



SHADY SIDE

A C A D E M Y

JUNIOR SCHOOL
400 South Braddock Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-473-4400

June, 2019

Dear Parents,

Here is your child's summer reading list and journal. This letter, the summer reading list, and the journal are also available as a PDF on teacher pages and at [shadysideacademy.org/summer reading](http://shadysideacademy.org/summer%20reading).

All children should choose and read at least three books from the rising fifth grade summer reading list. When rising fifth graders finish reading a book, they must write a thoughtful journal response about what life lesson they think the main character in their book learned. They are to complete one response for each book read. A sample response is included in your child's journal. Your child is more than welcome to complete more than the required three responses!

Ideally, students would pace themselves and complete one book and journal activity per month. All fifth graders should turn in their completed journals to their fifth grade teacher in August when they return to school. We hope your children enjoy reading and writing this summer!

Sincerely,

Ms. Guering
(Junior School Librarian)

Philosophy: Shady Side Academy is a community of readers, and summer reading is an extension of our curriculum. All students are expected and encouraged to read throughout the summer not only for enjoyment, but also to maintain comprehension, vocabulary, and reading speed.

Required Summer Reading: Each SSA student should choose three books from their grade level list. Each book will require a thoughtful journal response specific to your child's rising grade. (See grade booklets for sample responses)

Grade Five Reading Choices*

Students should choose to read at least **three** books from those listed below:

Secret Tree by Natalie Standiford

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

Merci Suarez Changes Gears by Meg Medina

Short- by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Ungifted by Gordon Korman

Among the Hidden by Margaret Petersen Haddix

Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin

Soar by Joan Bauer

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Gods and Warriors by Michelle Paver

Raymie Nightingale by Kate DiCamillo

Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson