TAAS Book Selection 66

Fifth Grade

Dear Parents.



Reading books is a great way to learn new ideas and information, to encourage imagination, to expand vocabulary, and to improve English skills. We encourage students to read lots of books. But what kinds of books are appropriate for school? We've created this book selection guide to help answer that question and to give suggestions of some books we like and think your child would like, too!

Questions to Ask When Choosing a Book



- 1. Does this book have an uplifting or positive theme?
- 2. Does this book uphold Christian standards like truth, purity, doing the right thing, and respecting others and their property?
- 3. Does this book have offensive or inappropriate language?



- 4. Does this book dwell on or glorify death and violence?
- 5. Does this book contain witches, vampires, or other mythical or spiritual beings? Does it contain sorcery, magic, or spells?

Remember...

Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Philippians 4:8

Here is a list of some books that have been popular recently but would not be acceptable for school reading.

- 1. Artemis Fowl series by Eoin Colfer
- 2. Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling
- 3. Twilight series by Stephenie Meyer
- Maze Runner series by James Dashner
- Hunger Games series by Suzanne Collins
- 6. Percy Jackson and the Olympians series by Rick Riordan
- 7. Divergent series by Veronica Roth
- 8. Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
- Dork Diaries by Rachel Renee Russell

Inappropriate Books

A lot of popular books these days contain spiritual elements like witches, spells, and magic.

Other books take things like vampires and witches, which have traditionally been seen as bad, and turn them into the good guys or just "misunderstood" by society. In this way popular media blurs the line between good and evil and makes evil seem acceptable.

Other books, like the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, do not have positive themes. The main character is not respectful of others and is not a good role model for our students.

Teachers' Picks

Here is a list of some books that we have enjoyed. We think your child would like them, too!

Fiction

Historical Fiction

- 1. When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr
- 2. Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
- 3. The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
- 4. The Trailblazer Books by Dave and Neta Jackson

Fiction

- 5. The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- 6. Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
- 7. Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- 8. The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
- 9. Ramona Books by Beverly Cleary
- 10. Dumpling Days by Grace Lin
- 11. The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
- 12. The Indian in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid Banks
- 13. From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg
- 14. The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies
- 15. Frindle by Andrew Clements

Adventure and Survival

- 16. Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George
- 17. Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
- 18. Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
- 19. My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Mystery

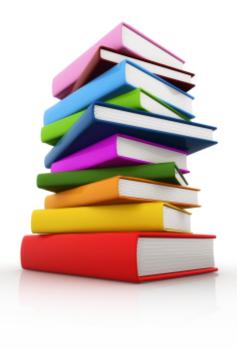
- 1. Detective Zach Mystery Books by Jerry D. Thomas
- Boxcar Children Mystery series by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- 3. Shadow Creek Ranch Mystery books by Charles Mills
- 4. Encyclopedia Brown books by Donald J. Sobol

Understanding Learning Disabilities

- 20. Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byar
- 21. Rules by Cynthia Lord
- 22. Wonder by Raguel J. Palacio
- 23. My Name is Brain Brian by Jeanne Betancourt

Poetry

- 24. Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Poems and Drawings of Shel Silverstein by Shel Silverstein
- 25. The New Kid on the Block by Jack Prelutsky



Nonfiction

History

- 1. The Great Molasses Flood by Deborah Kops
- 2. The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank
- 3. Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-li Jiang
- 4. The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown
- 5. Radioman: An Eyewitness Account of Pearl Harbor and World War II In the Pacific by Carol Edgemon Hipperson
- 6. I Survived series
- 7. The Horrible History series

Biography

- 8. Gifted Hands by Ben Carson
- 9. My Life with the Chimps by Jane Goodall
- 10. The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom
- 11. The Man Who Couldn't Be Killed by Stanley M. Maxwell
- 12. God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew, John Sherrill, and Elizabeth Sherrill
- 13. The First Woman Doctor by Rachel Baker
- 14. Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at the Window by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi and Chihiro Iwasaki
- 15. Who Was? Biography book series

Science

- 16. Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion by Loree Griffin Burns
- 17. Eyewitness Books series
- 18. The Horrible Science series

Mission Stories/Christian Literature

- 19. Curse-Proof! by Eric B. Hare
- 20. More than Mountains: The Todd Huston Story by Todd Huston with Kay D. Rizzo
- 21. Nyla and the White Crocodile by Norma R. Youngberg
- 22. Miracle in Borneo by Norma R. Youngberg
- 23. Jungle Thorn by Norma R. Youngberg
- 24. Heroes of the Faith book series
- 25. Case for... book series by Lee Strobel



Tip!

Better World Books is a great website that offers free international shipping on all books. It's a great place to buy books.