

Dear New 5th Graders,

This summer your required summer reading book is Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar. As you read along you will complete a reading journal. This will be turned in at the beginning of school. The rest of the summer we ask that you keep a log of all the books you read. These can be on level, below level, or above level. It is whatever you are comfortable with. Attached are the reading log (used to keep track of all books you read this summer) and reading journal suggestions (to be used only for Sideways Stories from Wayside School). We have also included a suggested reading list, **you may choose books that are not on the list**. The highlighted books have been favorites with past students.

Have a wonderful summer!

- Dear Mr. Henshaw..... Beverly Cleary
- Ramona and Her Father Beverly Cleary
- Frindle..... Andrew Clements
- Island of the Blue Dolphins..... Scott O’Dell
- Pictures of Hollis Woods..... Patricia Giff
- Bud, Not Buddy Christopher Curtis
- Number the Stars Lois Lowery
- Night of the Twisters Ivy Ruckman
- Appalachia: The Voices of Sleeping Birds ... Cynthia Ryland
- Maniac Magee Jerry Spinelli
- View from Saturday E. L. Konigsbury
- Walk Two Moons Sharon Creech
- Loser..... Jerry Spinelli
- Sounder William Armstrong
- Racing the Sun Paul Pitts

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Roald Dahl
James and the Giant Peach Roald Dahl
Toliver's Secret Esther Brady
The Sign of the Beaver Elizabeth Speare
Poppy..... Brian Floca
Poppy & Rye Brian Floca
The Tiger Rising Kate DiCamillo
Shiloh..... Phyllis Naylor
Bridge to Terabithia Katherine Paterson
The City of Ember.....Jean DuPrau
The Lightning ThiefRick Riordan
HugoBrian Selznick
The Mysterious Benedict SocietyTrenton Lee Stewart
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. FrankweilerE.L. Koningsburg

5th GRADE SUMMER READING JOURNAL RESPONSES FOR SIDEWAYS STORIES
FROM WAYSIDE SCHOOL BY LOUIS SACHAR.

Respond to your summer reading by writing a journal. Responses can be typed or written on wide-ruled paper. These responses need not be in formal essay form but should show your reflections and reactions as you read. Most of the suggestions below require only a paragraph-response (about four to five sentences). There are no right or wrong answers here; however, your response should demonstrate serious thought and care and should reflect your personal reactions to your reading. Choose one topic from Part I Suggestions(chapters 1-10), one topic from Part II Suggestions(chapters 11-20), and one topic from Part III Suggestions (chapters 21-30). Please be sure to identify the author and title of the book you have read as well as the topics to which you have responded.

Happy Reading 5th Graders!

Part I SUGGESTIONS

After you have read a chapters 1-10, choose one of the following:

1. Predict what you think the major problem for the main character is going to be. How do you think he/she will deal with it? What can you anticipate for the rest of the book? (Correctness does not count here; just make a guess.)
2. Does one of the main characters remind you of someone you know? Explain why.
3. Choose a close friend or family member and write a letter. Explain to that person why he or she would like or dislike the book at this point.
4. Create your own response that seems appropriate after you have read a few chapters.

Part II SUGGESTIONS

After you have read chapters 11-20 in the book, choose one of the following:

1. Summarize the problems that the characters are facing. What might be possible solutions? What might hinder success?
2. Choose an incident to which you can relate. Explain the event and why it is significant to you.
3. Take a photo or find a picture in a magazine and tape it into your journal. Explain how it creates the feeling or suggests a scene from the book.
4. List four or five key events which have occurred in the main character's life. Explain why each event was important.

5. Choose a quote from the first half of the book that is significant to you. Explain its relationship to the book and you.

Part III SUGGESTIONS

After you have finished reading the book, choose one of the following:

1. You are a teacher. Prepare a bulletin board about this book. Explain what you would put up to illustrate the book.
2. You are the director of the movie version of this work. Assist the musical director in choosing the music which would convey the mood of the original book. Explain whom you would cast for the main characters and tell why.
3. The main character will appear on "Sixty Minutes." Make up a set of questions to ask in the interview.
4. You are a writer for a school newspaper. Write a review of this book highlighting its major points and making a recommendation to your readers.

