

## AQUINAS ACADEMY

### 2020-2021 SUMMER READING LIST

#### GRADE 5

Dear Parents,

Your rising 5th grader will choose two (2) novels from the selections below for summer reading. After reading, your student will complete 1 book review on the provided form and 1 project of choice from the list of outlined below.

#### **CHOOSE 2 Books to enjoy from this list:**

##### Swiss Family Robinson, Johann Wyss

The Robinsons leave their home in Switzerland planning to settle half a world away. But things do not turn out as they had expected. The sole survivors of a terrible shipwreck, they wash ashore to learn that the danger has only begun. Their new world will test their courage, cleverness, endurance, and faith as they struggle to survive and create a civilization of their own in the wilderness.

##### The Upstairs Room, Johanna Reiss

In the part of the marketplace where flowers had been sold twice a week - tulips in the spring, roses in the summer - stood German tanks and German soldiers. Annie de Leeuw was eight years old in 1940 when the Germans attacked Holland and marched into the town of Winterswijk where she lived. Annie was ten when, because she was Jewish and in great danger of being captured by the invaders, she and her sister Sini had to leave their father, mother, and older sister Rachel to go into hiding in the upstairs room of a remote farmhouse.

##### A Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle

Out of this wild night, a strange visitor comes to the Murry house and beckons Meg, her brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin O'Keefe on a most dangerous and extraordinary adventure—one that will threaten their lives and our universe.

##### Snow Treasure, Marie McSwigan

In the bleak winter of 1940, Nazi troops parachuted into Peter Lundstrom's tiny Norwegian village and held it captive. Nobody thought the Nazis could be defeated--until Uncle Victor told Peter how the children could fool the enemy. It was a dangerous plan. They had to slip past Nazi guards with nine million dollars in gold hidden on their sleds. It meant risking their country's treasure--and their lives.

##### My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George

Every kid thinks about running away at one point or another; few get farther than the end of the block. Young Sam Gribbley gets to the end of the block and keeps going--all the way to the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. There he sets up house in a huge hollowed-out tree, with a falcon and a weasel for companions and his wits as his tool for survival. In a spellbinding, touching, funny account, Sam learns to live off the land, and grows up a little in the process. Blizzards, hunters, loneliness, and fear all battle to drive Sam back to city life. But his desire for freedom, independence, and adventure is stronger. No reader will be immune to the compulsion to go right out and start whittling fishhooks and befriending raccoons.

### Call It Courage, Armstrong Sperry

Mafatu was afraid of the sea. It had taken his mother when he was a baby, and it seemed to him that the sea gods sought vengeance at having been cheated of Mafatu. So, though he was the son of the Great Chief of Hikueru, a race of Polynesians who worshipped courage, and he was named Stout Heart, he feared and avoided the sea, till everyone branded him a coward. When he could no longer bear their taunts and jibes, he determined to conquer that fear or be conquered—so he went off in his canoe, alone except for his little dog and pet albatross. A storm gave him his first challenge. Then days on a desert island found him resourceful beyond his own expectation. This is the story of how his courage grew and how he finally returned home. This is a legend. It happened many years ago, but even today the people of Hikueru sing this story and tell it over their evening fires.

### The Children's Homer: The adventures of Odysseus and the Tale of Troy. Padraic Colum

Travel back to a mythical time when Achilles, aided by the gods, waged war against the Trojans. And join Odysseus on his journey through murky waters, facing obstacles like the terrifying Scylla and whirring Charybdis, the beautiful enchantress Circe, and the land of the raging Cyclôpes.

### The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mary Lennox, a young English girl who returns to England from India, having suffered immense trauma by losing both her parents in a cholera epidemic. However, her memories of her parents are not pleasant, as they were a selfish, neglectful and pleasure-seeking couple. Mary is given to the care of her uncle Archibald Craven, whom she has never met. She travels to his home, Misselthwaite Manor located in the gloomy Yorkshire, a vast change from the sunny and warm climate she was used to. When she arrives, she is rude, stubborn and given to stormy temper tantrums. However, her nature undergoes a gradual transformation when she learns of the tragedies that have befallen her strict and disciplinarian uncle whom she earlier feared and despised. Once when he's away from home, Mary discovers a charming walled garden which is always kept locked. The mystery deepens when she hears sounds of sobbing from somewhere within her uncle's vast mansion.

### The Railway Children, Edith Nesbit

The comfortable lives of three well-mannered siblings are greatly altered when, one evening, two men arrive at the house and take their father away. With the family's fortunes considerably reduced in his absence, the children and their mother are forced to live in a simple country cottage near a railway station. There the young trio—Roberta, Peter, and young Phyllis—befriend the porter and station master. The youngsters' days are filled with adventure and excitement, including their successful attempt to avert a horrible train disaster; but the mysterious disappearance of their father continues to haunt them.

### Ben and Me, Robert Lawson

Ever wonder where inventors get their ideas? As it turns out, the great inventor Benjamin Franklin got his best ideas from a mouse named Amos! Funny, interesting and wise, this classic tale has been a favorite for generations. Once you've met Amos and read his account, you'll never think of Ben Franklin-or American history-quite the same way.

The Book of Three, Lloyd Alexander

Taran wanted to be a hero, and looking after a pig wasn't exactly heroic, even though Hen Wen was an oracular pig. But the day that Hen Wen vanished, Taran was led into an enchanting and perilous world. With his band of followers, he confronted the Horned King and his terrible Cauldron-Born. These were the forces of evil, and only Hen Wen knew the secret of keeping the kingdom of Prydain safe from them. But who would find her first?

St. Dominic and the Rosary, Catherine Beebe

Saint Dominic led a life of excitement and adventure. As a boy he sold his books to feed the poor and offered himself as ransom for a prisoner. As a young priest he rode with a king's cavalcade to carry a marriage offer to the princess of Denmark from the prince of Castile. But his greatest adventures came when he walked from town to town and preached the word of God and the power of the Holy Rosary prayer.

The work of the thousands of Dominican priests and sisters all over the world stands today—seven centuries later—as a living memorial to the sanctity of their founder.

Ignatius Press

St. Catherine Labouré and the Miraculous Medal, Alma Power-Waters

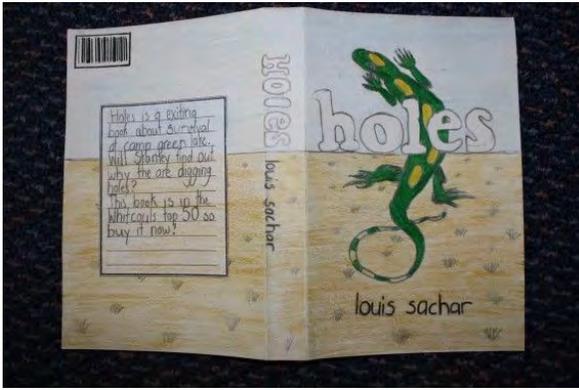
This Vision Book tells the story of Catherine Labouré, a Burgundy farm girl who, after a prophetic dream of St. Vincent de Paul, became a Sister of Charity in Paris and later in Enghien, where she cooked and mended and cared for the inmates of a home for elderly men. To this obscure Sister the Blessed Virgin appeared, made prophecies, and commissioned the making of the Medal which soon came to be known as "miraculous" because of the favors wrought. St. Catherine Labouré lived a life of prayer and service to the poor, and was canonized in 1947.

Ignatius Press

**1. For one book, complete the attached "Book Review" form.**

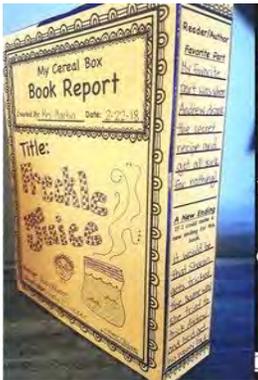
**2. For the other book, choose 1 of the following options:**

### Option 1:



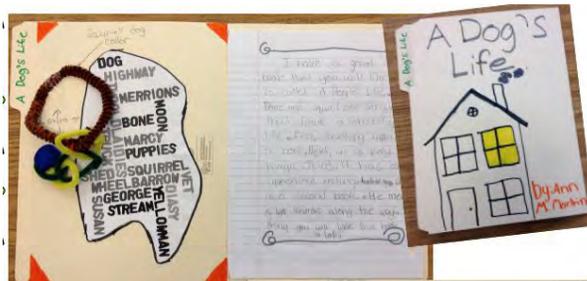
Write a book review and create a book cover. The review should be written in paragraph form (either typed or neatly composed on loose leaf) and include specific information about: characters, plot, setting, conflict, theme, etc. The book cover should be done on either white construction paper or white printer paper. Fold the paper to represent a book cover. Creatively decorate your cover, but don't just color it! Please include something either symbolic or important from the book. Be sure to include the book title, author, and illustrator too. The review should be glued or stapled to the inside so when the front cover is opened, the review can be read. This "book style" book review will be displayed on the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Read Box. Be sure to rate the book as well (between 1 – 5 stars) and tell why you give it that rating!

### Option 2:



Create a cereal box book review using a standard, empty cereal box. This project will require you to cover the box with paper. On the front of the box, create a visual representation of the book. Include something symbolic or important from the story. The book title, author, and illustrator should also be included on the front. On the back of the box include a three paragraph summary of the book. (think beginning, middle, end). This should include all the important details about setting, characters, plot, conflict (problem) and how it was resolved. This can be neatly hand-written or typed. On one side of the box, rate the book (between 1-5 stars) and tell why you gave it that rating. On the other side, write about your favorite part of the story.

### Option 3:



Use a file folder to create a book review. On the front of the file folder include the title, author, and an illustration that represents your favorite part of the book. On the inside left, write a book preview that would convince other readers to read the story. Don't give away the ending, but write a paragraph that would entice readers (think about a movie preview). On the inside right, include your 5 favorite parts. This could be the setting, your favorite characters, a part that you really enjoyed and more. You can display this as a list, a collage, drawings, or use your imagination! Include a word cloud on the back of the folder. Make a word cloud by hand or create one online. List 10 - 15 words that are related to the story. Bonus: Create an extra to include with your report. A poem, a pipe cleaner creation, painting, and music are just a few ideas.

# Book REVIEW

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## OVERVIEW

- TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_
- AUTHOR: \_\_\_\_\_
- RATING (out of 5 stars):  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EXPLAIN YOUR RATING



WRITE THE TITLE & AUTHOR on the BOOK shape.  
Then, COLOR IN THE STARS FOR YOUR RATING.

## SUMMARY!

1. What is the book about?
2. Where does the book mainly take place?
3. Who is the book mainly about?
4. What happens in the book?
5. What does the book teach the reader?

Combine your answers to create a quick summary of the book.

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WRITE ON THE SUMMARY LINES.

““ Find a QUOTE from the book that you found interesting, intriguing or inspiring. ””

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WRITE THE QUOTE ON THE LINES NEXT TO THE OWL.

What are 3 words to describe this book?  
Write them in the boxes below.

WRITE THE WORDS INSIDE THE PENCIL SHAPES.

# Book Review

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Book \_\_\_\_\_

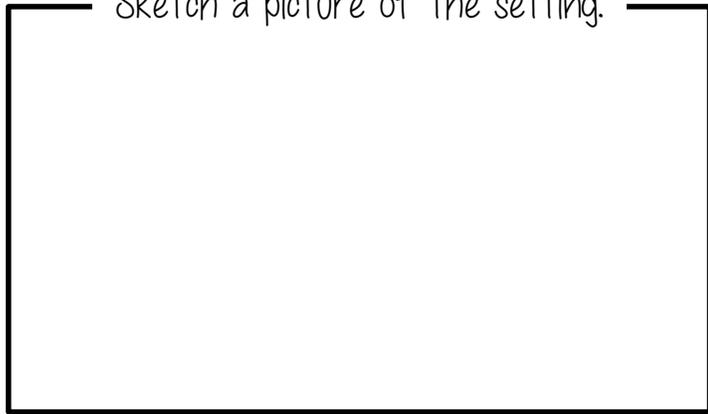
Author \_\_\_\_\_



What is one important setting in the book?

What does the setting look like?

Sketch a picture of the setting.



SKETCH THE SETTING IN THE HOUSE SHAPE. ADD LABELS

## AWARD TIME

Imagine that you can give this book an award. What would it be?

AWARD: \_\_\_\_\_

Why is the book worthy of the award?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



WRITE YOUR BOOK'S AWARD ON THE TROPHY.

## CHARACTER ANALYSIS

Who is one of the main characters in the book? \_\_\_\_\_

- Describe the character's **APPEARANCE**.
- Describe the character's **PERSONALITY**.
- Describe the character's **ACTIONS**.



FILL THE CHARACTER SHAPE WITH YOUR ANALYSIS

## PLOT

What was one major plot event in the book? What happened? Why was it important?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WRITE ON THE EVENT LINES.