Regina Caeli Academy's The Good Books Program

The Good Starter Books

(for grades K - 4)

The Good Books

(for grades 5 - 12)

The Good Starter Books (for grades K - 4)



Regina Caeli is pleased to present the "Good Starter Books" program for our families

The books listed in this program are taken in part from *Designing Your Own Classical Curriculum* and also from other resources. Not all books from *DYOCC* have been vetted by Regina Caeli Academy administration. It is important that parents keep in mind that these books are not required reading; parents retain responsibility for choosing the books from each list most suited to their children.

All books here listed, however, are approved for discussion at RCA events and in the classroom.

Reading Selections for Pre-Readers Kindergarten and PreK 4 (intended for read aloud only)

Author	Title	General Subject(s)
Ahlberg	Each Peach Pear Plum	Fairy Tales/Seek and Find
Barker	The Flower Fairy books	Poetry
Blyton	The Far-Away Tree series	Fairy Tale
Brett	The Mitten	Children's
Brett	The Twelve Days of Christmas	Children's
Carle	The Hungry Caterpillar	Days of the Week
de Paola	The Clown of God	Legend
de Paola	The Friendly Beasts	Christmas
Donaldson	Detective Dog	Children's
Herriot	James Herriot's Treasury for Children	Animals
Burgess	The Burgess Bird Book for Children	Animals
Eastman	Are You My Mother? and Go, Dog, Go!	Easy Reader
Young	The Great Animal Search	Animals
Rubin	The Orchestra	Music
Wilder	Little House in the Big Woods	History
Nippert	An Alphabet of Mary	Phonics, Faith
Nippert	An Alphabet of Catholic Saints	Phonics, Faith
McCloskey	Make Way for Ducklings	Children's
Marzollo	Miriam and Her Brother Moses	Faith
Hoberman	A House is a House for Me	Children's
Minarik, Sendak	The Little Bear Treasury	Children's
Johnson	Harold and the Purple Crayon series	Children's
Piper	The Little Engine That Could	Children's

Santorum	Everyday Graces	Children's, Faith
Illus. KY Craft	Sleeping Beauty	Fairy Tale
Sanderson	Rose Red and Snow White	Fairy Tale
Zelinsky	Rapunzel	Fairy Tale
Illus. KY Craft	Cinderella	Fairy Tale
Santore	Snow White	Fairy Tale
Potter	Beatrix Potter books: The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Tale of Benjamin Bunny, The Tailor of Gloucester, The Tale of the Pie and the Patty-Pan, The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck, The Tale of Johnny Town-Mouse	Children's
Rylant	The Relatives Came	Children's
Hall	The Ox-Cart Man	Children's
Hoban	Frances books: Bread and Jam for Frances, A Birthday for Frances, A Baby Sister for Frances	Children's
Hughes, Shirley	All, e.g. Dogger, Ella's Big Chance, Alfie Gives a Hand	Children's
Beskow	Pelle's New Suit	Children's
Leaf	The Story of Ferdinand	Children's
Burton	Katy and the Big Snow	Children's
McLerran	Roxaboxen	Children's
Bemelmans	Madeline	Children's
McCloskey	Blueberries for Sal	Children's
Minarik	Little Bear Books: Little Bear, Little Bear's Visit, Little Bear's Friend	Easy Reader
Tudor	Pumpkin Moonshine A Time to Keep	Children's
Lindbergh	Circle of Days	Nature/Faith
Provensen	The Year at Maple Hill Farm	Animals
Cooney	Miss Rumphius	Children's

Winter	Aesop's Fables	Animals
Illus. Blanche Fisher White	Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes	Poetry
Milne	The House at Pooh Corner	Animals
Brumbeau	The Quiltmaker's Gift	Children's/Faith

First and Second Grade (intended for read aloud OR independent readers)

Author	Title	Genre
Wilder	The Little House Books	Auto/biography
Ardizzone	Little Tim series	Adventure
Eilenberg	Beauty and the Beast	Fairy Tale
Stevenson	A Child's Garden of Verses	Poetry
~	The Cat in the Hat Learning Library	Easy Reader
Bischel	Whales & Snails & Heavenly Tales	Easy Reader
Eastman	Are You My Mother? and Go, Dog, Go!	Easy Reader
Hader	The Big Snow	Easy Reader
Hoff	Sammy the Seal and Danny the Dinosaur	Easy Reader
Lopshire	Put Me In the Zoo	Easy Reader
White	Charlotte's Web	Animals
White	The Trumpet of the Swan	Animals
Lewis	The Chronicles of Narnia	Fantasy
Lang	The Blue Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Lang	The Red Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Hyman	Sleeping Beauty	Fairy Tale
Sanderson	Rose Red and Snow White	Fairy Tale
Zelinsky	Rapunzel	Fairy Tale
Illus. KY Craft	Cinderella	Fairy Tale
Baldwin	Fifty Famous Stories Retold	Children's
Browning; Illus. Kate Greenaway	The Pied Piper of Hamelin	Folk Tale
Minarik	Little Bear Books: Little Bear, Little Bear's Visit, Little Bear's Friend	Easy Reader
Lobel	Frog and Toad books: Frog and Toad are	Easy Reader

	Friends, Frog and Toad Together, Frog and Toad all Year, Days with Frog and Toad	
Lobel	Mouse Soup	Easy Reader
Lobel	Mouse Tales	Easy Reader
McCloskey	One Morning in Maine	
Anderson	Billy and Blaze books: Billy and Blaze, Blaze and the Forest Fire, Blaze Finds the Trail	Animals
Cooney	Miss Rumphius	Children's
Brown	Stone Soup	Children's
Flack	The Story of Ping	Children's
McLerran	Roxaboxen	Children's
Polacco	The Bee Tree	Children's
Kahl	The Duchess Bakes a Cake	Children's
Burn	Andrew Henry's Meadow	Children's
Burgess	Burgess books: Old Mother West Wind, Adventures of Danny Meadow Mouse, Adventures of Chatterer the Red Squirrel, Adventures of Reddy the Fox, Adventures of Peter Cottontail, Adventures of Grandfather Frog	Animals
Haywood	B is for Betsy	Fiction
Beskow	Aunt Green, Aunt Brown, and Aunt Lavender	Children's
Steig	Brave Irene	Children's
Hodges; Illus. Hyman	St. George and the Dragon	Fairy Tale
Hyman	The Kitchen Knight	Fairy Tale
McCloskey	Time of Wonder	Children's
Longfellow; Illus. Ted Rand	Paul Revere's Ride	Poetry
Hamilton, Edith	Greek Myths	Mythology

First Holy Communion Reading

Mother Mary Loyola	King of the Golden City	First Holy Communion
Mother Mary Loyola	King of the Golden City for Boys	First Holy Communion
Mary Fabyan Windeatt	The Patron Saint of First Communicants: Story of Blessed Imelda Lambertini	First Holy Communion

The Good Books
(for grades 5 - 12)



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Why?

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Reading Selections by Grade

Fifth Grade

IOWA testing week reading

The Hobbit, by JRR Tolkien Or Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, Lathan

20 additional days (choose 4 texts)

Author	Title	Genre
Alcott	Little Women	historical fiction (2)
Averill	Cartier Sails the St. Lawrence	history
Boone	Daniel Boone: His Own Story	autobiography
Brink	Caddie Woodlawn	historical fiction
Burnett	A Little Princess	historical fiction
Burroughs	Tarzan of the Apes	fiction
de Angeli	Thee, Hannah!	historical fiction
Dodges	Hans Brinker	historical fiction (2)
Fisher	Understood Betsy	historical fiction
Fritz	Brendan the Navigator	biography
Henry	Brighty of the Grand Canyon	historical fiction
Henry	Misty of Chincoteague	fiction
Janeway	The Vikings	history
Juster	The Phantom Tollbooth	fantasy/fairy tale
Kipling	The Jungle Book	fiction
Lewis	The Chronicles of Narnia	fantasy/fairy tale (4)
Longfellow	Hiawatha (unabridged)	poetry/historical fiction
McDonald	The Light Princess	fantasy/fairy tale
McDonald	The Golden Key	fantasy/fairy tale
Montgomery	Anne of Green Gables	historical fiction
Nesbitt	The Enchanted Castle	fantasy/fairy tale

North	Captured by the Mohawks	history
Speare	Calico Captive	historical fiction
Stevenson	Treasure Island	fiction (2)
Syme	Any title from Explorers Series	biography

^{**} Highlighted texts count for more than one book. See parentheses for value.

Sixth Grade

IOWA testing week reading

The Cat of the Bubastes, Henty Or Aeneid for Boys and Girls, Church

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Adams	Watership Down	fiction (2)
Aiken	The Wolves of Willoughby Chase	historical fiction
Arroyo	Will Wilder, The Relic of Perilous Falls	fiction
Arroyo	Will Wilder, The Lost Staff of Wonders	fiction
Arroyo	Will Wilder, The Amulet of Power	fiction
de Angeli	Bright April	historical fiction
De Jong	The House of Sixty Fathers	historical fiction
Dickens	Cricket on the Hearth	fiction
Gilbreth	Cheaper By the Dozen	autobiography
Green	The Adventures of Robin Hood	historical fiction
Henty	The Dragon and the Raven	historical fiction (2)
Henty	The Lion of St. Mark	historical fiction
London	The Call of the Wild	fiction
McDonald	At the Back of the North Wind	fantasy/fairy tale
McDonald	The Golden Key	fantasy/fairy tale
Sewell	Black Beauty	fiction
Speare	Calico Captive	historical fiction
Stevenson	Treasure Island	historical fiction
Stevenson	Kidnapped	historical fiction
Stratton-Porter	A Girl of the Limberlost	historical fiction
Tolkien	Farmer Giles of Ham	fantasy/fairy tale

Tolkien	The Hobbit	fantasy/fairy tale
Verne	Mysterious Island	fiction/fantasy
Wyss	The Swiss Family Robinson	fiction

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Seventh Grade

IOWA testing week reading

Black Ships Before Troy, Sutcliff OR Adventures of Ulysses, Lamb

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Buckley	The Children of the Dawn	historical fiction
Colum	The Golden Fleece	mythology
Coolidge	Men of Athens	history
Coolidge	Greek Myths	mythology
Cullum	Greek and Roman Plays	theater (2)
Doyle	The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	mystery
Green	A Tale of Troy	fiction/mythology
Hawthorne	A Wonderbook	mythology/fairy tale
Henty	The Young Carthaginian	historical fiction
Henty	The Lion of St. Mark	historical fiction
Kipling	Kim	fiction
Lewis	Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze	historical fiction
Lloyd	Book of Three	fantasy/fiction
McDonald	Lilith	fantasy/fairy tale
Ray	The Ides of April	historical fiction
Snedeker	The White Isle	historical fiction
Snedeker	The Spartan	historical fiction
Stevenson	Short Stories	fiction
Sutcliff	Lantern Bearers	historical fiction
Sutcliff	Blood Feud	historical fiction
Tolkien	The Lord of the Rings Trilogy	fantasy/fairy tale (4)

Verne	Journey to the Center of the Earth	science fiction

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Eighth Grade

IOWA testing week reading

Thomas More, Ince
OR The Trumpeter of Krakow, Kelly

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Chesterton	Father Brown Mysteries	mystery
Cohen (trans.)	The Canterbury Tales	historical literature (2)
de Trevino	I, Juan de Pareja	historical fiction
de Wohl	The Life of St. Joan	biography
Doyle	The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	mystery
Hallam free	Four Gothic Kings	history
Hallam	The Plantagenet Chronicles	history
Hallam	The War of the Roses	history
Hodges	Don Quixote and Sancho Panza	fiction
Kielty	The Fall of Constantinople	history
Larnen, Lomask	St. Thomas Aquinas and the Preaching Beggars	historical fiction
Mallory	King Arthur and His Knights	historical literature
Polland	Mission to Cathay	historical fiction
Polo	The Travels of Marco Polo	autobiography
Pyle	The Story of the Grail and the Passing of Arthur	historical fiction/fairy tale
Taggert	In the Days of King Hal	historical fiction
Tennyson	Idylls of the King	historical literature
Tolkien	Sir Gawain and the Green Knight	poetry/fairy tale (2)
Treece	Man with a Sword	historical fiction
Trece	Swords from the North	historical fiction

Twain	A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court	fantasy/fiction
Twain	St. Joan	history/biography (3)
Twain	The Prince and the Pauper	fiction
Webb	We Were There With Richard the Lionhearted	historical fiction
West	The Crusades	history

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9th Grade

IOWA testing week reading

The Red Badge of Courage, Crane

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Blackmoore	Lorna Doone	historical literature
Cather	My Antonia	historical fiction
Cooper	The Last of the Mohicans	historical literature (2)
Cooper	The Pioneers	historical literature
Cooper	The Prairie	historical literature
De Jong	The House of Sixty Fathers	historical fiction
Frank	The Diary of Anne Frank (only the 1952 edition, compiled by Otto Frank)	autobiography
Gilbreth	Cheaper by the Dozen	biography
Hautzig	The Endless Steppe	historical fiction
Hawthorne	The Scarlet Letter	historical literature
Hawthorne	The House of the Seven Gables	historical literature
Henty	With Lee in Virginia	historical fiction
Irving	The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle	legend/fairy tale
Lindbergh	The Spirit of St. Louis	autobiography
Lee	To Kill a Mockingbird	fiction (2)
Lewis	The Screwtape Letters	apologetics
Marrin	Stalin: Russia's Man of Steel	history
Marrin	Aztecs & Spaniards: Cortes and the Conquest of Mexico	history
Martin	The Story of a Soul	autobiography
Melville	Moby Dick	fiction

Meltzer	Rescue: The Story of How Gentiles Saved Jews in the Holocaust	history
Rawlings	The Yearling	historical fiction
Remarque	All Quiet on the Western Front	historical literature (2)
Speare	The Sign of the Beaver	historical fiction
Stowe	Uncle Tom's Cabin	historical literature (2)
Trapp	The Story of the Trapp Family Singers	autobiography
Twain	Huckleberry Finn	historical literature (2)

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10th Grade

IOWA testing week reading (Apologetics)

Confessions, St. Augustine
OR Screwtape Letters, Lewis (if not read in 9th grade)

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Anderson	Swords in the North	historical fiction
Anderson	For Freedom and for Gaul	historical fiction
Anderson	A Slave of Catiline	historical fiction
Anderson	Pugnax the Gladiator	historical fiction
Augustine	Confessions (if not read during IOWA)	philosophy/ autobiography (2)
Belloc	The Path to Rome	travel journal/history (2)
Cicero	On Friendship	philosophy
Caesar	The Gallic Wars (any translation)	historical literature
Donauer	Swords Against Carthage	historical fiction
Eusebius	The History of the Church	historical literature (2)
Hawthorne	The Wonder Book	mythology
Josephus	Antiquities of the Jews	historical literature
Josephus	The Jewish War	historical literature
Lewis	Till We Have Faces	mythology (2)
Waugh	Helena	historical fiction
Wodehouse	Life With Jeeves	comedy

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IOWA testing week reading

Confessions, St. Augustine
OR How the Reformation Happened, Belloc

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
	Aelfric's Homily for St. Edmund's Day	prose
	The Song of Roland (any translation)	poetry
Austen	Pride and Prejudice	fiction
Austen	Persuasion	fiction
Bede	The Ecclesiastical History of England	history
Belloc	How the Reformation Happened	history
Belloc	William the Conqueror	history (2)
Benson	Come Rack! Come Rope!	historical fiction
Bolt	A Man for All Seasons	theater
Bronte	Wuthering Heights	fiction
Carroll	Through the Looking Glass	fiction
Cervantes	Don Quixote	historical literature (2)
Chamberlain	The Fall of the House of Borgias	history
de Wohl	The Last Crusader	historical fiction
Dickens	Oliver Twist	historical literature
Dickens	A Tale of Two Cities	historical literature
Dickens	Bleak House	historical literature
Dumas	The Count of Monte Cristo	historical literature
Doyle	The White Company	historical fiction
Eliot	Adam Bede	fiction
Fraser	Mary Queen of Scots	biography

Hopkins	The Wreck of the Deutschland	poetry
Hugo	Les Miserables	historical fiction
Kelly	Eleanor of Aquitaine and the Four Kings	biography
Marryat	The Children of the New Forest	historical fiction
Martin	The Story of a Soul	autobiography
Mattingly	Catherine of Aragon	biography
Royal	Catholic Martyrs of the 20th Century	history (2)
Sayers	Gaudy Night	mystery
Scott	Kenilworth	fiction
Scott	The Talisman	fiction
Scott	Rob Roy	fiction
Scott	Waverly	fiction
Shakespeare	King John	theater (2)
Shakespeare	King Lear	theater (2)
Shakespeare	Richard II	theater (2)
Shakespeare	Henry IV, Part i	theater (2)
Shakespeare	Much Ado About Nothing	theater (2)
Shakespeare	The Merchant of Venice	theater (2)
Swift	Gulliver's Travels	fiction
Twain	St. Joan (if not read in 8th grade)	biography (2)
Wodehouse	Life With Jeeves (if not read in 10th grade)	comedy

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12th Grade

IOWA testing week reading

Stages on the Road, Sigrid Undset

20 additional days

Author	Title	Genre
Beckett	Postcard from the Volcano	historical fiction/philosophy (2)
Chaucer	The Parson's Tale (in Canterbury Tales)	poetry
Chesterton	The Everlasting Man	theology
Dickinson	Collected Poems	poetry
Gilbert & Sullivan	The Mikado	opera (listen/view)
Gilbert & Sullivan	The Pirates of Penzance	opera (listen/view)
Hopkins	Collected Poems	poetry (2)
Hugo	Les Miserables	historical literature
Kreeft	The Summa of the Summa	philosophy (2)
O'Connor	A Good Man is Hard to Find	fiction
Pieper	Leisure, the Basis of Culture	philosophy
Shakespeare	The Tempest	theater
Shakespeare	The Merchant of Venice	theater
Stein	Life in a Jewish Family	autobiography
Tolstoy	Anna Karenina	historical literature (2)
Undset	Kristin Lavransdatter Trilogy	historical literature (4)
Waugh	Brideshead Revisited	historical literature (2)
Weigel	Witness to Hope	biography (2)
Wilder	Our Town	theater
Tolkien	The Hobbit	fantasy/fairy tale
Verne	Mysterious Island	fiction/fantasy

Ward	Tudor Sunset	history
Waugh	Helena	biography
Wilde	The Importance of Being Earnest	theater
Wodehouse	Life With Jeeves (if not read in 10th grade)	comedy
Wyss	The Swiss Family Robinson	fiction

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Third Grade (intended for independent readers)

Author	Title	Genre
Taylor	All of a Kind Family	Historical fiction
Lewis	The Chronicles of Narnia	Fantasy
Baldwin	Thirty More Famous Stories	All
Lang	The Blue Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Lang	The Red Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Spyri	Heidi	Classic
White	Charlotte's Web	Children's
McCloskey	Homer Price	Fiction
Burnett	The Secret Garden	Classic
Haywood	B is for Betsy	Children's
Belloc	Cautionary Tales for Children	Poetry
Brink	Baby Island	Children's
Milne	Winnie-the-Pooh	Children's
Milne	The House at Pooh Corner	Children's
Marshall	George and Martha	Children's
Marshall	George and Martha Rise and Shine	Children's
MacDonald	Mrs. Piggle Wiggle	Children's
MacDonald	Mrs. Piggle Wiggle's Farm	Children's
Caudill	Happy Little Family	Historical fiction
Caudill	Schoolhouse in the Woods	Historical fiction
Wilder	Little House on the Prairie	Autobiography
Wilder	By the Banks of Plum Creek	Autobiography
Wilder	By the Shores of Silver Lake	Autobiography
Wilder	The Long Winter	Autobiography

Wilder	Farmer Boy	Biography
Travers	Mary Poppins	Fiction

Fourth Grade (intended for independent readers)

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Author	Title	Genre
Estes	The Moffats	Family
Estes	The Middle Moffat	Family
Lovelace	Betsy-Tacy	Family
Warner	The Boxcar Children series	Family
Lovelace	Betsy-Tacy and Tib	Family
Lang	The Blue Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Lang	The Red Fairy Book	Fairy Tale
Burnett	The Secret Garden	Classic
Spyri	Heidi	Classic
Enright	The Saturdays	Family
Enright	The Four-Story Mistake	Family
Birdsall	The Penderwicks	Family
Stockum	Five for Victory	Family/Historical Fiction
Nesbitt	Five Children and It	Family/Fantasy
Knight	Lassie Come-Home	Animals
Collodi	Pinocchio	Classic
Barry	Peter Pan	Classic
Smith	101 Dalmatians	Animals
Baum	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	Children's
Burnett	Little Lord Fauntleroy	Classic
Graham	The Wind in the Willows	Classic
Travers	Mary Poppins	Fiction

Nesbitt	The Story of the Amulet	Family/Fantasy