

## 2026 SUMMER READING

For students who are entering  
**FOURTH GRADE**

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### Summer Reading: Keep the Adventure Alive!

Reading can be one of the many fun activities your child explores this summer. Research shows it is also much more! Children who maintain a steady reading routine over the summer are far less likely to experience summer learning loss. Keeping your child's reading skills sharp is vital, and they should have daily opportunities to read or hear high-quality literature and non-fiction—both for pleasure and to learn new things. Reading aloud to your child is also a wonderful way to show them how much you value books.

### Expand Their Horizons: Reading Across Genres and Formats

Summer is the perfect time to let your child's interests guide their reading journey! We encourage parents to help their rising fourth graders explore a vibrant mix of genres—from thrilling mysteries and historical fiction to fascinating non-fiction, biographies, and whimsical poetry. Don't limit the adventure to traditional chapter books, either; all forms of print offer valuable learning opportunities. Graphic novels, audiobooks, magazines, e-books, and even comic books are fantastic ways to build vocabulary, improve comprehension, and keep the joy of reading alive. By embracing a wide variety of formats and topics, you can help your child discover new passions while keeping their literacy skills sharp for the upcoming school year.

Lastly, here are a few wonderful summer reading programs to explore:

#### Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Program

The concept is simple:

1. Your child reads **eight books** of their choice.
2. They record the titles on the attached reading log.
3. They bring the completed log to their local Barnes & Noble to **claim a free book!**

[Click Here for the Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Journal](#)

#### Local Library Summer Challenges

Be sure to check your local library's website for more summer fun. Here are the links to the Westport and Fairfield library challenges for this year:

- [Westport Library: "Plant a Seed, Read" Summer Reading Program 2026](#)
- [Fairfield Library: "Unearth a Story" Summer Reading Program 2026](#)

#### Borrowing E-Books

E-books are another fantastic, free option. Most libraries use apps like **OverDrive and Libby**. As long as you have an active library card, you can download e-books directly to your device (such as an iPad, Kindle, or Amazon Fire tablet).

# Book Selections

## Adventure & Fantasy

- Nic Blake and the Remarkables by Angie Thomas
- The Last Mapmaker by Christina Soontornvat
- Woundabout by Lev Rosen (also categorized under Fantasy)

## Fantasy

- Skandar and the Unicorn Thief by A.F. Steadman
- The Peculiar by Stefan Bachmann
- The Witches by Roald Dahl
- Woundabout by Lev Rosen (also categorized under Adventure)

## Adventure

- Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy by Karen Foxlee
- Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan
- The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

## Mystery

- Serafina and the Black Cloak by Robert Beatty
- The Girl With the Glass Bird by Esme Kerr
- The Magnificent Lizzie Brown and the Ghost Ship by Vicki Lockwood (also categorized under Adventure)
- Warren the 13th and the All-Seeing Eye by Tania Del Rio

## Historical Fiction / Non-Fiction

- Indian No More by Charlene Willing McManis (also categorized under Diverse)
- Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai (also categorized under Autobiography / Verse)
- The Quilt Walk by Sandra Dallas
- The Right Word by Jen Bryant

## Classics

- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
- Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
- Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling
- The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
- The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

## Graphic Novels

- Real Friends by Shannon Hale
- The Night Librarian: A Graphic Novel by Christopher Lincoln (also categorized under Imagination)
- Wings of Fire series by Tui T. Sutherland

## Humor

- Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman
- Frindle by Andrew Clements
- George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl
- Liberty Porter, First Daughter by Julia DeVillers

## Diverse & Friendship Stories

- Extraordinary by Miriam Spitzer Franklin (Diverse / Disability)
- Indian No More by Charlene Willing McManis (Diverse / Historical)
- Playing the Cards You're Dealt by Varian Johnson (Friendship / Diverse)