



Launching Our Odyssey Summer Reading Adventure!

Dear Odyssey Families,

We are thrilled to launch our new Summer Reading Program at our Odyssey Elementary Schools, and we invite your family to join us in this exciting adventure! At Odyssey, we believe strong readers become thoughtful students, and thoughtful students grow into knowledgeable, compassionate adults. Great education is built one page at a time through meaningful stories, new ideas, and consistent reading habits.

This summer, please know that reading one book from the attached list is required. We encourage every student to keep the joy of reading alive! Our Summer Reading Program is designed to build reading stamina, expand vocabulary, strengthen comprehension, and spark curiosity about history, literature, and character. As our nation celebrates America's 250th anniversary, students will have the opportunity to explore books independently and continue growing into confident, lifelong readers. (Rising Kindergarten and 1st Grade students may enjoy books read aloud by a parent or caregiver.)

Books are available to borrow from the school or local public library, or families may also choose to purchase books through bookstores such as Barnes & Noble or through various online booksellers such as Amazon or Thriftbooks.

By the end of sixth grade, our goal is for every Odyssey student to read confidently across a wide variety of genres. Each book completed helps prepare students not only for the rigor of middle school, but for a lifetime of learning, imagination, and discovery.

We are also excited to provide summer reading support through our Summer Camp Program! Camp group leaders will set aside daily time for reading and project completion, while guiding our younger students through the process in fun and encouraging ways.

Thank you for partnering with us in this important work. Together, we can make this a summer filled with imagination, growth, and a love of reading!

Warmly,

Enclosures:

- What is a Lexile
- Recommended Lexile Ranges by Grade Level
- Summer Reading Recognition
- K-2 and 3-5 Summer Reading Choice Board
- Estimated Reading Time Guide
- Odyssey Summer Reading List

What Is a Lexile?

A Lexile level measures how challenging a book's text is based on vocabulary and sentence complexity. Within each section, titles are listed from lower to higher Lexile levels to help families choose a book that is both comfortable and appropriately challenging.

Recommended Lexile Ranges by Grade Level

Grade Level	Recommended Lexile Range
Kindergarten	BR–200L
1st Grade	190L–530L
2nd Grade	420L–650L
3rd Grade	520L–820L
4th Grade	740L–940L
5th Grade	830L–1010L
6th Grade	925L–1070L

Important Note: Students may read above or below these ranges and select books from different grade levels based on individual readiness and parent or teacher recommendation.

Summer Reading Recognition

Required: Read 1 book. **Scholar:** Read 2 books. **Scholar of Distinction:** Read 3 books, including 1 book that is above your student's rising grade-level Lexile band. Students must finish 1 Choice Board activity for each book read in K-2 and two Choice Board activities for each book read in grades 3-6. Students who complete two books for Summer Reading will be recognized as **Scholars** and those who complete the additional assignment will be recognized as **Scholars of Distinction** at the beginning of the school year.

K-2 and 3-6 Summer Reading Choice Board

K-2 must finish one choice board activity for each book completed. Students in grade 3-6 must finish two choice board activities for each book completed.

Estimated Reading Time Guide

Kindergarten–1st Grade (Parents may read aloud to their children): Approximately 1–2 total hours. 2nd–3rd Grade: Approximately 4–6 hours per book. 4th–5th Grade: Approximately 6–10 hours per book. 6th Grade: Approximately 8–12 hours per book.

Many titles are available through public libraries, used bookstores, or digital formats. Families are encouraged to explore cost-effective options.

Committed to academic excellence and the education of the whole child



Odyssey Summer Reading List

Rising Kindergarten – Rising 1st Grade (Read-Aloud Permitted)

Character & Foundational Stories

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie – Laura Numeroff (AD390L)
Frog and Toad Are Friends – Arnold Lobel (400L)
Blueberries for Sal – Robert McCloskey (AD630L)
Mermaid Meg and the Magic Lagoon – Leslie Maloney

America & Symbols

F is for Flag – Wendy Cheyette Lewison (AD480L)
We the Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution – David Catrow (AD600L)
Red, White, and Blue: The Story of the American Flag – John Herman (AD650L)

Rising 2nd – Rising 3rd Grade

Deep Reads

The Hundred Dresses – Eleanor Estes (520L)
Stone Fox – John Reynolds Gardiner (610L)
Charlotte’s Web – E.B. White (680L)

Classical Literature

Sarah, Plain and Tall – Patricia MacLachlan (560L)
The Wind in the Willows (Abridged) – Kenneth Grahame (~660L)

American Heritage

I Survived the American Revolution, 1776 – Lauren Tarshis (600L)
What Is the Declaration of Independence? – Michael C. Harris (880L)

Rising 4th Grade

Deep Reads

The Westing Game – Ellen Raskin (750L)
The Sign of the Beaver – Elizabeth George Speare (760L)
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH – Robert C. O’Brien (790L)

Classical Literature

The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett (930L)
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis (940L)

American Heritage

Johnny Tremain – Esther Forbes (840L)
Carry On, Mr. Bowditch – Jean Lee Latham (890L)

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