



1st Grade Summer Reading 2026

Why encourage a summer reading plan for your children?

Studies suggest that children who read as few as six books over the summer maintain the level of reading skills they achieved during the preceding school year. Reading more books leads to even greater success. When children are provided with 10 to 20 self-selected children's books at the end of the regular school year, as many as 50 percent not only maintain their skills, but actually make reading gains.

Research suggests that if children have opportunities to listen to, discuss, and read books on topics that they select, or books about characters that they love, they develop extensive background knowledge that can strengthen their independent reading and sustain their engagement.

Source: <https://study.com/blog/why-is-summer-reading-so-important-for-kids-success.html>

Harding Academy has set in place a summer reading program for all lower school students. Each grade level has **one required book** to be read. An assignment is to be completed and returned to the teacher the first day of school. This assignment will be the first reading grade for the new school year.

Note: See the attached pages for the summer reading assignment and worksheet.

Additional suggestions for reading this summer:

"Bob" books

"Beginning To Read" by Modern Curriculum Press

"Hello Reader!" books

"Let Me Read" by Goodyear Books

"My First I Can Read Book"

"Rookie Readers" Step into Reading

Berenstain Bears (series) by Stan Berenstain

Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin

Feathers For Lunch by Lois Ehlert

Henny Penny by Paul Galdone

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin

Rabbits on Roller Skates by Jan Wahl

Blackboard Bear by M. Alexander

My Five Senses by Aiki

Yes by Jez Alborough

The Snowy Day by Ezra Keats

Lost by David McPhail

I Like Me by Nancy Carlson

Curious George by H. A. Rey

Corduroy by Don Freeman

Big, Bad Bruce by Bill Peet

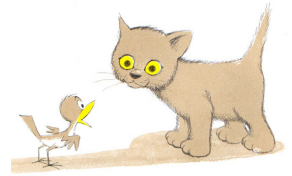
Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister

Make Way for Ducklings by R.

McCloskey

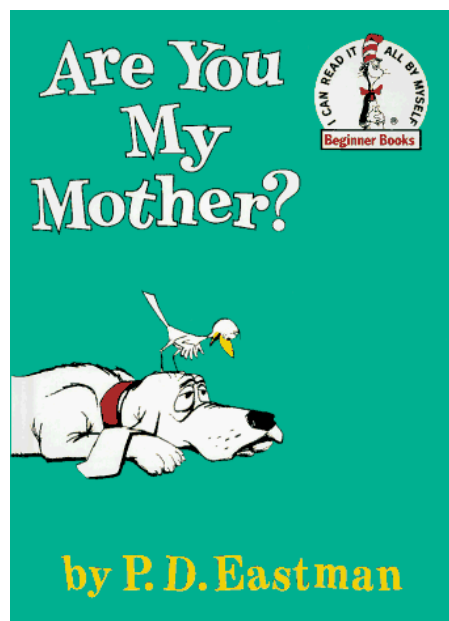
Note: The explanation of the summer reading assignment and worksheet for the required reading book is on the attached pages.

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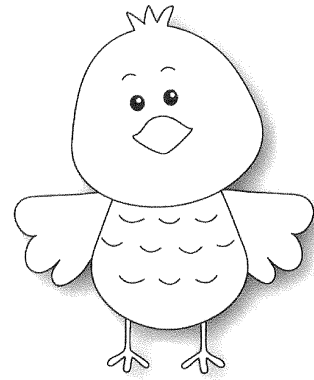
Your first grade summer reading assignment is Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman. On Friday of the first week of first grade, we would like you to bring a picture or object to represent your favorite part of the story. Please be ready to show your object and tell why you chose this part of the story. Also, bring your completed summer reading worksheet (see attached pages) on Friday of the first week of school.

Have a great summer!



Name _____

Are You My Mother?
Think about the story and
draw your answers.
(write a word label with your picture)



1. Who are the characters?

2. What is the setting at the beginning and end of the story?

3. Who was NOT the baby bird's mother?
(show 3)

4. What was the mother doing when she was away from the nest?



5. How does the baby bird get back to the nest?



6. How does the story end?



7. What do you think about this story? (finish the face)

