



Dear Incoming Grade 5 Students and Parents,

The summer reading assignment for students entering fifth grade is the historical fiction novel Number the Stars by Lois Lowry. It is a wonderful novel that demonstrates timeless themes such as the limits of friendship and whether it is acceptable to break the law to protect another human being.

Students are to read the novel and then complete the book report template provided. It is always a good idea to write a rough draft before writing on the template so that students are sure of using complete sentences, good grammar, proper spelling, and coherent ideas. The rough draft does not need to be passed in—it is only for the purpose of planning one's thoughts and being sure that the finished product is as presentable as possible. After all, we always want to take pride in our work.

The book report is due on the first day of school. Number the Stars will be discussed thoroughly upon returning to school in August, and then students will be tested on the novel.

While reading Number the Stars and writing the book report are the only required summer reading projects, it is highly recommended that students read as much as possible. Reading builds vocabulary and fluency, exposes students to a variety of themes, and develops imagination. Students are encouraged to read any novel(s) by the award-winning authors whose names are on the list below. Their books promise to take you on great adventures. Happy reading!

Lois Lowry

Richard Peck

E. L. Konigsburg

Jeanette Alexander

Jacqueline Woodson

E. B. White

Madeline L'Engle

Kate DiCamillo

Kwame Alexander

Katherine Patterson

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Katherine Applegate

Gary Paulsen

Pam Munoz Ryan

Beverly Cleary

Jerry Spinelli

Louis Sachar

Sharon Creech