

## A-Z Project List

After reading five (5) books from the provided book list, have your child complete a project for each book. The same type of project can be completed for each book, or your child can choose different types of projects for each book. Help your child choose a project that is suitable for his/her age and interests. Remember, your fifth grade teacher will collect the five (5) projects the day your child returns from the summer holiday. Below is a list, from A to Z, that offers some project ideas:

**Add -On-** write an additional segment to the book

**Book Mark-** create a book mark that captures the meaning of the book

**Comic Strip-** write and illustrate a scene from the book in comic-strip form

**Diary-** compose an imagined diary page for one of the characters

**Elegy-** write a poem lamenting the death of a character in the book

**Flag-** create a flag that captures the meaning of the book

**Greeting Card-** create a card explaining the book and inviting someone to read it

**Hymn-** write a song of praise or joy from a character's perspective

**Interview-** write an imagined interview with one of the characters or with the author

**Jacket-** create an original jacket (cover) for the book

**Kite-** create a kite that reflects the book's meaning

**Letter-** compose a letter to a character or to the author

**Monologue-** write an imagined speech that a character could give to himself/herself or to an audience

**Newspaper Article-** write any type of imagined newspaper article reporting on a character or an event from the book

**Oration-** compose a speech that you would like to give to a character or characters, or a speech that a character might give

**Poem-** address a poem to a character or from a character's point of view

**Quiz-** write ten quiz questions that cover the book

**Review-** write a review of the book that resembles the reviews found in newspapers or magazines

**Song-** compose a song about the book, about a character, from one character to another, etc.

**Timeline-** place events on a creative timeline

**Uh-Huh and Ugh-** create a list of those things with which you agree in the book (uh-huhs), and a list of those things with which you disagree (ughs)

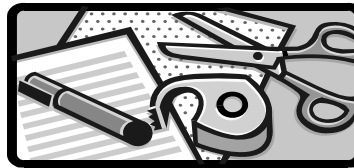
**Video Book-** act out a scene in the book and videotape it

**Web Page-** create an imagined web page for a character, for the book, or for the author

**X-Ray-** look beyond the words and write about the hidden meaning of the book

**Yell-** compose a cheer

**Ziplock Bag Project-** collect objects (and place in a Ziplock bag) that represent and explain the story, and then write about why these objects were chosen



*"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man."* Francis Bacon

Cobb County  
School District



# SURF.



*Summer Reading  
is Fun!!!*

**Entering  
5th Grade  
Students**

# S.U.R.F. Into School This Fall

Welcome to Cobb County's S.U.R.F. Elementary Summer Reading Program! Reading is the most important lifelong skill that we can help our children to learn and to practice. Research tells us that as students read more, they improve their comprehension and grammar skills, their vocabularies expand, and they grow increasingly more motivated to read. There is also a relationship between the amount of reading students do at home and school and their standardized test scores (Braunger & Lewis, 1998). In short, children become better readers by reading.

The goal of S.U.R.F. is to encourage students to read *for fun* and refine their reading skills in order to become lifelong readers. In order for reading to be both fun and engaging, students should choose books that are challenging, but not too difficult. Lexile measures\* are a tool that can help parents help their children choose books that are in the "just right" range of reading levels. Parents receive a Lexile reading score on their child's CRCT Individual Student Report. Matching a reader's Lexile measure to a text with the same Lexile measure leads to an expected 75% comprehension rate—not too difficult, but with challenge. Lexile levels are included for many of the books on the following list. (It is important to note that a Lexile measure is *not* a grade equivalent, and it should not be used to limit a child's pleasure reading.)

SURF encourages parents and students to read at least five different (5) books during the summer. Books can be read independently by the child or together with a parent or guardian. The following list provides a few suggested titles for your student's grade level, but school media specialists and public librarians are also happy to suggest other titles in fiction and nonfiction (including math, science and social studies).

Your enthusiasm is essential to a successful summer reading program! Thank you for your support. Have a great summer! HAPPY READING!

## BOOK LIST

Below is a list of books appropriate for your child's age. After previewing for appropriateness, choose five (5) of the following (or similar books if these cannot be located) to have your child read (or to read with or to your child):

**Avi.** *Poppy* \*670L

**Avi.** *The Cross of the Lead.* \*780L

**Balliett, B.** *Chasing Vermeer.* \*770L

**Barron, T.** *Child of the Dark Prophecy.* \*810L

**Baum, L.** *The Wizard of Oz.* \*970L

**Christopher, M.** *The Kid Who Only Hit Homers.* \*650L

**Cleary, B.** *Ramona Quimby, Age 8.* \*860L

**Clifford, E.** *Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library.* \*630L

**DeClements, B.** *Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade.* \*600L

**Edwards, J.** *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles.* \*620L

**Flournoy, V.** *Patchwork Quilt.* \*520L

**Fritz, J.** *And Then What Happened, Paul Revere?* \*830L

**Gardiner, J. R.** *Stone Fox.* \*550L

**Giff, P. R.** *Lily's Crossing.* \*720L

**Hobbs, W.** *Far North.* \*820L

**Hurwitz, J.** *Aldo Applesauce.* \*750L

**Kehret, P.** *Trapped.* \*830L

**Lindgren, A.E.** *Pippi Longstocking.* \*870L

**Naylor, P. R.** *Shiloh.* \*890L

**Paulsen, G.** *Hatchet.* \*1020L

**Raskin, E.** *The Westing Game.* \*750L

**Robinson, B.** *Best School Year Ever.* \*1020L

**Sachar, L.** *There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom.* \*490L

**Sanderson, B.** *Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians.* \*730L

**Scieszka, J.** *Tut, Tut.* \*700L

**Sobol, D.** *Encyclopedia Brown Keeps the Peace.* \*620L

**Steig, W.** *Abel's Island.* \*920L

### \*What is a Lexile?

Lexile measures are numbers used to describe both the reading ability of students and the difficulty level of a book or other texts. The Lexile scale ranges from 200L (beginning readers) to 1700L (advanced texts). Note: Not all books currently have a Lexile measure. For more information on Lexiles, visit [www.Lexile.com](http://www.Lexile.com).

## BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!

To find more titles appropriate for your child, visit the Cobb public library:

[www.cobbcatt.org](http://www.cobbcatt.org)

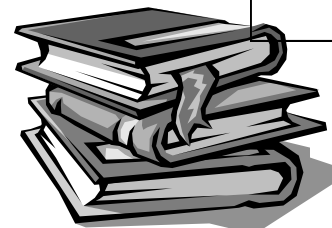
OR

Search for titles in your school library media center's *Destiny catalog*

[cvl.cobbk12.org](http://cvl.cobbk12.org)

Username: **cobbes**

Password: **tree**



"A good book is the best of friends, the same today and forever." Martin Farquhar Tupper

After each book has been read, try one or more of the activities provided (or create your own!) Record the books that were read on the back panel and give the brochure to your child's teacher the day he/she returns to school