MARGARET BYRD RAWSON INSTITUTE

MBRI's SUMMER Listening List

1ST - 8TH grade

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Why a listening list?

A summer listening list makes stories and learning more accessible for dyslexic students by reducing the stress that can come with decoding large amounts of text. Audiobooks allow students to focus on comprehension, imagination, and enjoyment rather than struggling with reading mechanics. By offering a listening list instead of a traditional reading list, we can help students stay engaged with literature over the summer, build confidence, and foster a lifelong love of stories in a way that supports different learning needs.

Getting Started

- Your child may listen to the books in any order by grade. (Whatever story interests them in the moment!)
- If your child is not interested in the story after the first three chapters, please switch books. There are so many other books to enjoy!
- Bedtime is a great time for children to "wind down" and listen to a story. However, you may find that another time of day is better for your child (maybe in the car).
- "Series" or "Sequels" - The Author has written related titles that your child might enjoy. Your child does not need to complete the listening list before moving on to the sequel or next book in the series.
- "CC" - The Core Knowledge Curriculum Books are children's classics. If an author is not listed next to a Core Knowledge title, choose any picture book version of the title.

Find the reading level of a book and shop here.

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1st Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Aesop's Fables (cc) ☐
2. Johnny Appleseed (cc) ☐
3. Tom Thumb (cc) ☐
4. The Ugly Duckling by H.C. Anderson (cc) ☐
5. The Pied Piper of Hamelin by Robert Browning ☐
6. Stellaluna by Janell Cannon ☐
7. The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf ☐
8. The Boy Who Held Back the Sea by Thomas Locker (cc) ☐
9. Anansi the Spider by Gerald McDermott (cc) ☐
10. Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak ☐
11. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig ☐
12. Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe (cc) ☐
13. The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams (cc) ☐

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2nd Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. **Beauty and the Beast by Jan Brett** (cc) ☐
   *not the Disney version
2. **Fantastic Mr. Fox by Roald Dahl** ☐
3. **The Tongue Cut Sparrow by Momoko Ishii** (cc) ☐
4. **John Henry by Julius Lester** (cc) ☐
5. **Greek Myths For Young Children by Marcia Williams** (cc) ☐
6. **The Magic Paintbrush by Laurence Yep** (cc) ☐
7. **Wings by Jane Yolen** (cc) ☐
8. **Song and Dace Man by Karen Ackerman** ☐
9. **No Jumping On the Bed by Tedd Arnold** ☐
10. **No More Water in the Tub by Tedd Arnold** ☐
11. **Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard & Florence Atwater** ☐
12. **Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown** ☐
13. **Smokey Night by Eve Bunting** ☐

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3rd Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Alcie's Adventures in Wonderland (cc) ☐
2. Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves by Margaret Early (cc) ☐
3. The Arrow and the Lamp by Margaret Hodges (cc) ☐
4. Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan ☐
5. Charlotte's Web by E.B. White ☐
6. Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp (cc) ☐
7. Amelia's Road by Linda Altman ☐
8. The Little Match Girl by H.C. Anderson (cc) ☐
9. Freckle Juice by Judy Blume ☐
10. Dandelions by Eve Bunting ☐
11. Me Tarzan by Betsy Byars ☐
12. The Devil and Mother Crump by Valerie Carey ☐
13. Halmoni and the Picnic by Sook-Nyel Choi ☐

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4th Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary ☐
2. D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths by Ingri D'Aulaire (cc) ☐
3. Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo ☐
4. Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner ☐
5. The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White ☐
6. Gulliver's Travels (cc) ☐
7. King Arthur and His Knights (cc) ☐
8. The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (cc) ☐
9. Rip Van Winkle (cc) ☐
10. Robin Hood of Sherwood Forest (cc) ☐
11. The Secret Garden (cc) ☐
12. Poppy by Avi ☐
13. The Search for Delicious by Natalie Babbitt ☐

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5th Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Frindle by Andrew Clements ☐
2. Running Out of Time by Margaret Peterson Haddix ☐
3. The Adventures of Tow Sawyer (abridged) (cc) ☐
4. The Book of Three by Lloyd Alexander ☐
5. The Widow's Broom by Chris Van Allsburg ☐
6. Perloo The Bold by Avi ☐
7. Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry ☐
8. Superfudge by Judy Blume (sequels) ☐
9. Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink ☐
10. Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements ☐
11. A Week in the Woods by Andrew Clements ☐
12. Thank You, Jackie Robinson by Barbara Cohen ☐
13. Aliens Ate My Homework by Bruce Coville (sequels) ☐

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6th Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (sequels) ☐
2. Maniac McGee by Jerry Spinelli ☐
3. Don Quixote (Modern Library Classic) (cc) ☐
4. Oliver Twist (cc) ☐
5. Prince and the Pauper (abridged Puffin's classic) (cc) ☐
6. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi ☐
7. Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt ☐
8. Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett ☐
9. The Adventures of King Midas by Lynne Banks ☐
10. The Fairy Rebel by Lynne Banks ☐
11. The Incredible Journey by Shelia Burnford ☐
12. Year of Impossible Goodbyes by Sook Choi ☐
13. Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr ☐

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7th Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis ☐
2. Where The Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls ☐
3. Little Women by Louisa Alcott ☐
4. May Bird and the Ever After: Book One by Jodi Anderson ☐
5. Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko ☐
6. The School Story by Andrew Clements ☐
7. Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer ☐
8. The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman ☐
9. Longer Letter Later by Paula Danziger ☐
10. Snail Mail No More by Paula Danziger (sequel) ☐
11. Twenty-One Balloons by William du Bois ☐
12. The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis ☐
13. The Tulip Touch by Anne Fine ☐

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8th Grade
Summer Listening Checklist

1. The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis ☐
2. Number the Stars by Lois Lowry ☐
3. A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams ☐
4. Sounder by William H. Armstrong ☐
5. Beyond the Western Sea Book 1: Escape From Home by Avi ☐
6. Arabat by Clive Barker ☐
7. The Folk Keeper by Franny Billingsley ☐
8. Princess Diaries by Meg Cabot (sequels) ☐
9. Sahara Special by Eseme Raji Codell ☐
10. King of Shadows by Susan Cooper ☐
11. Into the Land of Unicorns by Bruce Coville (sequel) ☐
12. Chasing Redbird by Sharon Creech ☐
13. The Wanderer by Sharon Creech ☐

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My Summer Listening Checklist

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