

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

We're excited to share our Summer Reading List for the 2023-2024 school year. We continue to adjust the program to give students the best possible experience while also upholding the desire to turn them into life-long readers. We know that people who read are more successful in all spheres of life, and we want to give your student her/his best opportunity to be successful both here at OSS and beyond.

Attached to this sheet, you'll find the summer reading list. Please note that you do not need to purchase copies of these books – we recommend checking out your local library for physical or digital copies.

This year, all elementary students are required to pick one novel from the 2023-2024 Sunshine State Reading List to read prior to the first day of school. Please use the reading list based on your student's grade level for the upcoming school year. Students will read at least one book from the list and will complete a teacher-assigned project once he/she returns to school. It is important that the novel is read prior to the start of school so that students will have ample time to complete the project. Project requirements will be given out during the first 2 weeks of school and will be counted as the first major grade in the English Language Arts classes.

At the end of their time at OSES, we hope all our students leave with a deep love of the English language and for the stories that connect us. We hope that the summer reading will give students insight as to what to expect from their English Language Arts classes this year. We hope that they will develop wisdom and the ability to look beyond the surface of a thing to see its deeper truths, whether that "thing" is a book, situation, or another person. We hope that they are wise and just and true in their dealings with the world, and we know that great literature can help them to become all those things.

We thank you for entrusting your student to us, and we thank you for your support as we guide them through these literary encounters. We also welcome your feedback and conversation.

If you have any questions regarding the elementary school summer reading, please contact Cayce Carter ([cayce.carter@orlandoscience.org](mailto:cayce.carter@orlandoscience.org)).

Sincerely,  
Orlando Science Elementary School