

Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading List and Project Guide

Read at least two of the following:

- *Love, Ruby Lavender* by Deborah Wiles
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowery
- *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
- *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George
- *By the Great Horn Spoon!* By Sid Fleischman

Choose one of the three projects below, and relate it to one of the novels you read. Bring the project with you to school on the first day of 5th grade.

1. **Postcard.** Pretend you are one of the characters in one of the novels, and write a postcard to a relative or friend of the character, describing what's been going on in one of the scenes of the novel. You may use a real postcard, or you may design one yourself. Bring your postcard to class to share with other students or with only the teacher.
2. **Draw a Room.** Think of one of the characters in one of the novels you read. If this character could have his or her own bedroom, decorated however he or she wanted it to be, how would it look? What special items would be in this bedroom? What type of furniture would this character need? Draw this room. Write about it on the back of the drawing. Bring your drawing to class on the first day of school. You may show it to the class, or you may turn it in to only the teacher.
3. **Letter to the Author.** Write a letter to one of the authors of one of the books you read. Tell the author what you liked and disliked about his or her story. (If there is nothing you dislike, this can be a letter of praise and encouragement.) In the letter, tell at least one thing you learned about from reading the novel. Bring your letter to class on the first day of school. You may share it with only the teacher or with the class.

For additional reading selections, please consult the Battle of the Books list.