

Reading Explorer Challenge

Pagel Design Co.





READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE

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Welcome to the Reading Explorer Challenge!

Congratulations on taking the first step toward making reading an exciting part of your family's year! This book list and reading challenge are designed to help your child grow as a reader, explore a variety of genres, and create lasting memories through the magic of books.

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How to Use This Book List at Home

Explore Different Categories

- The book list is organized into fun and engaging categories, such as "Classic Favorites," "Animal and Nature-Themed Books," "Adventure and Fantasy," and more. Encourage your child to pick books from various categories to broaden their reading horizons.
- This approach will help your child discover new genres, topics, and authors they might love!



Set a Reading Goal

- Decide as a family how many books your child will aim to read over the school year. For example, you could set a goal of reading one book from each category or completing a specific number of books from the list.
- To make the challenge even more rewarding, break the goal into smaller milestones, such as reading 5, 10, or 20 books, and celebrate each achievement.





Celebrate Progress

- Once your child reaches their reading goal, use the included Certificate of Achievement to recognize their hard work! Celebrating milestones builds confidence and motivates them to keep reading.
- You can also create family traditions like a "Reading Reward Night," where you watch a movie based on a favorite book or enjoy a special treat.

Incorporate Reading into Your Routine

- Set aside dedicated reading time each day or week. Even 15 minutes of reading before bed can make a big difference!
- Encourage your child to read both independently and aloud with the family. Reading aloud builds confidence, fluency, and comprehension, while independent reading fosters focus and a love of books.



Choose Books That Match Their Interests

- Let your child take the lead in selecting books from the list. If they are excited about the topic or characters, they're more likely to stick with it!
- Feel free to supplement the list with books from your local library or bookstore that spark their curiosity.



Why Reading Aloud Matters



- Reading aloud with your child is a powerful way to:
 - Build their listening comprehension skills.
 - Expose them to more complex vocabulary and sentence structures.
 - Spark meaningful conversations about characters, themes, and lessons in the story.

At the same time, independent reading is equally important for building focus, fluency, and confidence. Find a balance between the two that works for your family!

Tips for a Successful Reading Challenge

- **Make It Fun:** Create a cozy reading corner, let your child use a fun bookmark, or add stickers to the reading log for each book finished.
- **Be Flexible:** If a book isn't capturing your child's interest, it's okay to switch to a different one. The goal is to nurture a love of reading.
- **Encourage Conversations:** Ask questions about the story to help your child think critically and connect with what they're reading. Examples: "What was your favorite part?" or "How would you have solved that problem?"
- **Model Reading:** Let your child see you reading too! It's a great way to show that reading is a lifelong activity.



What's Included

- Curated Book List: A diverse collection of books organized by category, perfect for readers.
- Reading Log Template: A simple and fun way to track your child's progress throughout the year. Select from various templates to suit your reading goals.
- Certificate of Achievement: Celebrate your child's success when they reach their reading goals!



READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

Fiction

- ☐ Because of Mr. Terupt – Rob Buyea
- ☐ Wonder – R.J. Palacio
- ☐ Holes – Louis Sachar
- ☐ Fish in a Tree – Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- ☐ Out of My Mind – Sharon Draper
- ☐ The One and Only Ivan – Katherine Applegate
- ☐ Rules – Cynthia Lord
- ☐ Restart – Gordon Korman
- ☐ A Mango-Shaped Space – Wendy Mass
- ☐ Frindle – Andrew Clements

Mystery

- ☐ The Westing Game – Ellen Raskin
- ☐ Greenglass House – Kate Milford
- ☐ Chasing Vermeer – Blue Balliett
- ☐ The Parker Inheritance – Varian Johnson
- ☐ Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library – Chris Grabenstein
- ☐ Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief – Wendelin Van Draanen
- ☐ The Mysterious Benedict Society – Trenton Lee Stewart
- ☐ The 39 Clues (series) – Various Authors



READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

Adventure

- ☐ Hatchet – Gary Paulsen
- ☐ Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O’Dell
- ☐ My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George
- ☐ The Swiss Family Robinson – Johann David Wyss
- ☐ The Wild Robot – Peter Brown
- ☐ City of Ember – Jeanne DuPrau
- ☐ I Survived (series) – Lauren Tarshis
- ☐ Peak – Roland Smith
- ☐ The Explorer – Katherine Rundell
- ☐ Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief – Rick Riordan

Humor and Fun

- ☐ The Best School Year Ever – Barbara Robinson
- ☐ Frindle – Andrew Clements
- ☐ Sideways Stories from Wayside School – Louis Sachar
- ☐ The Terrible Two – Mac Barnett & Jory John
- ☐ Ellie Ultra (series) – Gina Bellisario
- ☐ Diary of a Wimpy Kid (series) – Jeff Kinney
- ☐ Big Nate (series) – Lincoln Peirce
- ☐ The Tapper Twins Go to War (With Each Other) – Geoff Rodkey



READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

Fantasy

- ☐ Harry Potter (series) – J.K. Rowling
- ☐ Percy Jackson & The Olympians (series) – Rick Riordan
- ☐ The Chronicles of Narnia (series) – C.S. Lewis
- ☐ Fablehaven – Brandon Mull
- ☐ The Girl Who Drank the Moon – Kelly Barnhill
- ☐ The Land of Stories (series) – Chris Colfer
- ☐ Wings of Fire (series) – Tui T. Sutherland
- ☐ The False Prince – Jennifer A. Nielsen

Science Fiction

- ☐ The City of Ember – Jeanne DuPrau
- ☐ Masterminds – Gordon Korman
- ☐ Franny K. Stein, Mad Scientist (series) – Jim Benton
- ☐ The Green Book – Jill Paton Walsh
- ☐ The House of the Scorpion – Nancy Farmer
- ☐ The Giver – Lois Lowry
- ☐ Among the Hidden – Margaret Peterson Haddix
- ☐ Last Day on Mars – Kevin Emerson
- ☐ Space Case – Stuart Gibbs
- ☐ Jinxed – Amy McCulloch



READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

Non Fiction

- ☐ Who Was? (series) – Various Authors
- ☐ Hidden Figures (Young Readers Edition)
- ☐ Some Writer! The Story of E.B. White – Melissa Sweet
- ☐ The Girl Who Drew Butterflies – Joyce Sidman
- ☐ El Deafo (graphic novel) – Cece Bell
- ☐ The Diary of Anne Frank (Young Readers Edition) – Anne Frank
- ☐ The Secret of the Yellow Death – Suzanne Jurmain
- ☐ The Boy Who Became a Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story – Jim Di Bartolo
- ☐ The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers Edition) by William Kamkwamba
- ☐ National Geographic Kids Everything Series (Dinosaurs, Weather, etc.)

Historical Fiction

- ☐ Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
- ☐ Bud, Not Buddy – Christopher Paul Curtis
- ☐ Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry – Mildred D. Taylor
- ☐ Echo – Pam Muñoz Ryan
- ☐ Refugee – Alan Gratz
- ☐ A Night Divided – Jennifer A. Nielsen
- ☐ Inside Out and Back Again – Thanhha Lai
- ☐ Chains – Laurie Halse Anderson



READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

Social Emotional Learning

- ☐ Wonder – R.J. Palacio
- ☐ Rules – Cynthia Lord
- ☐ Fish in a Tree – Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- ☐ Each Kindness – Jacqueline Woodson
- ☐ Out of My Mind – Sharon M. Draper
- ☐ Restart – Gordon Korman
- ☐ A Long Walk to Water – Linda Sue Park
- ☐ Mockingbird – Kathryn Erskine
- ☐ The Boy at the Back of the Class – Onjali Q. Raúf

Poetry and Rhyming Book

- ☐ Love That Dog – Sharon Creech
- ☐ Brown Girl Dreaming – Jacqueline Woodson
- ☐ Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars – Douglas Florian
- ☐ A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein
- ☐ Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices – Paul Fleischman
- ☐ Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets – Kwame Alexander



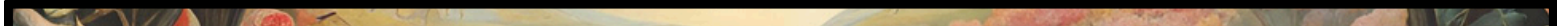
READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

General Favorites

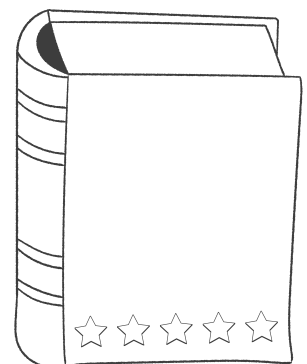
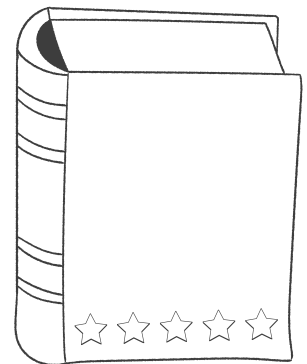
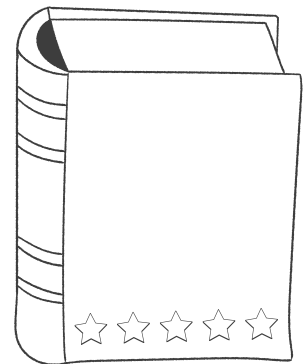
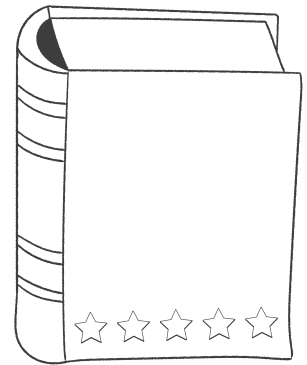
- ☐ Gregor the Overlander – Suzanne Collins
- ☐ The War That Saved My Life – Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- ☐ Roller Girl – Victoria Jamieson (graphic novel)
- ☐ The Witches – Roald Dahl
- ☐ The Tale of Emily Windsnap – Liz Kessler

New Favorites

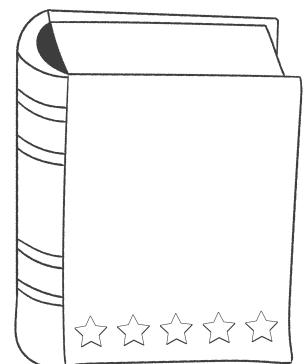
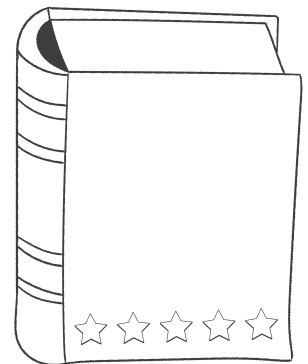
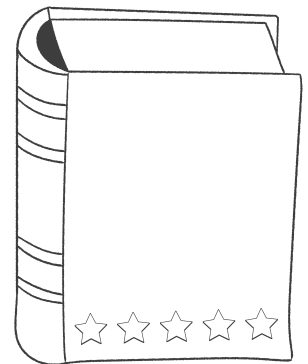
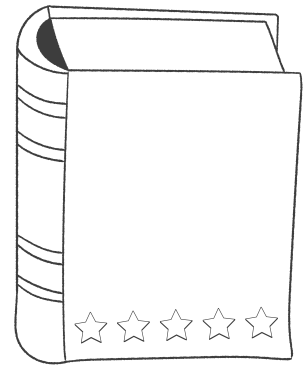
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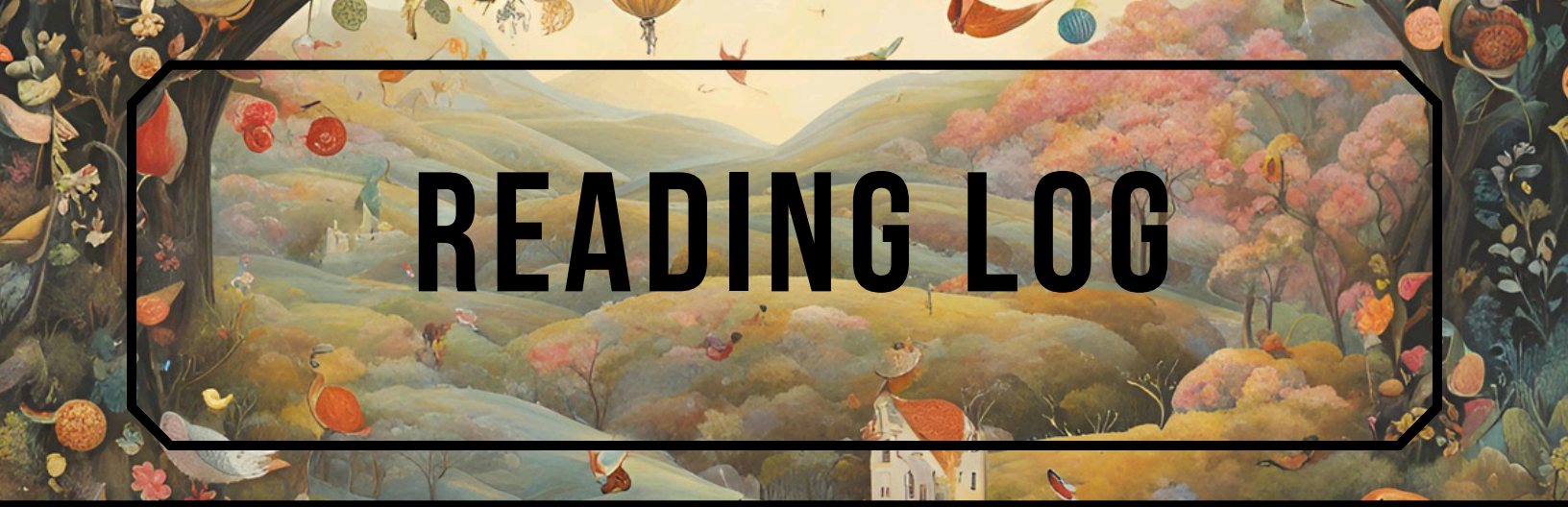


Book Tracker



Book Tracker





READING LOG

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READING LOG

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

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IS A READING EXPLORER

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Date

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