

Ascent Classical Academy of Grand Junction



Summer Reading List

Our recommended summer reading list contains high-quality reading material that will prepare your child for the coming school year. We recommend that parents pre-read texts to determine what they feel is appropriate for their child's development - and what they will enjoy!

There are no required assignments for students rising into grades K - 5 for the next academic school year. Students entering grades 6 - 10 must read the required books listed below each grade. The lists below are prepared for students rising to each grade.

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

- *Mother Goose's Nursery Rhymes* - Robert Frederick Publishers
- *The Random House of Mother Goose*, Arnold Lobel
- *The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables*, Don Daily
- *Curious George* books, H.A. Rey
- Books by Dr. Seuss such as:
 - *The Cat in the Hat*
 - *Fox in Socks*
 - *Green Eggs and Ham*
 - *Horton Hears a Who*
 - *If I Ran the Zoo*
- Books by Beatrix Potter such as:
 - *Peter Rabbit*
 - *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny*
 - *The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck*
 - *The Tale of Tom Kitten*
- Fairy Tales such as:
 - *Goldilocks*
 - *The Three Little Pigs*
 - *The Ugly Duckling*
 - *The Velveteen Rabbit*

2nd Grade

Suggested Books for NEW 2nd students to ACAGJ

- *The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables*, Don Daily
- *The House at Pooh Corner*, A.A. Milne
- *Pinocchio*, Carlo Collodi
- *Treasury of Grimm's Fairy Tales*, The Brothers Grimm

Books for all 2nd Grade students

- *Beatrix Potter: The Complete Tales*, Beatrix Potter
- *The Biggest Bear*, Lynd Kendall Ward
- *The Blue Fairy Book*, Andrew Lang
- *The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh*, A.A. Milne
- *George and Martha Series*, James Marshall
- *Just So Stories*, Rudyard Kipling
- *The Magic School Bus* (Specifically books about weather, magnets, tools, the body, insects, animals, and plants), Various Authors
- *The Magic Tree House* series, Mary Pope Osbourne
- *Treasury of Hans Christian Andersen Fairy*, Hans Christia Andersen
- *Stuart Little*, E.B. White

3rd Grade

Suggested Books for NEW 3rd Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *The Sign of the Beaver*, Elizabeth George Speare
- *Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White
- *Peter Pan*, J.M. Barrie

Books for all 3rd Grade Students

- *American Tall Tales*, Mary Pope Osbourne
- *The Cricket in Times Square*, George Selden
- *Dealing with Dragons*, Patricia C. Wrede
- *Falling Up*, Shel Silverstein
- *Little House on the Prairie*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

- *The Magic Tree House* series, Mary Pope Osbourne
- *Matilda*, Roald Dahl
- *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, Richard Atwater
- *Phantom Tollbooth*, Norton Juster
- *The Pushcart War*, Jean Merrill
- *Ramona Quimby* series, Beverly Cleary

4th Grade

Suggested Books for NEW 4th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *Aladdin and Other Arabian Nights Stories*, Philip Smith
- *Black Beauty*, Anna Swell
- *The Jungle Book*, Rudyard Kipling
- *The Princess and the Goblin* by George MacDonald
- *Farmer Boy* by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Books for all 4th Grade students

- *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, Roald Dahl
- *Dangerous Journey*, Oliver Hunkin
- *D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths*, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
- *D'Aulaire's Book of Norse Myths*, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire
- *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, E.L. Konigsburg
- *Guns for General Washington*, Seymour Reit
- *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, Robert C O'Brien
- *Poppy*, Avi
- *The Reluctant Dragon*, Kenneth Grahame
- *Swiss Family Robinson*, Johann Wyss
- *Twenty-One Balloons*, William Pene DuBois
- *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, Shel Silverstein

5th Grade

Suggested Books for NEW 5th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *Johnny Tremain*, Ester Forbes
- *Anne of Green Gables* Series, Lucy Maud Montgomery
- *Stories of Robin Hood Told to the Children*, H.E. Marshall

- *Treasure Island: A Young Reader's Edition of the Classic Adventure*, Robert Louis Stevenson

Books for all 5th Grade students

- *Boy's King Arthur*, Sidney Lanier
- *Cheaper By the Dozen*, Ernestine Gilbreth Carey
- *Dancing Shoes*, Noel Streatfeild
- *Heidi*, Johanna Spyri
- *King Arthur and His Knights*, Maude Radforde Warren
- *The Magic City*, Edith Nesbit
- *Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry
- *The Shakespeare Stealer*, Gary Blackwood
- *The Sword in the Tree*, Clyde Robert Bulla
- *A Wrinkle in Time*, Madeleine L'Engle

6th Grade

Required Book for ALL incoming 6th Graders

Read and Annotate before the First Day of School

- *The Book of Three*, Lloyd Alexander
 - ISBN: 978-0805080483

Suggested Books for NEW 6th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *The Secret Garden*, Frances Hodgson Burnett
- *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Mark Twain
- *Wind in the Willows*, Kenneth Grahame
- *Alice in Wonderland*, Lewis Carroll

Books for all 6th Grade Students

- *Don Quixote* (Core Classics Series edition, abridged)
- *The Eagle of the Ninth*, Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Giver*, Lois Lowry
- *Half Magic*, Edward Eager
- *Little Women* (Core Classics Series edition, abridged)

- *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, Eleanor Coerr
- *The Secret of Platform Thirteen*, Eva Ibbotson
- *Sounder*, William Armstrong
- *Tales from Shakespeare*, Charles and Mary Lamb
- *The Westing Game*, Ellen Raskin
- Books from the Redwall series, Brian Jacques
- *Watsons Go to Birmingham*, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

7th Grade

Required Book for ALL incoming 7th Graders

Read and Annotate before the First Day of School

- *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien
 - ISBN 978-0618260300

Suggested Books for NEW 7th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *Children's Homer*, Padraic Colum
- *Scarlet Pimpernel*, Baroness Orczy
- *The Count of Monte Cristo* (abridged version), Alexandre Dumas
- *Prince and the Pauper*, Mark Twain

Books for All 7th Grade Students

- *Archimedes and the Door of Science*, Jeanne Bendic
- *Augustus Caesar's World*, Genevieve Foster
- *Herodotus and the Road to History*, Jeanne Bendic
- *Tanglewood Tales*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, Jules Verne

8th Grade

Required Book for ALL incoming 8th Graders

Read and Annotate before the First Day of School

- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson
 - ISBN 978-0486266886

Suggested Books for NEW 8th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury
- *Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens
- *Call of the Wild*, Jack London

Books for All 8th Grade Students

- *The Ballad of the White Horse*, G.K. Chesterton
- *Captains Courageous*, Rudyard Kipling
- *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, Mark Twain
- *Gods and Heroes*, Edith Hamilton
- *Shane* (ISBN: 978:0544239470), Jack Schaefer

9th Grade

Required Book for ALL incoming 9th Graders

Students will read and annotate the text before the First Day of School. IN ADDITION, students will prepare a reading journal with at least one entry per week documenting the story, characters, and questions for discussion.

- *Robinson Crusoe*, Daniel Defoe
 - ISBN: 978-0140367225

Suggested Books for NEW 9th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding
- *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Harper Lee
- *Much Ado About Nothing*, William Shakespeare

10th Grade

Required Book for ALL incoming 10th Graders

Students will read and annotate before the first day of school. IN ADDITION, students will prepare written responses to provided questions.

- *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde
 - ISBN: 978-0486278070

- [The Picture of Dorian Gray Summer Reading Assignment](#)

Suggested Books for NEW 10th Grade Students to ACAGJ

- *The Iliad*, Homer
- *The Odyssey*, Homer
- *The Aeneid*, Virgil
- *Julius Caesar*, William Shakespeare
- *The Oedipus Cycle*, Sophocles

Books for all 7-10th Grade Students

- *O! Pioneers*, Willa Cather
- *My Antonia*, Willa Cather
- *Three Musketeers*, Alexandre Dumas
- *Across Five Aprils*, Irene Hunt
- *All Men Are Brothers* and others, Pearl S. Buck
- *Anna and the King of Siam*, Margaret Landon
- *Anne of Green Gables* and others, Lucy Maud Montgomery
- *Christy*, Catherine Marshall
- *Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank
- *Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom
- *Island of Dr. Moreau* by H. G. Wells
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- *Life of David Crockett* by Davy Crockett
- *Life on the Mississippi* by Mark Twain
- *Lord of the Rings Trilogy* by J. R. R. Tolkein
- *Lost World* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *Night Flight* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
- *Nikolenka's Childhood* by Leo Tolstoy
- *Pictures of Travel in Sweden* by Hans Christian Anderson
- *Profiles in Courage* by John F. Kennedy
- *Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane
- *Scarlet Pimpernel* by Baroness Orczy
- *Space Trilogy* by C. S. Lewis
- *Watership Down* by Richard Adams

- *White Company* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *White Fang* by Jack London

Upper School Advanced Literature

- *Frankenstein* by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley
- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift
- *Hunchback of Notre Dame* by Victor Hugo
- *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Legends of the Alhambra* by Washington Irving
- *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo
- *Lost Queen of Egypt* by Lucile Morrison
- *Master of Ballantrae* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Middlemarch* by George Eliot
- *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
- *Nicholas Nickleby* by Charles Dickens
- *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens
- *Oregon Trail* by Francis Parkman
- *Pilgrim's Progress* and others by John Bunyan
- *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Taking of the Bastille* by Alexandre Dumas
- *Talisman* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brönte