Signature: _____

*(If a required book has been read before, you are affirming here that you read it AGAIN, completely, in the summer of 2023. Optional books must be new to you this summer.)



2023–2024 Summer Reading Program (Grades 7–12)

Purpose

Hillsdale Academy’s summer reading program is designed with several purposes in mind:

- to encourage independent reading outside of school
- to provide students with a shared experience that can serve as a reference point for discussions in the coming school year
- to augment the Hillsdale Academy curriculum
- to cultivate a love of reading

Reading Materials

Students are expected to read two to four books (depending on the grade level) each summer for the summer-reading program. The required book(s) will be read by all students entering a given grade; these have been selected by the faculty to augment that grade’s curriculum. The optional book will be chosen by individual students from the “Optional” list for the grade level. In the case of both required and optional books, students must read full versions of the text (i.e., not abridged, edited, or graphic versions).

Book Availability

Literature books for the school year are purchased by families for their students. Because some of the required summer reading books are expensive texts, some hard-to-find, and some specific translations/editions, the required reading for grades 7–11 (not for grade 12) is available for students to check-out from our library. Optional texts are available on a first-come basis. These books must be returned to the Academy library when school resumes in the fall.

Assessment/Grading

On the first day of school, students are expected to submit the attached 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. Teachers may also give another assignment or essay related to the required book as it is integrated into coursework during the school year.

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***

**These books are part of the Senior literature book package that will be charged to your Gradelink ledger in July. These books will be used during the school year.

Suggested, though not required, additional summer reading:

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*
John Milton, *Paradise Lost*
Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility*
Jane Austen, *Emma*
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*



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