

# Classical Literature Reading List

## Third Through Fifth Grade

### Fables, Folk Tales and Fairy Tales

Colum, Padraic. *The Boy Apprenticed to An Enchanter*  
Craik, Dinah Maria Mulock. *The Little Lambe Prince*  
Dawood, H. J. *Tales from the Arabian Nights*  
Farjeon, Eleanor, *The Little Bookroom*  
Krensky, Stephen. *Castles in the Air and Other Tales*  
Lang, Andrew. *Arabian Nights*  
MacDonald, George. *The Prince and Curdie*  
Nickless, Will. *The Book of Fables*  
Perrault, Charles. *Perrault's Complete Fairy Tales*  
Pyle, Howard. *The Wonder Clock*  
Ruskin, John. *The King of the Golden River*  
Wahlenberg, Anna. *The Diamond Bird and Other Stories*  
Yagawa, Sumiko. *The Crane Wife*

### Myths and Legends

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *Tanglewood Tales & Wonder Book*  
McSpadden, J. Walker. *Robin Hood and His Merry Outlaws*  
Pyle, Howard. *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*

### Fantasies

Bond, Michael. *A Bear Called Paddington*  
Boston, L. M. *The Castle of Yew*  
Carroll, Lewis. *Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*  
Collodi, Carlo. *The Pinocchio of C. Collodi*  
Ford, Paul f. *Companion to Narnia*  
Fritz, Jean. *Magic to Burn*  
Godden, Rumer. *The Doll's House*  
Grahame, Kenneth. *The Wind in the Willows*  
Heide, Florence Parry. *The Problem with Pulcifer*  
Holman, Felice. *The Cricket Winter*  
Juster, Norton. *The Phantom Toll Booth*  
Kipling, Rudyard. *The Jungle Book*  
Krensky, Stephen. *A Big Day for Scepters*  
Lawson, Robert. *Rabbit Hill*  
Lewis, C. S. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*  
MacDonald, George. *At the Back of the North Wind*  
Nesbit, Edith. *Five Children and It*  
Norton, Mary. *The Borrowers*  
O'Brien, Robert C. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*  
Sewell, Anna. *Black Beauty: The Autobiography of a Horse*  
Sharp, Margery. *The Rescuers*  
Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Hobbit*  
White, E. B. *Stuart Little*

### Realistic Modern Stories

Benary-Isbert, Margot. *Blue Mystery*  
Blue, Rose. *Seven Years from Home*  
Carlson, Natalie Savage. *The Empty Schoolhouse*  
Clearly, Beverly. *Henry Huggins*  
de Jong, Meindert. *The House of Sixty Fathers*  
de Jong, Meindert. *The Wheel on the School*  
Enright, Elizabeth. *Thimble Summer*  
Enright, Elizabeth. *Gone-Away Lake; Return to Gone-Away*  
Gates, Doris. *Blue Willow*  
Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague*  
Holling, Holling Clancy. *Paddle-to-the-Sea*  
Kjelgaard, Jim. *Big Red*  
Little, Jean. *From Anna*  
Ransome, Arthur. *Swallows and Amazons*  
Seredy, Kate. *The Good Master*  
Sobol, Donald J. *Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective*  
Streatfeild, Noel. *The Magic Summer*

### Realistic Historical Stories

Anckarsvard, Karin. *Doctor's Boy*  
Atkins, Elizabeth Howard. *Treasures of the Medroanos*  
Avi. *Night Journeys*  
Blaine, Marge. *Dvora's Journey*  
Brady, Esther Wood. *Toliver's Street*  
Brink, Carol Rylie. *Caddie Woodlawn*  
Bulla, Clyde Robert. *Marco Moonlight*  
Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden*  
Canfield, Dorothy. *Understood Betsy*  
Carr, Mary Jane. *Children of the Covered Wagon*  
Colver, Anne. *Bread and Butter Indian*  
De Angeli, Marguerite. *The Door in the Wall*  
Dodge, Mary Maples. *Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates*  
Estes, Eleanor. *The Moffats*  
Fritz, Jean. *The Cabin Faced West*  
Hale, Lucretia P. *The Complete Peterkin Papers*  
Hunt, Irene. *Trail of Apple Blossom*  
MacDonald, George. *The Christmas Stories of George MacDonald*  
Meadowcroft, Enid L. *By Wagon and Flatboat*  
Meadowcroft, Enid L. *Silver for General Washington*  
Spyri, Johanna. *Heidi*  
Steele, William O. *The Perilous Road*  
Steele, William O. *The Buffalo Knife*  
Suhl, Yuri. *The Purim Goat*  
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *The Little House in the Big Woods*

### Biographies

Aldis, Dorothy. *Nothing is Impossible*  
Collins, David R. *Charles Lindbergh: Hero Pilot*  
Daugherty, James. *Daniel Boone*  
d'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar Parin. *Benjamin Franklin*  
d'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar Parin. *George Washington*  
Foster, Genevieve. *Theodore Roosevelt: An initial Biography*  
Franklin, Benjamin. *The Whistle*  
Goodsell, Jane. *The Mayo Brothers*  
Graff, Stewart and Polly Anne. *Helen Keller*  
Holt, Rackham. *George Washinton Carver: An American Biography*  
Hunter, Edith Fisher. *Child of the Silent Night*  
Johnston, Johanna. *Harriet and the Runaway Book*  
Judson, Clara Ingram. *Soldier Doctor*  
Krensky, Stephen. *Conqueror and Hero: The Search for Alexander*  
Kurelek, William. *A Prairie Boy's Winter: A Prairie Boy's Summer*  
Kurelek, William. *Lumberjack*  
Lasker, David. *The Boy Who Loved Music*  
McNeer, May and Lynd Ward. *John Wesley*  
Neimark, Anne E. *Touch of Light: The Story of Lois Braille*  
Patterson, Lillie. *Frederick Douglas: Freedom Fighter*  
Quakenbush, Robert. *Here a Plant, There a Plant, Everywhere a Plant Plant! A Story of Luther Burbank*  
Stonaker, Frances Benson. *Famous Mathematicians*  
Syme, Ronald. *Cartier: Finer of the St. Lawrence*  
Syme, Ronald. *Columbus, Finder of the New World*  
Syme, Ronald. *Magellan: First Around the World*  
Tobias, Tobi. *Maria Tallchief*  
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *On the Way Home*  
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *West from Home*

### God's World Books

Bedard, Michael. *Emily*  
Bishop, Claire Huchet. *Twenty & Ten*  
Brink, Carol Ryrie. *Caddie Woodlawn*  
Brink, Carol Ryrie. *Magical Melons*  
Bulla, Clyde Robert. *A Lion to Guard Us*  
Dalgleish, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble*  
Edmonds, Walter D. *The Matchlock Gun*  
Fritz, Jean. *The Cabin Faced West*  
George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain*  
George, Jean Craighead. *On the Far Side of the Mountain*  
Gray, Elizabeth Janet. *Adam of the Road*  
Henry, Marquerite. Horse Adventure series

Herriot, James. *A Treasury for Children*  
Howard, Milly. *Brave the Wild Trail*  
Howard, Milly. *Treasure of Pelican Cove*  
Howard, Milly. *The Mystery of Pelican Cove*  
Hutchens, Paul. Sugar Creek Gang series  
Jackson, Dave & Neta. Trailblazer books series  
Lawhead, Stephen R. *The Tale of Jeremy Vole; The Tale of Timothy Mallard*  
Lewis, C. S. *The Chronicles of Narnia*  
Mathis, Sharon Bell. *The Hundred Penny Box*

God's World Books (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

McDonald, George. *The Lost Princess*  
Nye, Julie. *In My Uncle's House*  
Speare, Elizabeth George. *The Sign of the Beaver*  
Thomasma, Kenneth. *Soun Tetoken: Nez Perce Boy Tames a Stallion*  
Warner, Gertrude Chandler. The Boxcar Children Series  
*Who Has Seen the Wind? A Poetry Collection for Young People*  
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. Little House Books series  
Yates, Elizabeth. *Amos Fortune, Free Man*  
Yates, Elizabeth. *Carolina's Courage*  
Yates, Elizabeth. *Mountain Born*

## **Third and Fourth Grades**

Atwater, Richard Tupper. ***MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS***. Illustrated by Robert Lawson. 1938. Newbury Honor Book.

Mr. Popper has to get a penguin from the zoo to keep his homesick one company. Soon there are twelve.

Brink, Carol Ryrie. ***CADDIE WOODLAWN***. Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. 1935. Newbery Medal.

Life on the frontier was exciting Caddie and her six brothers and sisters, especially since Caddie could be more of a tomboy than a lady.

Bunyan, John. ***PILGRIM'S PROGRESS SIMPLIFIED***. 1975.

An easy-to-read version presents an allegory of a Christian's search for Heaven as Pilgrim faces trials and difficulties.

Cleary, Beverly. ***HENRY HUGGINS***. Illustrated by Louis Darling. 1950.

Henry Huggins picks up a stray dog, names him Ribsy, and sets out on numerous adventures with him, including breeding hundreds of fish and collecting over a thousand worms.

Dahl, Roald. ***CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY***. 1964.

Each of five children, lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory, takes advantage of the situation in his own way.

Dalglish, Alice. ***THE COURAGE OF SARAH NOBLE***. Illustrated by Leonard Weisgard. 1954. Newbery Honor Book.

Remembering her mother's words, an eight-year-old girl finds courage to go alone with her father to build a new home in the Connecticut wilderness and to stay with the Indians when her father goes back for the rest of the family.

Dixon, Franklin W. ***THE TOWER TREASURE***. 1927.

The robbery on the treasure in the tower proves to be an exciting challenge to Frank and Joe Hardy.

Fleischman, Sid. ***THE WHIPPING BOY***. Illustrated by Peter Sis. 1986. Newbery Medal.

A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

George, Jean Craighead. ***MY SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN***. 1959. Newbery Honor Book.

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskills Mountains, including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.

Lawson, Robert. ***BEN AND ME: A NEW AND ASTONISHING LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AS WRITTEN BY HIS GOOD MOUSE, AMOS, LATELY DISCOVERED***. 1939.

Amos Mouse moves into Ben Franklin's hat and serves so successfully as his advisor that Franklin becomes renowned.

Lenski, Lois. ***STRAWBERRY GIRL***. 1945. Newbery Medal.

Set in a little-known backwoods region of Florida, *Strawberry Girl* is the first of the Lenski regional books and the winner of the Newbery Award.

Lewis, C.S. ***THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE***. 1950.

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

Lofting, Hugh. ***THE VOYAGES OF DOCTOR DOLITTLE***. 1922. Newbery Medal.

The good doctor learned the language of animals and made adventurous voyages.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***SARA, PLAIN AND TALL***. 1985. Newbery Medal; Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction.

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by her and hope that she will stay.

McSwigan, Marie. ***SNOW TREASURE***. 1942.

An adventure based on a true story about a group Norwegian children who smuggled nine million dollars in gold past Nazi sentries during World War II.

Norton, Mary. ***THE BORROWERS***. Illustrated by Beth and Joe Krush. 1952. Carnegie Medal; Lewis Carroll Shelf Award.

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock.

Peretti, Frank E. ***THE DOOR IN THE DRAGON'S THROAT***. 1985.

An American archeologist and his two children seek God's protection as they journey to the Near East in search of a buried treasure that local residents believe is cursed.

Third and Fourth Grades

Rawls, Wilson. ***WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS***. 1983

In the Louisiana woods, two dogs and a boy explore the legend of the red fern.

Robinson, Barbara. ***THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER***. Illustrated by Judith Gwyn Brown. 1972.

The six mean Herdman kids lie, steal, smoke cigars (even the girls), and then become involved in the community Christmas pageant.

Sewell, Anna. ***BLACK BEAUTY***. 1877.

As a fine horse goes from one master to another, readers learnt he story of his life in nineteenth-century England.

Sobol, Donald J. ***ENCYCLOPEDIA BROWN, BOY DETECTIVE***. Illustrated by Leonard Shortall. 1963.

Fifth-grader “Encyclopedia” Leroy Brown solves ten mysteries and, by putting the solutions at the back of the book, challenges their reader to do the same.

Spyri, Johanna. ***HEIDI***. 1880.

The four orphaned Alden children take refuge in an old boxcar. Their situation attracts attention, and they are happily reunited with their wealthy grandfather.

White, E. B. ***STUART LITTLE***. Illustrated by Garth Williams. 1945

The debonair mouse, Stuart Little sets out to seek his dearest friend, a little bird who stayed a few days in his family’s garden.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. ***LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS***. Illustrated by Garth Williams. 1932.

Two young girls on the Wisconsin frontier help their mother with the daily chores, enjoy their father’s stories and singing, and share special occasions with relatives or neighbors.

## Additional Books for Grades Three and Four

Adamson, Joy – *Born Free*  
Alcott, Louisa May – *Jo's Boys, Little Men, and Little Women*  
Armstrong, William – *Souther*  
Bailey, Carolyn – *Miss Hickory*  
Barrie, James – *Peter Pan*  
Baum, L. Frank – *The Wizard of Oz*  
Bibee, John – *Spirit Flyer Series*  
Blum, Judy – *Freckle Face, SuperFudge* and *Tales of a Fourth-Grade Nothing*  
Bond, Michael – *Paddington Series*  
Bulla, Clyde – *Shoeshine Girl*  
Burnett, Frances Hodgson – *The Little Princess* and *The Secret Garden*  
Burnford, Sheila – *The Incredible Journey*  
Byars, Betsy – *The Midnight Fox*  
Carlson, Natalie – *The Family Under the Bridge*  
Collodi, Carlo – *Pinocchio*  
Dahl, Roald – *James and the Giant Peach*  
Daugherty, James – *Daniel Boone*  
Davidson, Margaret – *Helen Keller*  
DeJong, Meindert – *The Wheel on the School*  
Dixon, Franklin – *Hardy Boys Series*  
Du Bois, William Pene – *Twenty-One Balloons*  
Edmonds, Walter D. – *The Matchlock Gun*  
Estes, Eleanor – *The Hundred Dresses and the Moffats*  
Farley, Walter – *Black Stallion Series*  
Frits, Jean – *The Cabin Faces West*  
Gardiner, John Reynolds – *Stone Fox*  
Gipson, Fred – *Old Yeller*  
Grahame, Kenneth – *The Wind in the Willows*  
Henry, Marguerite – *Misty of Chincoteague*  
Hutchens, Paul – *Sugar Creek Gang Series*  
Keene, Carolyn – *Nancy Drew Series*  
Knight, Eric – *Lassie Come Home*  
Lawson, Robert - *Rabbit Hill*  
Lindgren, Astrid – *Pippi Longstocking*  
Lowry, Lois – *Number the Stars*  
McCloskey, Robert – *Home Price*  
O'Brien, Robert C. – *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*  
O'Dell, Scott – *Island of the Blue Dolphins*  
Reis Banks, Lynne – *The Indian in the Cupboard*  
Sperry, Armstrong – *Call it Courage*  
Tripp, Valerie – *American Girl Series*  
White, E.B. – *Charlotte's Web* and *Trumpet of the Swan*  
Wyss, Johann David – *Swiss Family Robinson*