

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School K-8 Reading List

While this list is organized by grade, the ordering is merely a guide. Many stories can be read at other grade levels, especially when read aloud and discussed as a group. As well, teachers should encourage personal reading and family read aloud that encompasses stories from beyond one's grade level.

Resources	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Essays</u></p> <p>“Awakening the Moral Imagination: Teaching Virtues Through Fairy Tales” by Vigen Guroian</p> <p>“The Importance of Children’s Literature” by Dr. James S. Taylor</p> <p>“The Fantastic Imagination” by George MacDonald</p> <p>“The Imagination: Its Functions and Its Cultures” by George MacDonald</p> <p>“Will Rascals Defend Our Civilization ... and What Books Will They Read?” by William Fahey</p> <p>“The Importance of the Classics?” by Louise Cowan</p> <p>“What is Socratic Teaching?” by CIRCE Institute</p> <p>“Why Fairy Tales are Not Optional: A Conversation with Angelina Stanford” (podcast)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sites</u></p> <p>Read Aloud Revival, Circe Institute, Institute for Excellence in Writing, Institute for Catholic Liberal Education</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Books</u></p> <p><i>Tending the Heart of Virtue: How Classic Stories Awaken a Child’s Moral Imagination</i> by Vigen Guroian</p> <p><i>The Mysteries of Life in Children’s Literature</i> by Mitchell Kalpakgian</p> <p><i>Books That Build Character</i> by William Kilpatrick et al.</p> <p><i>Honey for a Child’s Heart</i> by Gladys Hunt</p> <p><i>Books to Build On: A Grade-by-Grade Resource Guide</i> by E.D. Hirsch, Jr.</p> <p><i>The Well-Trained Mind</i> by Susan Wise Bauer</p> <p><i>How to Read a Book</i> by Mortimer Adler</p> <p><i>The Paideia Program: An Educational Syllabus</i> by Mortimer Adler</p> <p><i>The Educated Child</i> by William J. Bennett et al.</p>
Grade	Texts marked with an asterisk are mandatory by end of 8th grade.	
<p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>(K and 1 have repeated titles for the sake of emphasis and since children love to hear a story many times.)</p>	<p><i>Aesop’s Fables</i> by Aesop</p> <p><i>Fairy Tales</i> by Charles Perrault</p> <p><i>Mouse Tales</i> by Arnold Lobel</p> <p><i>Fables</i> by Arnold Lobel</p> <p><i>Tales</i> by Beatrix Potter</p> <p><i>Little Bear: Box Set</i> – Else Holmelund Minarik & Maurice Sendak</p> <p><i>Mother Goose</i> by Kate Greenway (w/coloring book) or standard <i>Mother Goose Tales and Rhymes</i></p> <p><i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i> by Marjorie Williams</p> <p><i>The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh</i> by A.A. Milne</p> <p><i>Clown of God</i> by Tomie de Paola</p> <p><i>Saint George and the Dragon</i> by Margaret Hodges</p> <p><i>Saint Francis and the Friendly Beasts</i> by Margaret Hodges</p> <p><i>Dogger</i> by Shirley Hughes (K and 1)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p>	<p><i>Aesop’s Fables</i> by Aesop</p> <p><i>Fairy Tales</i> by Hans Christian Anderson</p> <p><i>Fairy Tales</i> by Charles Perrault</p> <p><i>Grimm’s Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics)</p> <p><i>Tales</i> of Beatrix Potter</p>	

<p>1 (cont.)</p>	<p><i>The Frog and Toad</i> (Collection) by Arnold Lobel <i>The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh</i> by A.A. Milne <i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i> by Marjorie Williams <i>Little Bear Series</i> by Else Holmelund Minarik <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</i> <i>A Child's Garden of Verses</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson <i>Ben Franklin and the Magic Squares</i> by Frank Murphy <i>Mouse Tales</i> by Arnold Lobel <i>Dogger</i> by Shirley Hughes (K and 1) "The Selfish Giant" by Oscar Wilde <i>Classic Myths to Read Aloud</i> by William F. Russell (1-4)</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>Charlotte's Web</i> by E.B. White <i>American Tall Tales</i> by Mary Pope Osborne</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>*<i>Charlotte's Web</i> by E.B. White <i>Aesop's Fables</i> by Aesop <i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics) <i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i> by Patricia MacLachlan <i>Little House in the Big Woods</i> by Laura Ingalls Wilder <i>Blue Fairy Book</i> by Andrew Lang (2nd & 3rd) <i>D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths</i> by Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire <i>Tales of Greek Heroes</i> by Roger Lancelyn Green <i>Just So Stories</i> by Rudyard Kipling <i>Pinocchio</i> by Carlo Collodi <i>American Tall Tales</i> by Mary Pope <i>Peter Pan</i> by J.M. Barrie (2nd or 3rd) <i>Classic Myths to Read Aloud</i> by William F. Russell (1-4)</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>Stuart Little</i> by E.B. White <i>The Railway Children</i> by E. Nesbit <i>All-of-a-Kind Family</i> by Sydney Taylor</p>
<p>3</p>	<p><i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics) <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>Five Children and It</i> by E. Nesbit <i>Blue Fairy Book</i> by Andrew Lang (2nd & 3rd)</p>

<p>3 (cont.)</p>	<p><i>The Jungle Book</i> by Rudyard Kipling (3rd, 4th, or 5th) <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> by Lewis Carroll <i>D'Aulaire's Book of Norse Myths</i> by Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire <i>Little House on the Prairie</i> by Laura Ingalls Wilder "The Happy Prince" by Oscar Wilde <i>Aladdin and Other Favorite Arabian Nights Stories</i> by Philip Smith <i>A Little Princess</i> by Frances Hodgson Burnett <i>Classic Myths to Read Aloud</i> by William F. Russell (1-4) <i>Stuart Little</i> by E.B. White <i>Peter Pan</i> by J.M. Barrie (2nd or 3rd) <i>The Courage of Sarah Noble</i> by Alice Dalgliesh</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>Prince Caspian</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>The Little Prince</i> by Antoine de Saint-Exupery <i>Mary Poppins</i> by P.L. Travers</p>
<p>4</p>	<p><i>The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>The Princess and the Goblin</i> by George MacDonald <i>The Secret Garden</i> by Frances Hodgson Burnett <i>Farmer Boy</i> by Laura Ingalls Wilder <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> by Scott O'Dell <i>Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i> and <i>Rip Van Winkle</i> by Washington Irving <i>The Wind in the Willows</i> by Kenneth Grahame <i>Robin Hood</i> by Howard Pyle or by Roger Lancelyn Green <i>The Story of Rolf</i> by Allen French <i>The Jungle Book</i> by Rudyard Kipling (3rd, 4th, or 5th) <i>From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler</i> by E.L. Konigsburg <i>The Twenty-One Balloons</i> by William Pene du Bois <i>Sir Cumference Series</i> by Cindy Neuschwander <i>Classic Myths to Read Aloud</i> by William F. Russell (1-4) <i>The Indian in the Cupboard</i> by Lynne Reid Banks <i>Sign of the Beaver</i> by Elizabeth George Speare <i>Caddie Woodlawn</i> by Carol Ryrie Brink <i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics)</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>The Silver Chair</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>The Light Princess</i> by George MacDonald <i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster</p>

<p>5</p>	<p><i>The Horse and His Boy</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>*Carry On, Mr. Bowditch</i> by Jean Lee Latham <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> by Wilson Rawls <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> by L. Frank Baum <i>The Princess and Curdie</i> by George MacDonald <i>Nordic Gods and Heroes</i> by Padraic Colum <i>King Arthur and His Knights of The Round Table</i> by Roger Lancelyn Green <i>Sing Down the Moon</i> by Scott O'Dell <i>The Jungle Book</i> by Rudyard Kipling (3rd, 4th, or 5th) <i>Johnny Tremain</i> by Esther Forbes <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L'Engle <i>Joel: A Boy of Galilee</i> by Annie Fellows Johnston <i>The Great Little Madison</i> by Jean Fritz <i>Little Women</i> by Louisa May Alcott <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L.M. Montgomery <i>Heidi</i> by Johanna Spyri <i>Old Yeller</i> by Fred Gibson <i>Swiss Family Robinson</i> by Johann Wyss <i>My Side of the Mountain</i> by Jean Craighead George <i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics)</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u></p> <p><i>The Magician's Nephew</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>*Carry On, Mr. Bowditch</i> by Jean Lee Latham <i>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i> by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle <i>Tale of Troy</i> by Padraic Colum</p>
<p>6</p>	<p><i>The Last Battle</i> by C.S. Lewis <i>The Adventure of Ulysses</i> by Bernard Evslin <i>The Book of Three</i> by Lloyd Alexander <i>Summer of the Monkeys</i> by Wilson Rawls <i>Tales of the Greek Heroes</i> by Roger Lancelyn Green <i>Treasure Island</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson <i>Nordic Gods and Heroes</i> by Padraic Colum <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> by Daniel Defoe <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> by Jules Verne <i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i> (Sterling Unabridged Classics)</p>

<p>6 (cont.)</p>	<p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>*The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien <i>The Prince and the Pauper</i> by Mark Twain <i>The Cay</i> by Theodore Taylor</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><i>*The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien <i>Beowulf</i> by Robert Nye <i>*Tales from Shakespeare</i> by Charles and Mary Lamb (e.g., Comedy of Errors, Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar) <i>Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain <i>Captains Courageous</i> by Rudyard Kipling <i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i> by Jules Verne <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London <i>Shane</i> by Jack Shaefer <i>Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson <i>The Cay</i> by Theodore Taylor (if not read for incoming 7th summer reading)</p> <p><u>Summer Suggestions:</u> <i>The Devil's Arithmetic</i> by Jane Yolen <i>The Pearl</i> or <i>The Red Pony</i> by John Steinbeck <i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i> by Jules Verne</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><i>*Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell <i>*Tales from Shakespeare (7/8)</i> (e.g., Twelfth Night, Merchant of Venice, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado about Nothing) <i>*To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee <i>A Christmas Carol</i> by Charles Dickens <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> by Mark Twain (w/audio) <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel</p>

Shakespeare texts in lower grades can be found in *Beautiful Stories from Shakespeare* by E. Nesbitt; upper grades (6-8) could first use *Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb (to become familiar with the story) and then read the standard play in editions such as the Folger series.