

Use the
5 Finger Rule
to determine if a book is "just right"



1. Open a book to any page.
2. Start reading the page.
3. Hold up one finger for **EVERY** word that you don't know or have trouble pronouncing.



0-1 Fingers
The book is too **EASY**.

2-3 Fingers
The book is at the Interest level ~ read it!

4 Fingers
The book is at the Challenge level.
You can try it ~ be sure it makes sense.

5 Fingers
The book is at the Frustration level and
is not a good choice for now.

Gildersleeve Elementary School
Suggested Summer Reading
2009



Dear Families,

Reading, like any other skill, improves with practice. In this booklet you'll find a list of **SUGGESTED** authors and titles for summer reading. Keep in mind however, that your child may read any books that are of interest to him/her. Encourage your child to read a book that he/she can read with fluency and few mistakes. Use the five finger rule at the back of the booklet to help your child select an appropriate book. Summer reading should be *enjoyable!*

Children's magazines are another wonderful source of summer reading material. In addition to books, children may want to check out a magazine like National Geographic Kids, Sports Illustrated for Kids, Time for Kids, Highlights, etc. Books on tape or CD are also a great way to enjoy a book while riding in a car. To find these reading materials we encourage you to visit the library, tag sales, a local bookstore, or a friend's bookshelf. And remember, the best way to build a love of reading is to **READ, READ, READ!**

Gildersleeve School

Library Media Center

Keep track of all the books you read in your **Governor's Summer Reading Challenge** journal & bring it to school in September for a chance to win some great prizes.

Visit the **Portland Library** for all your summer reading needs!



Summer Reading Tips



Read aloud to your child as often as possible.

Students are *never* too old for this! Reading aloud will build your child's vocabulary and understanding of story parts.

Most of all, read-alouds
are *fun!*

Keep a word log > a "Cool Words Book".

In a small notebook, write words your child finds interesting for any reason. The "Cool Words Book" will promote a love of language.

Get excited about children's magazines and read them together. Read the articles, work the puzzles, and play the games together. Subscriptions in your child's name are super, but the library will have many titles that your child can borrow.

Encourage reading for pleasure. Getting your child hooked on a particular author, series, or subject is one good way to get them excited about books. Be sure to praise your child for reading, and be a role model by reading yourself.

Encourage reading for meaning. Invite your child to ask questions if he or she doesn't understand something. Children comprehend more when they think about what they read and they learn to reread things that don't make sense. Also, encourage your child to predict what will happen next. Reflecting and predicting keep the reader focused and aid comprehension.

Titles

Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park

Attack of the Turtle by Drew Carlson

Drita, My Homegirl by Jenny Lombard

Rules by Cynthia Lord

The Stumptown Kid by Carol Gorman and Ron Finley

The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin

Fiction Authors

Andrew Clements

Beverly Cleary

Mary Pope Osborne

Dick King-Smith

Roald Dahl

Jon Scieszka

Patricia Polacco

Megan McDonald



Nonfiction Authors

Bruce Hiscock

Joanna Cole

Aliki

Lois Ehlert

Seymour Simon

Gail Gibbons

Poetry Authors

Bruce Lansky

Lee Bennet Hopkins

Douglas Florian

Jack Prelutsky



Series

Dear America

My America

Poppy by Avi

Secrets of the Droon by Tony Abbott

Stink by Megan McDonald

Geronimo Stilton

Shredderman by Wendelin Van Draanen

Judy Moody by Megan McDonald

Many of these titles are available as audio books at the Portland Library.