

TBCA Elementary Reading Advantage for Summer 2026

TBCA educators believe in setting each student up for success. We are mindful of the value of summer as a recharge, but are also conscious of the opportunity that the summer weeks provide to continue to pursue academic excellence in a balanced way. This summer, each student will be required to participate in summer reading that promotes advantages for growth and development of both reading and writing. Each grade level is provided with a list of guidelines as each family sets forth on a journey to introduce their student to new worlds and exciting adventures. (The links are provided for each book for ease of access, but you may also borrow the books from the local library if you would like.)

Lower Elementary		
Incoming K-5	Read to your sweet kiddo. They can pick out their favorite book that you read to them and tell their kinder teacher about it when they start school. We are so glad you are here!	
Lower Elementary	Read to me (engaged student listening or shared read)	Read with me (engaged parent listening with student independently reading)
How it will be used in class:	Engagement & connection in reading throughout the year	The student will pick their favorite and complete a book talk (following the simple rubric below.)
Rising 1 st Graders	Any Magic Tree House books	Author's to Explore: Eric Carle, Dr. Seuss, Audrey Wood, Bill Martin Jr., Simms Taback, Hans Rey (Curious George), Eric Litwin (Pete the Cat)
Rising 2 nd Graders	Any Beverly Cleary Books	Author's to Explore: Laura Numeroff, Jan Brett, Marjorie Weinman Sharmat, Kevin Henkes, Deborah Diesen, Helen Lester, Margaret Rathmann, Maribeth Boelts, Gail Gibbons, Mem Fox

	Required Book To be read as a shared experience or as an independent experience with parent listening/involvement	Choice Book (choose one) To be read as a shared experience (alternating between adult and student) or an independent experience with parent listening/involvement. Project completed with this column.
The Purpose	Launch book for year	Presentation completed by students following the rubric on the next page.
Rising 3rd Grade	Any Box Car Children book	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The One and Only Ivan</u> (570) by K. Applegate The One and Only Ivan: Applegate, Katherine, Castelao, Patricia: 9780061992278: Books - Amazon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Blueberries for Sal</u> (600) by R. McCloskey Blueberries for Sal: McCloskey, Robert: 9780670175918: Books - Amazon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Courage of Sarah Noble</u> (610) by A. Dalglish Amazon - The Courage of Sarah Noble: Dalglish, Alice, Weisgard, Leonard: 9780689715402: Books</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Make Way for Ducklings</u> (710) by R. McCloskey Make Way for Ducklings: McCloskey, Robert: 9780670451494: Books - Amazon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Go Free or Die: A Story about Harriet Tubman</u> (800) by J. Ferris Go Free or Die: A Story about Harriet Tubman (Creative Minds Biographies): Ferris, Jeri, Ritz, Karen: 9780876145043: Books: Amazon.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Time of Wonder</u> (940) by R. McCloskey Amazon - Time of Wonder (Picture Puffins): McCloskey, Robert: 8601421319218: Books</p>
Rising 4th Grade	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Because of Winn-Dixie</u> (660) by Kate DiCamillo Because of Winn-Dixie: DiCamillo, Kate: 9781536214352: Amazon.com: Books</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Poppy</u> (670) by AVI Poppy (Poppy, 3): Avi, Floca, Brian: 9780380727698: Books: Amazon.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Clementine and the Family Meeting</u> (790) by S. Pennypacker Amazon.com: Clementine and the Family Meeting (Clementine, 5): 9781423124368: Pennypacker, Sara, Frazee, Marla: Books</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</u> (860) by B. Cleary Amazon.com: The Mouse and the Motorcycle: 9780380709243: Cleary, Beverly, Rogers, Jacqueline: Books</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mr. Popper's Penguin's</u> (910) by R. Atwater Mr. Popper's Penguins: Atwater, Richard, Atwater, Florence: 9780316058438: Amazon.com: Books</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ben and Me</u> (1010) by Robert Lawson Ben and Me: An Astonishing Life of Benjamin Franklin by His Good Mouse Amos: Lawson, Robert: 9780316517300: Amazon.com: Books</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Pushcart War</u> (1050) by Jean Merrill Amazon - The Pushcart War (New York Review Children's Collection): Merrill, Jean, Solbert, Ronni: 9781590179369: Books</p>

Rising 5th Graders	Frindle (830) by Andrew Clements Frindle: Clements, Andrew, Selznick, Brian: 2015689818769: Books - Amazon	Where the Red Fern Grows (700) by W. Rawls Amazon - Where the Red Fern Grows: Wilson Rawls: 9780440412670: Books
		Misty of Chincoteague (750) by Margerite Henry Misty of Chincoteague: Henry, Marguerite, Dennis, Wesley: 8580001184692: Books (amazon.com) Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH (790) by R. O'Brien Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH: O'Brien, Robert C., Bernstein, Zena: 9780689710681: Amazon.com: Books Old Yeller (910) by Fred Gipson Old Yeller (Perennial Classics): Gipson, Fred, Polson, Steven: 9780060935474: Books (amazon.com) The Voyages of Dr Dolittle (930) by Hugh Lofting The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle: Lofting, Hugh: 9780486834368: Books - Amazon Princess and the Goblin (1030) by George MacDonald The Princess and the Goblin (Puffin Classics): George MacDonald, Ursula K. Le Guin: 9780141332482: Books (amazon.com)

Book Talk Rubric		
This is what your teacher will be looking for when you present to the class.		
	Not Present (0 points)	Present (5 points)
Eye Contact		
Volume		
Voice		
Who is the main character?		
What happened in the book		
Where did it take place?		
Why did you like this book?		

Illustration Rubric		
Draw a picture of your favorite part and write your best sentence telling why it is your favorite part. Use your best handwriting 😊		
	Not Present (0 pts)	Present (5 pts)
Illustration of your favorite part		
Caption (or paragraph) describing the illustration		
Student's first and last name is on the bottom right		
The Book Title is written at the top		
The author of the book is written below the title.		

Directions for the writing piece: All students should explain why they chose their favorite part. Refer to your student's grade level for specific sentence or paragraph directions.	
K-5	Sentence not required (let them draw a picture about their favorite part.)
Rising 1st Grade	Write one sentence that explains why this is your favorite part.
Rising 2 nd Grade	Write one to three complete sentences explaining why it is your favorite part
Rising 3rd Grade	Develop a three to five sentence paragraph explaining why it is your favorite part.
Rising 4th Grade	Develop a five to eight sentence paragraph explaining why this is your favorite part.
Rising 5th Grade	Develop a nine to twelve sentence paragraph explaining why this is your favorite part.