We want Brookstone students to be avid, life-long lovers of reading, and we work hard during the school year to build a culture that celebrates reading, being read to, and talking about books. We could not do this without your support of reading at home throughout the year, and summer is the perfect time to grow the joy, the magic, and the love of reading!

Reading together and talking about books builds a sense of community, a bond that supports all of the work we do together. This summer, we invite our parents to join our reading community with our 3K-1st Grade common summer read. In *Rita and Ralph’s Rotten Days*, Cuban-born, Georgia author, Carmen Agra Deedy’s brilliant storytelling combined with Pete Oswald’s spirited illustrations make for a comforting tale of healing and true friendship.

In *two little houses,*

*on two little hills,*

*lived two best friends...*

So begins the story of Rita and Ralph. Every day they meet to play beneath the apple tree. It’s always fun and games -- until one roundly rotten day when a new game means someone ends up crying. Who knew it could be so hard to say “I’m sorry?”

Just when it seems nothing will ever be right again, a surprising thing happens. The old friends try something new, that isn’t new at all. Something they’ve done a hundred times...

--from Amazon Review

Our 1st Grade teachers have also chosen a few of their favorite books for you to read and enjoy with your children. We hope you will travel to new places and make new friends as you read and reread these stories. Children will have opportunities to hear these books again at the beginning of next year and to talk about them with their teachers and classmates. We hope these are just the beginning of your child’s summer reading, and it is important that children spend some time reading independently each day. Therefore, we’ve also included links to more lists of great reads for you and your child to enjoy!
Ish by Peter H. Reynolds-- A creative spirit learns that thinking “ish-ly” is far more wonderful than “getting it right” in this gentle new fable from the creator of the award-winning picture book The Dot.

Enemy Pie by Derek Munson-- It was the perfect summer. That is, until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one. Luckily Dad had a surefire way to get rid of enemies: Enemy Pie.

The Honest-to-Goodness Truth by Patricia C. McKissack-- If telling the truth is the right thing to do, why is the whole world mad at Libby?

Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffmen-- Grace loves stories, whether they’re from books, movies, or the kind her grandmother tells. So when she gets a chance to play a part in Peter Pan, she knows exactly who she wants to be.

A Chair for My Mother by Vera B. Williams-- The jar of coins is full. The day has come to buy the chair - the big, fat, comfortable, wonderful chair they have been saving for. The chair that will replace the one that was burned up - along with everything else - in the terrible fire. A book of love and tenderness filled with the affirmation of life.

Additional Resources for Children’s Literature

This list of Award Winning books is by no means exhaustive or complete, but merely suggestions that children may find enjoyable and of the appropriate level.

Books for Independent 5 & 6 Year Old Readers:
https://imaginationsoup.net/best-books-5-6-year-olds/

Caldecott Award Winners and Honor Books:
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecotthonors/caldecottmedal

Newbery Award Winners and Honor Books:
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberyhonors/newberymedal

Coretta Scott King Award Winners:

Georgia Children’s Book Award:

Nonfiction Book Lists:
http://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/kids-non-fiction

Online Books:
Epic Books for Kids-- https://www.getepic.com
Unite for Literacy--https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/

Books for Girls:
http://www.randomhouse.com/rhpgr/promos/greatbooks/booklist.html
http://school.familyeducation.com/reading/fiction/37735.html

Books for Boys:
https://www.pragmaticmom.com/2013/06/books-like-percy-jackson/

James Patterson’s Read, Kiddo, Read: http://www.readkiddoread.com

Children’s Magazines:
COBBLESTONE
ODYSSEY
FACES
MUSE
CRICKET
RANGER RICK
BRAINSPACE
DIG INTO HISTORY
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
KID’S AMERICAN GIRL

Online Magazines for Kids:
https://www.sikids.com
http://teachingkidsnews.com/
http://www.timeforkids.com/
http://www.dogonews.com/
http://www.humanesociety.org/news/magazines/