



2004 KEITH VALLEY SUMMER READING LIST

Incoming GRADE 6 AWARD WINNERS

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea - Verne: This classic work of science fiction chronicles Professor Aronax's undersea voyage around the world as a captive aboard a secret submarine. (difficult)

Anne of Green Gables - Montgomery: The Cuthberts of Green Gables decide to adopt a sturdy boy to help with the farm chores. They are astonished when Anne, a mischievous and talkative redhead, arrives instead. (medium)

Big Red - Kjølgaard: A boy and his faithful Irish setter battle wolverines in the wilderness. (medium)

Black Beauty - Sewell: This is the story of a handsome thoroughbred horse whose career is ended when his knees are broken due to the carelessness of a drunken groom. (difficult)

Where the Lilies Bloom - Cleaver: Mary Call, a courageous mountain girl, becomes head of the family and struggles to keep her family together when her father dies. (difficult)

The Illyrian Adventure - Alexander: Vesper Holly embarks on a quest for legendary treasure and an army of magical warriors. (difficult)

Tracking Dinosaurs in the Gobi – Facklam: This is partly a biography of Roy Chapman Andrews who led the first American expedition to hunt for fossils in the Gobi Desert in the 1920's and on whom the character Indiana Jones was based. Along with discovering new dinosaurs, Andrews and his expedition members fought off poisonous snakes, bandits, and endured harsh weather. (medium)

Shadow of a Bull - Wojciechowska: How can Manolo reveal that his cowardice will not allow him to become a matador like his father? (medium)

The Sign of the Beaver - Spare: Matt is able to survive in the Maine wilderness because of a young Indian boy's search for his father. (medium)

Perloo The Bold – Avi: Perloo, the scholar, becomes a reluctant leader when the former leader's evil son seizes control. (difficult)

Bat 6 – Virginia Euwer Wolff: After WWII, the girls on two sixth grade softball teams relate how the war impacts their lives. (medium)

Fire, Bed & Bone – Henrietta Branford: A story of fourteenth-century England told from a dog's point of view. (medium)

Souder - Armstrong: A young boy finds solace in his dog Souder when his father is arrested for stealing food for his starving family. (medium)

The Night Journey - Lasky: Rachel listens to her great-grandmother's tale of her family's escape from Russia. (medium)

The Secret Garden - Burnett: Mary, a self-centered girl, and Colin, a pampered invalid boy, learn compassion and generosity within a mysterious, abandoned garden. (medium)

Robinson Crusoe - DeFoe: The classic story of a man alone who survives a shipwreck on a deserted island. (difficult)

Stone Fox - Gardiner: Willy takes matters into his own hands when he decides that his ailing grandfather's farm must be saved. (easy)

Abel's Island - Steig: This is the enchanting tale of a lovable mouse driven from the comforts of home by a furious storm and the lessons that he learns on a lonely island. (medium)



The Headless Cupid –Snyder: The four Stanley children are fascinated by their new stepsister and even more fascinated by the discovery that their house is haunted. (medium)

The Sign of the Beaver - Speare: While waiting months for his father to return to their cabin in the Maine wilderness, 12-year-old Matt is befriended by Indians and asked to join their tribe and move North. Should he abandon his hopes of ever seeing his family again? (medium)

The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle –Lofting: Doctor Dolittle is back. This time he recounts the shipwreck that leaves him on the Floating Island, and introduces Tommy Stubbins, his faithful friend. (medium)

Jennifer, Hecate, Macbeth, William McKinley, and Me, Elizabeth –Konigsburg: Being the new girl in town is not easy for 10-year-old Elizabeth until she meets Jennifer. Once Jennifer starts sharing her powers with Elizabeth, their secret friendship is sealed! (easy)

The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963 – Christopher Paul Curtis: Enter the hilarious world of 10-year-old Kenny and his family, the weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. They head south to Birmingham, Alabama during one of the darkest moments in America’s history. (medium)



STUDENT PICKS

Story Time - Edward Bloor: George and Kate are sent to the new Whittaker Magnet School, a school for genius children. Kate feels out of place until she meets a secretive librarian. (medium)

The Wish List - Eoin Colfer: Meg Finn, to atone for her life of crime, must help an elderly man accomplish all on his wish list. (medium)

The Tale of Desperaux – Kate DiCamillo: A mouse falls in love with a princess and ventures into the dungeon to rescue her when she is kidnapped by a rat. (medium)

Jack Adrift Fourth Grade with a Clue – Jack Gantos: The final installment in the Jack book series finds Jack’s family moved to a trailer while his dad works for the Navy. (easy)

Baby - MacLachlan: Twelve-year-old Larkin returns home one day to discover a baby in a basket by her family’s house. The only clue is a note with the baby’s name, Sophie. (easy)

Jennifer Murdley’s Toad - Coville: Jennifer Murdley bought a large toad from the Elive’s magic shop. It didn’t begin to talk until she took it out of the shop. The secrets that this toad revealed were amazing! (medium)

Ice Magic - Christopher: Pie Pennelli wants to play hockey, but his next door neighbors try to sabotage his game. (medium)

Maggie Marmelstein for President - Sharmat: Maggie campaigns to be sixth grade class president to get even with her classmate. (medium)

Superfudge - Blume: This is the hilarious sequel to Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing which continues the stories of Peter and Fudge. (easy)

Dirt Bike Racer - Christopher: Ron’s dream of winning a dirt bike race is threatened by the jealous nephew of a man who has befriended him. (medium)

It's Not the End of the World - Blume: A child suffers when his parents are divorced. (medium)

You Shouldn't Have to Say Goodbye - Hermes: A young girl must come to terms with the fact that her mother is dying of cancer. (medium)

The Hostage - Taylor: Jamie doesn't know whether to sell the killer whale he trapped or to set it free. (medium)

There's A Boy in the Girl's Bathroom – Sachar: Bradley Chalkers is the oldest student in fifth grade. He tells outrageous lies, picks fights with girls and has a serious behavior problem. Only Carla, the new counselor, likes him. She even enjoys his farfetched stories. Can he change? (medium)

The Monster's Ring - Coville: It all starts when Russell buys a "Monster's Ring" from weird old Mr. Elives. He follows the instructions and slips it on his finger, whispers the magic chant and suddenly he's sprouting horns! Hair covers his face and hands, and he's a monster! (medium)

Goosebumps: Welcome to Camp Nightmare – Stine: The food isn't great. The counselors are strange, and the director, Uncle Al, seems sort of demented. His fellow campers start to disappear. (easy)



Funhouse - Hoh: When the devil's elbow roller coaster goes off its track and several teenagers are hurt, was it an accident? Tess saw someone tamper with the track but no one listens. Tess finds herself being terrorized with threatening notes, menacing phone calls and slashed tires. (medium)

A Haunting in Williamsburg - Kassem: When Jayne traveled back in time to colonial Williamsburg, she encountered Sally Custis, a young girl with a terrible secret. (medium)

Forever Friends - Boyd: After Susan is involved in a terrible accident, her best friend Toni disengages herself from everyone and everything. (difficult)

Freaky Friday - Rodgers: Turnabout is confusing, humorous, and self-revealing when a girl awakens one morning to find that she has become her mother. (easy)

There's A Bat in Bunk Five - Danziger: Marcy, a counselor at a creative arts camp, finds that everything goes hilariously wrong when the campers arrive. (easy)

Knights of the Kitchen Table - Scieszka: Joe, Fred and Sam of the Time Ward Trio fame battle giants and dragons during their time trip to King Arthur's Court. (easy)

Wolf Stalker – Skurzynski and Ferguson: The first novel in a new series of mysteries set in national parks focuses on Yellowstone and the wolf restoration program. Three children are left alone in Yellowstone and witness a shooting and spend the night lost in the park. (medium)

Sparrows in the Scullery – Wallace: In Victorian England 11-year-old Colley Traveilyn is recently orphaned. His life is changed when he is kidnapped and sold to people who run the Broggin Home for Boys in London. He is forced to work in the glass factory, where he is given the most dangerous job of carrying three or four red-hot bottles at a time on a huge shovel. (difficult)

The Long Patrol – Jacques: Redwall Abbey's south wall is crumbling due to erosion by an underground stream. While the inhabitants are working on a plan to repair the wall, its condition becomes known to Damung. Damung marches his troops toward Mossflower Woods determined to strike the weakened structure. This is an action packed fantasy told from an unusual point of view. (difficult)

Megan's Island - Roberts: Megan is worried about foul play when her mother insists on taking her and her younger brother to the lake cottage a week before school is out. (medium)

The Figure in the Shadows - Bellairs: Chubby Lewis finds a magical amulet whose powers trigger a series of astonishing events. (medium)

Whisper Goodbye - Morrison: When her grandparents decide to move, Katie wants to stay behind with her horse. She trained her horse since birth and is ready to compete in the rodeo. But Katie has lived with her grandparents since her parents died, and they love and depend on her. It takes a major disaster to help Katie make her difficult choice. (medium)

The Farthest Away Mountain - Banks: Ever since Dakin was ten- years- old, she dreamed of the beautiful farthest away mountain and its secrets. When Dakin was almost fifteen, the mountain called to her and she set out on a terrifying journey. She must escape the clutches of a great black flying monster, outwit a giant ogre, and confront the evil snow witch. With help from some enchanted friends, she discovered the terrible secret that threatened to destroy the world. (medium)

The One-Eyed Cat - Fox: Ned silently suffers feelings of guilt and fear, worrying that he has caused a wild cat to lose its eye. (medium)

War Dog – Booth: Jet is a black Lab dog that belonged to Fred Parry, a poacher. When Fred gets caught poaching with his Lab, he is sent to jail. His dog is sent off to be trained to work for the British during World War II. After being injured in the battlefield, Jet is returned to England and trained to find civilians trapped in bombed-out buildings. (medium)

The Boxes – Sleator: Annie is told to guard the boxes, but she opens them and plenty happens. (difficult)

Clockwork – Pullman: Long ago a storyteller’s story and an apprentice clockwork-maker’s nightmare meet. (easy)

Flying Solo – Fletcher: The sixth grade class is unsupervised for a day, and students learn more than they expected. (medium)

Just Juice – Hesse: Juice has never been good at letters and numbers, but she learns how important they can be. (easy)

The Black Cauldron – Alexander: Prince Gwydion leads the quest to destroy the Black Cauldron which is the chief instrument of the evil powers of the Lord of the Land of Death. Will he succeed or will darkness rule? (difficult)

