

Dear Parents of Incoming 5th Graders,

IXL Summer Assignments

Each summer students entering grades 4-8 are **required** to complete IXL's Summer Boost program. Their completion of this work will count towards a grade in the first quarter of the upcoming school year. This year, we are also offering the option of a physical workbook. The physical workbook for grades 4 & 5 includes both Math and Language Arts. However, the physical workbook for grades 6-8 only includes Math. Therefore, the online portion of the Summer Boost for Language Arts would still be required. If you would prefer a non-digital option, select the workbook links below to purchase for your child's grade level.

The Summer Boost is **highly recommended** for all students entering grades K-3.

Directions for accessing IXL can be found [here](#).

Although summer is a time for rest, relaxation, and family research shows that summer learning loss can have a significant impact on student performance. To prevent the "summer slide," parents should focus on short, highly consistent daily habits rather than trying to replicate a strict school day. Recent research confirms that targeted summer activities effectively accelerate learning, but math skills are significantly more vulnerable to regression than reading. This is because reading habits are more easily supported through informal activities at home, while math concepts are rarely reinforced outside of a structured classroom setting. Research by NWEA, on the importance of addressing summer learning loss, can be found [here](#).

Entering 5th Grade:

[Math Online](#)

[Language Arts Online](#)

[Summer Workbook](#)

*See next page for summer reading assignment

Name: _____

2026 Summer Reading Instructions for Incoming 5th Graders

Hello Rising Fifth Grader!

In addition to the Math work you will be doing this summer, you will also be reading one book of your choice, which is at least 150 pages long. It can be fiction or nonfiction, but it should be a book you have not previously read. No graphic novels will be accepted for this assignment (example: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*). (Of course we hope you will read several books over your summer holiday, but you only need to report on one of them.)

Assignment: After you read 2-3 chapters, write a short summary (2-3 sentences). When you have finished reading the whole book, write a **three paragraph** summary (beginning, middle, and end) of the book. Be sure to check spelling and punctuation. You should create a fun cover page (using at least 5 colors and have a full hand-drawn picture) and staple everything together. Your report should be written neatly/legible or typed. This is due on the first day of school, **August 31, 2026**.

*For every day the assignment is late, 2 points will be deducted.

Have fun, enjoy reading, and see you in August!!

Your Fifth Grade Team

5th Grade Summer Book Report

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	10 points	8 points	6 points	4 points
Cover Page	Book cover is creative, neat, and demonstrates the reader's understanding of the topic.	Book cover is creative, shows some effort, and demonstrates the reader's understanding of the topic.	Book cover shows minimal effort and an incomplete understanding of the topic.	Project submitted but book cover is not included.
Whole Book Summary	Directions were followed and the book summary is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Directions were mostly followed and book summary is generally organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Directions were not followed entirely and the book summary is not properly organized.	The information appears to be disorganized and directions were not followed.
Chapter Summary	All chapters summarized using 2-3 informative sentences.	Most chapters are summarized using 2-3 sentences.	Some chapter summaries are missing or poorly written.	No chapter summaries included.
Mechanics	Almost no grammatical*, spelling, or punctuation errors.	A few grammatical*, spelling, or punctuation errors	Obvious grammatical* spelling, or punctuation errors.	Significant grammatical*, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Colors and Picture	There are at least 5 colors and a full picture on the title page.	There are at least 4 colors and a picture that takes up 75% of the title page.	There are at least 3 colors and a picture that takes up 50% of the title page.	There are 2 or less colors and a small picture on the title page.
		Total: _____	/ 50	_____ %

*Grammatical errors are based on what skills were learned in 4th grade.

Popular/Suggested 5th Grade Reading List Book

Teachers have not read all of these books on the list, so please review the book before your child begins reading a story to see if it's appropriate for him/her. The staff at Politics and Prose is always helpful and ready to give suggestions, too!

According to the Politics and Prose website: "Students get 10% off summer reading list books." Just remember to mention **Blessed Sacrament Summer Reading**, when you are checking out.

Happy Summer Reading!

1. ***Maniac Magee*** by Jerry Spinelli
2. ***The Golden Compass*** by Philip Pullman
3. ***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*** by J.K. Rowling
4. ***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*** by Grace Lin
5. ***The Phantom Tollbooth*** by Norton Juster
6. ***Shiloh*** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
7. ***The Secret Garden*** by Frances Hodgson Burnett
8. Any book by Andrew Clements (ex: ***Lunch Money, No Talking, A School Story***)
9. ***The Homework Machine*** by Dan Gutman
10. ***The City of Ember*** by Jeanne DuPrau
11. ***Fairy Tale Reform School*** series by Jen Calonita
12. ***Eddie Red Undercover*** series by Marcia Wells
13. ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*** by Chris Grabenstein
14. ***Save Me a Seat*** by Gina Weeks and Gita Varadarajan
15. ***Count Me In*** by Varsha Bajaj
16. ***Candymakers*** by Wendy Mass
17. ***The Indian in the Cupboard*** by Lynne Reid
18. ***Nightmares*** by Jason Segel and Kirsten Miller (Fiction)
19. Any book by Stuart Gibbs (ex: ***Spy School, Space Case***)
20. ***Masterminds*** by Gordon Korman
21. ***The War That Saved My Life*** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
22. ***Get a Grip Vivy Cohen*** by Sarah Kapit
23. ***Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish*** by Pablo Cartaya
24. ***City Spies*** series by James Ponti
25. ***The Sherlock Society*** by James Ponti
26. Any Mary Downing Hahn books (ghost stories)
27. ***Roll With It*** by Jamie Sumner
28. ***My Life as a Potato*** by Arianne Costner
29. ***A Wish In The Dark*** by Christina Soontornvat

30. ***Scritch Scratch*** by Lindsay Currie

31. ***Camp Famous*** by Jennifer Blecher