

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  
2010



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. And remember, the best way to build a love of reading is to **READ, READ, READ!**

Gildersleeve School

Library Media Center

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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!

You'll find book clubs, special programs, and more!!



## 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

*Iron Thunder* by Avi  
*The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies  
*No Talking* by Andrew Clements  
*One-Handed Catch* by M.J. Auch  
*Swindle* by Gordon Korman  
*The Thing About Georgie* by Lisa Graff

### Fiction Authors

Beverly Cleary  
Andrew Clements  
Roald Dahl  
Megan McDonald  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Patricia Polacco  
Dick King-Smith  
Jon Scieszka



### Nonfiction Authors

Nic Bishop  
Joanna Cole  
Lois Ehlert  
Gail Gibbons  
Bruce Hiscock  
Sandra Markle

### Poetry Authors

Douglas Florian  
Lee Bennet Hopkins  
Bruce Lansky  
Jack Prelutsky

### Series

Dear America  
Geronimo Stilton  
Judy Moody by Megan McDonald  
My America  
Poppy by Avi  
Secrets of Droon by Tony Abbott  
Shredderman by Wendelin Van Draanen  
Stink by Megan McDonald

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