

**GRADES FOUR AND FIVE
HILLSIDE SCHOOL
SUMMER READING LIST
2024**

- 1) Each student entering Fourth or Fifth Grade is responsible for reading **Save Me a Seat** by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

- 2) Each student is responsible for also reading **at least two additional books** of his choice. There are suggested books listed here, but students are not limited to these books. The additional books are simply suggestions

- 3) From the Choice Board below, choose two-three activities to dig in with at least one of your books. Note the name and author of the book. Bring this with you on the first day!

STUDENTS ENTERING FOURTH and FIFTH

REQUIRED: You *must* read the following:

Save Me a Seat Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

- "Save Me a Seat" by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan follows the friendship between new student Ravi and Joe, who come from different cultural backgrounds but find common ground as they navigate the challenges of middle school.

Suggestions for Additional Book Choices:

Al Capone Does My Shirts by: Gennifer Choldenko (Newbery Honor book) *

Moose Flanagan is a twelve-year-old boy who moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

The Hockey Machine by: Matt Christopher *

A group of young hockey players stumble upon a mysterious machine that transforms their game, leading them on an adventure to uncover its secrets while navigating the challenges of teamwork and friendship.

The Boy Who Only Hit Homers by: Matt Christopher *

A young baseball player, Sylvester Coddmyer III, discovers his talent for hitting home runs, leading him on a journey of self-discovery and sportsmanship.

Frindle by: Andrew Clements *

The creative and mischievous fifth grader Nick Allen has invented a new word, "frindle," sparking both chaos and curiosity in his school and community.

Ban this Book by: Alan Gratz*

The story of a young girl named Amy Anne who takes a stand against censorship when her favorite books are removed from her school library, sparking a movement to defend the freedom to read.

Walk Two Moons by: Sharon Creech *

Thirteen-year-old girl Salamanca "Sal" Tree Hiddle embarks on a journey with her grandparents to find her missing mother while reflecting on her own life experiences.

There's A Boy in the Girl's Bathroom by: Louis Sachar *

An unmanageable but lovable eleven-year-old misfit learns to believe in himself when he gets to know the new school counselor, who is a sort of misfit, too.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by: Judy Blume

A story about the humorous misadventures of a boy named Peter Hatcher and his younger brother Fudge, as Peter navigates the challenges of sibling rivalry and growing up in New York City.

Through My Eyes by: Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by: Grace Lin

"Where the Mountain Meets the Moon" follows a young girl named Minli on a magical journey filled with adventure, as she seeks to change her family's fortune by finding the Old Man of the Moon.

*You may enjoy other books by this author or other books in this series

Choice Board Reading Activities: *choose 2-3 activities to complete for each book you read!*

1. **Character Diary:** Write a diary entry from the perspective of one of the characters in the book.
2. **Book Review:** Write a review of the book, including a summary, your favorite part, and whether you would recommend it to others.
3. **Comic Strip:** Create a comic strip that illustrates a key scene or series of events from the book.
4. **Alternative Ending:** Write an alternative ending for the book. How would you change the story?
5. **Character Interview:** Write a list of interview questions for a character in the book, then answer them as if you were that character.
6. **Book Cover Redesign:** Design a new cover for the book. Make sure it reflects the story and would attract readers.

7. **Letter to the Author:** Write a letter to the author explaining what you enjoyed about the book and asking any questions you have.
8. **Compare and Contrast:** Compare and contrast the book with another book you've read. How are they similar and different?
9. **Timeline Creation:** Create a timeline of the major events in the book, illustrating each event with a picture or description.
10. **Personal Reflection:** Write about how the story or a character's experience relates to your own life.
11. **Character Comparison:** Compare yourself to one of the characters in the book. How are you similar and different?