

Arizona Ranger Summer Reading List

Students going into the AZ Rangers class for the 2009-2010 school year are to select one of the following books for their summer reading project. Students are always encouraged to read more than the minimum reading requirement. Reading during the summer is a fun way to escape the summer heat and improve reading skills at the same time.

Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan Based on a true story, Sarah, Plain and Tall begins a beautiful series. It is the story of a family living on the vast prairie in the early years of the 20th century. The story begins when Anna and Caleb, missing their mother who died, wish for another woman to make their father laugh again. And into their lives comes Sarah, with her own needful loneliness and searching, to help them create a whole family. But life on the endless prairie can be hard and unforgiving, sucking out all a person's strength and courage just to survive. And the prairie can hold your secrets for years and years, then toss them back at you without any warning. At such times, family can be all a person has to hold onto.

Andrew Lost Series by J. C. Greenburg

Book 1: Andrew Lost: On the Dog Andrew Dubble's science teacher wants his class to do a report on ants. Andrew thinks he can better understand ants and do a great job on the assignment if he can actually get inside an anthill. So he and his little silver robot Thudd create the Atom Sucker, a machine that can shrink people and things down to any size. It sounds like a wonderful idea, but something goes terribly wrong. Andrew accidentally shrinks himself, his cousin Judy and Thudd to microscopic levels! Much to their surprise, they find themselves lost on Harley, their neighbor's basset hound. First they get lost in Harley's nose, which is no fun for them because they become soaked in disgusting nose goo. But an explosion sends Andrew and Judy blasting through the air --- Harley sneezes them out. They hike to the top of Harley's head, where they are lost in thousands of dog hairs. To make matters worse, they become immersed in a deep oil pit, encounter a bunch of slithering snake-like eyelash mites and must escape the pointy hairs and prickly snout of a gigantic flea. If they can't find a way to get back to the Atom Sucker by 8:01 pm, the Atom Sucker may explode and Andrew, Judy and Thudd will be microscopic forever!

THE BFG by Dahl, Roald

Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling "cannybull" giants.