



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SUMMER READING LIST 2025

GRADE 5

The following list is for students entering Fifth Grade in September 2025. All students must read the required selection (Number the Stars by Lois Lowry) and complete the required activity by the first day of the school year. They will also be tested on this book.

In addition, all students are to choose **one** book from the list below and complete another activity from the list of activities provided. **This is also to be turned in on the first day of the school year.** There will be no test on this book, but you will present it to the class.

REQUIRED Book: NUMBER THE STARS by Lois Lowry

REQUIRED Activity: Design a book jacket for the book. Include title, illustrator, cover illustration - don't copy the existing illustration, and a one-page summary. I STRONGLY suggest that you look at an actual book jacket before you work on this.

CHOICE Book (choose one – continued on the back):

Adventure & Mystery

Explorer Academy: The Nebula Secret – Trudi Trueit ©2019

Framed! A T.O.A.S.T. Mystery – James Ponti ©2017

Max Einstein: The Genius Experiment – James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein ©2018

Realistic

The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh – Helen Rutter ©2021

New Kid – Jerry Craft ©2019

The Truth About 5th Grade – Kim Tomsic and Mark Parisi ©2024

Fantasy & Sci-Fi

Area 51 Interns: Alien Summer – James S. Murray and Carsen Smith ©2022

The Endling: The Last – Katherine Applegate ©2019

Creature Clinic – Gavin Aung Than ©2025

Animal Stories

Katie the Catsitter (Book 1) – Colleen A. F. Venable ©2021

Always Clementine – Carlie Sorosiak ©2022

Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer – Kelly Jones ©2016

Historical Fiction

Operation: Happy – Jenni L. Walsh ©2025

Stella by Starlight – Sharon M. Draper ©2016

Prairie Lotus – Linds Sue Park ©2022

CHOICE Activity (choose one):

1. **Write a feature article** (with a headline) that tells the story of the book as it might be found on the front page of a newspaper in the town where the story takes place.
2. Sketch a favorite part of the book—don't copy an existing illustration. **Write an explanation** both why it is your favorite AND why it is central to the plot of your book.
3. Write a one to two sentence **summary** of each chapter and illustrate the sentence.
4. Make a GIANT bookmark for your book; draw a character on the front and **write a summary** of the book on the back of your “bookmark” after listing the title and author.
5. **Write a poem**—rhyming or free verse—and a minimum of twenty lines about the book you read.
6. **Prepare a list** of 15 to 20 questions for use in determining if other people have read the book carefully. Include the answers!
7. Write a diary as the main character would write it to explain the events of the story. Your diary must have **at least five entries** and at least one paragraph each.
8. Make a mobile showing pictures or symbols of happenings in the book. Include a **written explanation** of the importance of these objects to the overall plot of your book.
9. **Make a crossword puzzle** using ideas from your book. You must have at least 25 words and include a copy of the solved crossword puzzle, too.
10. Make a shoe box diorama of a scene from the book you read. **Write a paragraph** explaining the scene and its effect in the book.

**** Be sure to complete all parts of the activity you choose. ****