

THALES ACADEMY K-12 READING LISTS 2026-27

Once teachers confirm in-class text lists each year, students are encouraged to read remaining supplemental books on their own.

Kindergarten – Grade 1

Required	Supplemental ¹
<i>Reading Mastery</i> (Kindergarten) “The Hill of Mud,” “We Like That,” “Note to Dad,” “The Bug and the Toad,” “I Wait for My Pal,” “A Mean Wind,” “The Fast Rug,” “The Mole and the Crow,” “What Jan Sings,” “Eating Corn,” “Pam and the Gold Robber,” “Sid Cleans Up the Town,” “Bitter Butter,” “The Bug Who Bit,” “What Jan Makes,” “Ten Men,” “Debby Makes Trades” <i>Reading Mastery</i> (Grade 1) “Bob and Jan,” “Better Batter,” “Can Tom Fly?,” “Vern and His Burn,” “The Goat and the Pail,” “Bob and Sid,” “A Clam named Ann,” “Tom and the Shark,” “Will Tam Listen?,” “Jill Went to Town,” “The Farmer and the Steer,” “Sandy,” “Peppers for Pam’s Pigs,” “A Swim for Bob,” “The Bragging Rats,” “A Home in the Zoo,” “Who is Smarter?,” “Gorman and the Toads,” “The Little Bug Bites,” “The Big Goat Hike,” “The Big Strike,” “A Horse Named Agnes,” “Sweetie and the Bird Bath,” “Rolla,” “Waldo and the Hungry Dog,” “The Cooking Contest,” “Art the Barking Cat,” “Clarabelle and the Birds,” “Donna,” “A Trip to the Lake,” “Tubby the Tug,” “Molly and Bleep,” “Patty and the Cats,” “The Circus,” “Goober,” “Honey and Sweetie,” “Dog and Dud,” “Boring Bill,” “Owen, Fizz, and Liz,” “The Hiding Contest”	Ester Averill, <i>The Cat Club</i> Jan Brett, <i>The Mitten</i> Jan Brett, <i>The Gingerbread Series</i> Barbara Brenner, <i>Wagon Wheels</i> Virginia Burton, <i>Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel</i> Pam Conrad, <i>The Tub People</i> Roger Duvoisin, <i>Petunia</i> Wanda Gág, <i>Millions of Cats</i> Russell Hoban, <i>Bedtime for Frances</i> (& the <i>Frances Series</i>) Munro Leaf, <i>The Story of Ferdinand</i> Arnold Stark Lobel, <i>Frog and Toad Series</i> & <i>Owl at Home</i> Robert McCloskey, <i>Blueberries for Sal</i> A. A. Milne, <i>Winnie the Pooh Series</i> Else Holmelund Minarik, <i>Little Bear Series</i> Robert McCloskey, <i>Make Way for Ducklings</i> Odille Ousley & David H. Russell, <i>On Cherry Street</i> Beatrix Potter, <i>The Tale of Peter Rabbit</i> H.A. Rey, <i>Curious George Series</i> Johanna Spyri, <i>Heidi</i> William Steig, <i>Sylvester and the Magic Pebble</i> Laura Ingalls Wilder, <i>Little House Series</i>

¹ The picture books and novels on this K-1 list are great options to be read out loud to children of all ages, whether in the classroom or at home.

Grade 2

Required	Supplemental
<i>Reading Mastery (Grade 2)</i> "The Tiger and the Frog," "Bob and Don Find Moops," "Don Washes the White Spot," "The Little Apple Tree," "The Camel and the Pig" "Joe Williams Wants a New Job," "Stephanie's Ponytail by Robert Munsch," "Aunt Fanny's Flea Circus," "Goad the Toad," "George At the Zoo by Sally George," "Jack and Lisa Have a Race," "Nancy Wants to Stay Little," "The Little Red House by Wolfgang Engelmann," "Herman the Fly," Honey Anderson & Bill Reinholtd, "Pop's Truck," Rick Brownell, "Trixie," "Linda and Kathy Escape from a Sinking Ship," Katharine Pyle, "The Three Wishes," "The City of Troy," "Bertha Has a Great Sense of Smell, Pat Reynolds, "Tom's Friend," Wolfgang Engelmann, "The Three Wishes," "Achilles' Heel," Akili Obi, "The Thirsty Crows," "The Cave People Discover Fire," "Andrew Dexter Has Daydreams," Lucas Novak, "See the Rabbits," "Words That Talk," "Toby the Kangaroo," Akili Obi, "The Fox and the Crow," "The Scarred Words in the Word Bank," "Eric and Tom Find a Time Machine," Yoko Mori, "The Magic Teakettle," Fran Lehr, "The Proud Crow"	Nathaniel Benchley, <i>George the Drummer Boy</i> Nathaniel Benchley, <i>Sam the Minuteman</i> Beverly Cleary, <i>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</i> Alice Dalgliesh, <i>Bears on Hemlock Mountain</i> Eleanor Estes, <i>The Hundred Dresses</i> Ruth Stiles Gannett, <i>My Father's Dragon</i> Mary Pope Osborne, <i>Dingoes at Dinnertime</i> Connie Roop, <i>Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie</i>

Grade 3

Required	Supplemental
<i>Reading Mastery</i> (Grade 3) Lucas Novak, "Old Henry" Brock Nicol, "The Velveteen Rabbit" "Oomoo and Oolak in Alaska" "Edna and Carla's Adventure" Lucas Novak, "The Emperor's New Clothes" "Leonard the Inventor" "Why Leopard Has Spots" Cynthia Rylant, "Boar Out There" "Wendy Chan Space Explorer" Cynthia Rylant, "Spaghetti" "Waldo the Animal Trainer" José Reyes, "Mr. Benton's Dream" "Fear Becomes Bravery" Sooz Gladfelter, "A Good Day?" "Racing the Iditarod" "Al and Angela" Deborah M. Newton, "Steps" Maria Leach, "The Soup Stone" Susan C. Poskanzer, "My (Wow!) Summer Vacation" Fran Lehr, "The Story of Daedalus and Icarus"	Lynne Reid Banks, <i>The Indian and the Cupboard</i> Clyde Robert Bulla, <i>A Lion to Guard Us</i> Patrick Skene Catling, <i>The Chocolate Touch</i> Roald Dahl, <i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i> Alice Dalgliesh, <i>The Courage of Sarah Noble</i> Ruth Stiles Gannett, <i>Elmer and the Dragon</i> Marguerite Henry, <i>The White Stallion of Lipizza</i> Will James, <i>Smoky the Cow Horse</i> Elizabeth Cody Kimmel, <i>Balto and the Great Race</i> Patricia MacLachlan, <i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i> Mary Norton, <i>The Borrowers</i> James Thurber, <i>The Great Quillow</i> E.B. White, <i>Charlotte's Web</i> E.B. White, <i>Stuart Little</i>

Grade 4

Required	Supplemental
<i>Reading Mastery</i> (Grade 4) Ozzie Reid, "Ron's Summer Vacation" Steven Otfinoski, "The Jacket" L.Frank Baum, <i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i> Langston Hughes, "Thank You, M'am" Hans Christian Andersen, "The Ugly Duckling" Luisa Miller, "A Horse to Remember" Rudyard Kipling, "The Cat That Walked by Himself" Jack London, "For the Love of a Man" Donna Clearwater, "Adventure on Rocky Ridge" Francisco Jimenez, "The Circuit" "The Golden Touch" Gary Soto, "The No-Guitar Blues" "The Miraculous Pitcher" Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot, "Beauty and the Beast" Yoshiko Uchida, "The Bracelet" Mark Twain, <i>The Prince and the Pauper</i>	Avi, <i>Who Stole the Wizard of Oz</i> Christopher Paul Curtis, <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i> Roald Dahl, <i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> Roald Dahl, <i>James and the Giant Peach</i> Eleanor Estes, <i>The Moffats</i> Jean C. George, <i>My Side of the Mountain</i> Marguerite Henry, <i>Misty of Chincoteague</i> Holling C. Holling, <i>Paddle-to-the-Sea</i> John Masefield, <i>The Box of Delights</i> Robert McCloskey, <i>The Centerburg Tales</i> Jean Lee Latham, <i>Carry on, Mr. Bowditch</i> Walt Morey, <i>Gentle Ben</i> Mary Pope Osborne, <i>Tales from the Odyssey</i> Howard Pyle, <i>Men of Iron</i> Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, <i>The Little Prince</i> George Selden, <i>Cricket in Times Square</i> Gloria Skurzynski, <i>The Minstrel in the Tower</i> William O. Steele, <i>Winter Danger</i>

Grade 5

Required	Supplemental
Reading Mastery (Grade 5) Leslie Wyatt, "The Day I Didn't Go to the Pool" Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> Linda Wimberly, "The Secret" "The Table, the Donkey, and the Stick" Jack London, "Brown Wolf" O. Henry, "The Last Leaf" "Persephone" Tish Farrell, "The Return of the Corn God" Frances Hodgson Burnett, <i>Sara Crewe</i> Guy de Maupassant, "The Necklace" Barbara Sinopoli, "April Rose in Charge" "Hans in Luck" Sarah Orne Jewett, "A White Heron" Jack London, <i>The Cruise of the Dazzler</i> Morton K. Schwartz, <i>All in Favor</i> Bryan A. Bushemi, "Earth and Water and Sky" Mark Twain, <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> C.S. Lewis, <i>The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe</i>² Advanced Reading 5 Natalie Babbitt, <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> Madeleine L'Engle, <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> C.S. Lewis, <i>The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe</i> Scott O'Dell, <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> Gary Paulson, <i>Hatchet</i> Wilson Rawls, <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> Poetry Selections	Reading Mastery 5³ Natalie Babbitt, <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> Madeleine L'Engle, <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> Scott O'Dell, <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> Gary Paulson, <i>Hatchet</i> Wilson Rawls, <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> Advanced Reading 5 Aesop's <i>Fables</i> (Thales Press) Claire Huchet Bishop, <i>Twenty and Ten</i> Frances Hodgson Burnett, <i>The Secret Garden</i> Pam Conrad, <i>Pedro's Journal</i> Kenneth, Grahame, <i>The Wind and the Willows</i> Norton Juster, <i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> Charles Lamb, <i>Tales from Shakespeare</i> Robert Lawson, <i>Ben and Me</i> C.S. Lewis, <i>Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i> George MacDonald, <i>The Princess and the Goblin</i> Ann Petry, <i>Harriet Tubman</i> Ellen Raskin, <i>The Westing Game</i> Ian Serraillier, <i>Escape from Warsaw</i> Jack Shaeffer, <i>Shane</i> J. R. R. Tolkien, <i>Farmer Giles of Ham</i> Oscar Wilde, <i>The Happy Prince and Other Tales</i> Henry Williamson, <i>Tarka the Otter</i> Johann David Wyss, <i>Swiss Family Robinson</i>

² All 5th grade students will read C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.

³ On-level students are encouraged to read required books from the Advanced Reading 5 list first and then move to AR5 supplemental.

Grade 6 – Classical Literature & Composition

Required	Supplemental
Padraic Column, <i>The Golden Fleece</i> or Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>Tales of the Greek Heroes</i> Eloise Jarvis McGraw, <i>The Golden Goblet</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> The Old Testament Genesis, Exodus, Esther, & Daniel Poetry Selections	Padraic Column, <i>Nordic Gods and Heroes</i> Emily Frenkel, <i>Aeneas</i> Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>Myths of the Norsemen</i> Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>Tales from Ancient Egypt</i> Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>The Tale of Troy</i> F.J. Gould, <i>Children's Plutarch</i> <i>Socrates for Middle Schoolers</i> (Thales Press)

Grade 7 – Western Literature & Composition

Required	Supplemental
Richard Adams, <i>Watership Down</i> and/or George Orwell, <i>Animal Farm</i> Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> J.R.R. Tolkien, <i>The Hobbit</i> Poetry Selections	Corrie ten Boom, <i>The Hiding Place</i> Charles Dickens, <i>A Christmas Carol</i> Charles Dickens, <i>Great Expectations</i> Anne Frank, <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>, First Edition Roger Lancelyn Green, <i>The Legends of Robin Hood</i> Alfred Lansing, <i>Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Twelfth Night</i> Robert Louis Stevenson, <i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> Robert Louis Stevenson, <i>Treasure Island</i> Jules Verne, <i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i> Jules Verne, <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i>

Grade 8 – American Literature & Composition

Required	Supplemental
Willa Cather, <i>My Ántonia</i> Harper Lee, <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Henry V</i> Mark Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> <i>Classical & American Rhetoric</i> (Thales Press) Poetry & Short Stories Selections	Ray Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> Stephen Crane, <i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> William Gibson, <i>The Miracle Worker</i> Esther Hoskins Forbes, <i>Johnny Tremain</i> Ernest Hemingway, <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> Jack London, <i>The Call of the Wild</i> Chaim Potok, <i>The Chosen</i> Jack Schaefer, <i>Shane</i>

Grade 9 – Ancient & Classical Literature

Required	Supplemental
Hesiod, <i>Works and Days</i> or <i>Theogony</i> Homer, <i>The Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> Sophocles, <i>Oedipus Rex</i> Literature of the Ancient World (Thales Press) The Old Testament Genesis 1-25, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes Poetry Selections	Aeschylus, <i>The Oresteia</i> Euripides, <i>Bacchae</i> or <i>Medea</i> Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i>

Grade 10 – Literature of Rome & the Medieval World

Required	Supplemental
Dante Alighieri, <i>Inferno</i> <i>Beowulf</i> Geoffrey Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> (selections) Ovid, <i>Metamorphoses</i> (selections) William Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i> Virgil, <i>Aeneid</i> The New Testament Gospel of John Poetry Selections	Dante, <i>Divine Comedy</i> (selections) Thomas Malory, <i>Le Morte d'Arthur</i> Seneca, <i>The Trojan Women</i> <i>The Song of Roland</i>

Grade 11 – Western Literature

Required	Supplemental
Jane Austen, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Charles Dickens, <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> John Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> (selections) William Shakespeare, <i>Hamlet</i> Mary Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> Poetry Selections Humane Letters Viktor Frankl, <i>Man's Search for Meaning</i> , Part I	Jane Austen, <i>Persuasion</i> Jane Austen, <i>Sense and Sensibility</i> Robert Bolt, <i>A Man for All Seasons</i> Miguel Cervantes, <i>Don Quixote</i> Fyodor Dostoevsky, <i>Brothers Karamazov</i> Fyodor Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> T.S. Eliot, <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i> Goethe, <i>Faust</i> (selections) Samuel Johnson, <i>The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abissinia</i> William Golding, <i>Lord of the Flies</i> Franz Kafka, <i>The Metamorphosis</i> Baroness Orczy, <i>The Scarlet Pimpernel</i> Erich Maria Remarque, <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> Alexander Solzhenitsyn, <i>One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich</i> Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> Leo Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i>

Grade 12 – American Literature

Required	Supplemental
Frederick Douglass, <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> F. Scott Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> Nathaniel Hawthorne, <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> Herman Melville, <i>Benito Cereno</i> or <i>Moby-Dick</i> (selections) Henry David Thoreau, <i>Walden</i> (selections) William Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i> John Steinbeck, <i>Of Mice and Men</i> Poetry & Short Stories Selections Humane Letters C.S. Lewis, <i>The Abolition of Man</i>	William Faulkner, <i>As I Lay Dying</i> John Knowles, <i>A Separate Peace</i> Edgar Allan Poe, Short Stories Selections J.D. Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> John Steinbeck, <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> Mark Twain, <i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i> Elie Wiesel, <i>Night</i> Thornton Wilder, <i>Our Town</i>