

Rising Seventh Grade Summer 2026 Reading List

The seventh grade class is about to embark on a great adventure through ancient literature. These required and suggested readings will equip them well for the challenges and glories ahead!

Required Reading

***D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri and Edgar D'Aulaire.** This book is one of the best introductions to the Greek world. Its beautiful illustrations and narrative stories paint a picture of the origin of the Western tradition in which we now live. Knowing these stories will help students embark on their journey into Greek mythology and appreciate the culture we have inherited.

***Farmer Giles of Ham* by J. R. R. Tolkien.** Like *The Hobbit* and *Rings*, *Farmer Giles of Ham* was invented by J. R. R. Tolkien at first to entertain his children, then grew and became more elaborate. Its final version is for readers of all ages who enjoy a good story told with imagination and wit.

Additional Suggested Reading

These suggested titles include both surveys of Greek myths as well as inspirational tales of missionaries and others led by God to overcome incredible obstacles. The seventh grade year will begin with a unit on Greek mythology and will go on to explore several epic novels of heroes who faced great adversity.

***Tales of the Greek Heroes* by Roger Lancelyn Green.** *Tales of the Greek Heroes* is an incredible retelling of the marvelous myths of ancient Greece.

***The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox.** This Newbery Award book is a fascinating tale of a young boy who finds himself caught up in the slave trade. This book reveals the depravity of man and the need for Christ as our Savior.

***Amy Carmichael: Let the Little Children Come* by Lois Hoadley Dick.** The tale of a missionary in India who rescued children from an awful "marriage to the gods."

***George Muller: Man of Faith and Miracles* by Basil Miller.** The story of a man who was a vagabond and thief brought to faith in Christ. He started an orphanage ministry and proved that despite poverty, God could provide for the thousands of orphans in his care.

***The Ruins of Gorlan (Ranger's Apprentice, Book 1)* by John Flanagan.** By combining the intensity of a young King Arthur with the epic fantasy of *The Lord of the Rings*, John Flanagan artfully tells the tale of an unlikely hero. This tale reflects the theme of "courage found in unlikely places" and will help to set the stage for the heroic tales that students will read this year in seventh grade.

***Eric Liddell: Something Greater than Gold* by Janet Bengé and Geoff Bengé OR *Eric Liddell* by Catherine Swift.** Eric Liddell was the hero of the film *Chariots of Fire*, and risked becoming a national disgrace at the 1924 Paris Olympics when he refused to run on Sunday. This story of "God's athlete" makes inspiring reading.

***Bulfinch's Greek and Roman Mythology: The Age of Fable* by Thomas Bulfinch.** *The Age of Fable* is a classic collection of ancient Greek and Roman mythology, plays, and epic poems. Chapters 1 and 2 introduce Greek myths and the creation of the world, providing a comprehensive understanding of the Greek world. If you are interested in adding a beautiful copy to your library, consider this leather-bound book that includes all three of Bulfinch's original titles: *The Age of Fable*, *The Age of Chivalry*, and *The Legends of Charlemagne* ([ISBN: 1626861692](https://www.doverpublications.com/9780486169212)). However, this paperback is more than sufficient ([ISBN: 0486411079, Dover Thrift Edition](https://www.doverpublications.com/9780486411079)).