

2023 – 2024 READING LIST



A Reading List for Classical, Christian Students and Parents

At Arcadia Christian School, our desire is not only for students to learn how to read, but also to acquire a passion for reading. The literature lists were developed to encourage reading while also allowing for individual choice and preference. Our hope at ACS is that parents and children will come to know and love some of the best authors and literature that exist, and develop a lifelong love of reading!

Purpose

The literature lists were designed with specific objectives in mind.

- Give students guidance and direction as they choose books for independent reading and as they choose books for book reports. One book report is required each quarter by ACS in various grades.
- Help students, teachers, and parents make intelligent, wise decisions regarding what books students read, enabling them to learn to select books at the right reading level and of appropriate topic and content.
- Ensure that parents read more good literature themselves and with their children (e.g., reading aloud to children, discussing books that both parent and child read).
- Provide parents and teachers with a list of the books in order to help parents and teachers guide reading, suggest new books and avenues of study, cultivate interests and build new areas of interest.

How to Use the Literature List

When using the literature list for your student's grade level, keep the following features in mind.

- The books are listed in alphabetical order for convenience in finding specific titles.
- The number of books for each grade level list has been increased to provide more selection in topics and reading levels. Because of the expansive selection, choose books from the literature list at your student's grade level unless otherwise specified by the classroom teacher.
- Reading levels are provided (when available) to help assist parents, students, and teachers in selecting books. Keep in mind that the reading levels are approximate. Books at lower reading levels help students to develop speed in reading. A student should not neglect good literature just because the reading level is not advanced. In the same regard, advanced reading levels are not meant to be used by students or parents as a "bragging" point.

Reading levels are recorded as a decimal. To interpret the reading level, the number to the left of the decimal indicates a grade level. The number to the right of the decimal indicates the number of months into the school year. For instance, a reading level of 2.1 means second grade, first month. A reading level of 2.8 means second grade, the eighth month. Both reading levels are at a second-grade level; however, one is at an early second-grade reading level whereas the other is at a late second-grade reading level.

ARCADIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL READING LIST CLASS CHALLENGE

School of Grammar (K-6th)

Each ACS Teacher will choose **one book per quarter to read.**

The book will be used to practice reading, oral speech, composition and critical thinking.

Teachers have been challenged to choose:

1 book that may be historical

1 book for fun

2 books for literary study/discussion

First Grade Reading List

Read aloud by the teacher in class:

Leaf, Munro. [*How to Behave and Why*](#)

Leaf, Munro. [*How to Speak Politely and Why*](#)

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. [*The Jesus Storybook Bible*](#)

Taylor, Helen. [*Little Pilgrim's Progress*](#)

Leithart, Peter. [*Wise Words: Family Stories that Bring the Proverbs to Life*](#)

Brown, Jeff. [*Flat Stanley*](#)

Dalgliesh, Alice. [*The Courage of Sarah Noble*](#)

Silverstein, Shel. [*A Light in the Attic*](#)

Second Grade Reading List

Read in class or assigned for outside reading:

Andersen, Hans C. [*The Emperor's New Clothes*](#)
Brown, Marcia. [*Dick Whittington and His Cat*](#)
Burton, Virginia. [*The Little House*](#)
Burton, Virginia. [*Mike Mulligan and His Steamshovel*](#)
Cauley, Lorinda. [*The Ugly Duckling*](#)
Cleary, Beverly. [*The Mouse and the Motorcycle*](#)
Cleary, Beverly. [*Ribsy*](#)
Dalglish, Alice. [*The Bears on Hemlock Mountain*](#)
Lewis, C. S. [*The Lion, Witch, and Wardrobe*](#)
McCloskey, Robert. [*Time of Wonder*](#)
Steig, William. [*Doctor De Soto*](#)
Warner, Gertrude. [*The Box-Car Children \(vol. 1\)*](#)
Williams, Marjorie. [*The Velveteen Rabbit*](#)

Third Grade Reading List

Read in class or assigned for outside reading:

Atwater, Richard. [Mr. Popper's Penguins](#)

Barrie, James. [Peter Pan](#)

Farley, Walter. [The Black Stallion](#)

Fleischman, Sid. [The Whipping Boy](#)

Gannett, Ruth. [My Father's Dragon](#)

Grahame, Kenneth. [The Wind in the Willows \(Scholastic Jr. Classic\)](#)

Kipling, Rudyard. [The Jungle Book \(Scholastic Jr. Classic\)](#)

Lewis, C. S. [The Horse and His Boy](#)

Swift, Jonathan. [Gulliver's Stories \(Scholastic Jr. Classic\)](#)

White, E. B. [Charlotte's Web](#)

White, E. B. [Stuart Little](#)

Winterfeld, Henry. [Detectives in Togas](#)

History: Reading of the Constitution : Articles 1-3

Fourth Grade Literature List

Read in class or assigned for outside reading:

Blackwood, Gary. [*The Shakespeare Stealer*](#)
Burnett, Frances Hodgson. [*The Secret Garden*](#)
Carroll, Lewis. [*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*](#)
Dahl, Roald. [*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*](#)
D'Aulaire, Ingri & Edgar. [*Leif the Lucky*](#)
Daugherty, James. [*The Magna Charta*](#)
de Angeli, Marguerite. [*The Door in the Wall*](#)
Du Bois, William Pene. [*Twenty-one Balloons*](#)
Estes, Eleanor. [*Ginger Pye*](#)
Henry, Marguerite. [*King of the Wind*](#)
Green, Roger Lancelyn. [*King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table*](#)
Konigsburg, E. L. [*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basel E. Frankweiler*](#)
Lewis, C. S. [*Prince Caspian*](#)
Norton, Mary. [*The Borrowers*](#)
Prum, Deborah M. [*Rats, Bulls, and Flying Machines*](#)
Rebsamen, Frederick. [*Beowulf*](#)
Sis, Peter. [*Starry Messenger: Galileo*](#)
Stanley, Diane and Peter Vennema. [*Bard of Avon*](#)
Stanley, Diane. [*Joan of Arc*](#)
Vernon, Louise A. [*Thunderstorm in the Church*](#)
White, E. B. [*The Trumpet of the Swan*](#)

History: Review of Constitution: Articles 1-3

Reading of the Constitution: Articles 4-7

Fifth Grade Literature List

Read in class or assigned for outside reading:

Defoe, Daniel. [*Robinson Crusoe*](#)
Forbes, Esther. [*Johnny Tremain*](#)
Lathan, Jean. [*Carry On, Mr. Bowditch*](#)
Lewis, C. S. [*The Silver Chair*](#)
Lewis, C. S. [*The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*](#)
Speare, Elizabeth. [*The Witch of Blackbird Pond*](#)
Gipson, Fred. [*Old Yeller*](#)
Rawls, Wilson. [*Where the Red Fern Grows*](#)
Montgomery, Lucy. [*Anne of Green Gables*](#)
Spyri, Johanna. [*Heidi*](#)
Wyss, Johann. [*Swiss Family Robinson*](#)
Tolkien, J. R. R. [*The Hobbit*](#)
Verne, Jules. [*Around the World in Eighty Days*](#)
Verne, Jules. [*Journey to the Center of the Earth*](#)

History: Review of the Constitution: Articles 1-7
George Washington Inaugural Address and Farewell Address to the United States; Founding Father Speeches