



2026 “Five Books a Day” Summer Reading Challenge

“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” Emile Buchwald

Dear Kinder-Prep and Kindergarten Parents,

The Summer Reading Challenge invites you to read five books per day to your children to prepare them for future reading success and to earn a summer reading award.

The amount of time children spend listening to a loved one read to them is one of the best predictors of becoming a future skilled reader. Compelling research in the science of reading supports our approach to the Summer Reading Challenge. The first five years of a child’s life are important, and we desire to partner with you in these foundational years. The following quote comes from neuroscientist, Maryanne Wolf, in her book *Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain*:

“Learning to read begins the first time an infant is held and read a story. How often this happens, or fails to happen, in the **first five years** of childhood turns out to be one of the best predictors of later reading. A prominent study found that by kindergarten, a gap of 32 million words already separates some children in linguistically impoverished homes from their more stimulated peers. Children who begin kindergarten having heard and used thousands of words, whose meanings are already understood, classified, and stored away in their young brains, have the advantage on the playing field of education.”

We pray this inspires you to read to your children and invest in reading five books a day this summer. Attached you will find the details for this challenge as well as a reading list that is full of the best kinds of books to read to your student in these early years of their reading development.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jessica Gombert
Grammar School Headmaster

Mrs. Cindy Young
Grammar School Librarian



2026 “Five Books a Day” Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, we are challenging Kinder-Prep and Kindergarten families to read **five books a day** for 60 days of the summer. Use the Reading Log included to document the books you’ve read together.

READING LIST: Books have been carefully chosen to delight young readers and increase their phonological awareness (the foundational auditory ability to recognize and manipulate sound structure of spoken language, including rhyming, syllables, and individual sounds). Only books from this list will count for this challenge. You are welcome to read favorite books multiple times.

WHERE TO FIND BOOKS: Geneva School Library, Boerne Public Library, The Bookshop Under the Windmill, The Boerne Bookshop, StorygloryKids (www.storyglorykids.com/gsbsummer; Discount Code: GSB-TAKE20)

Some of the books on our list are such treasures that you may only find them at the Geneva Library. We do our best to have all the books on our lists in our library. Please take advantage of the summer library hours listed below.

HOW TO EARN AN AWARD: Read five books a day for a minimum of 60 days of the summer. The Reading Log included in this packet must be completed and turned in on the first day of school. A reading medal will be awarded at the Summer Reading Awards Assembly for those who have completed the challenge (five books a day for 60 days).

GSB Summer Library Hours: Tuesdays 9 am-1pm: June 2, 23, July 7 and 21.