

Waldorf Grade 5 Book Recommendations

The fifth-grade child is reaching the height of childhood. Capacities have solidified and consolidation runs through the whole fifth grade year. The child begins to realize what he or she knows and can do. Rudolf Steiner said that fifth grade is a year of balance. Though this is true, it can be misleading. It doesn't necessarily mean that the fifth-grade year is without any problems. This balance is most clearly true for the physical maturing of the child, as a child. For the first time the breath and heartbeat reach adult proportions. Each breath is now accompanied by four heartbeats. This gives youngsters a new stamina and endurance. Memories in grade five are strong and enthusiastic. Reading often "lands" for a youngster in the fifth-grade year and independent reading of long chapter books becomes possible. The following books are designed to help in not only meeting the inner life of the eleven-year-old, but also in preparing the curriculum for grade five which is designed so well to meet the children!

For Waldorf Teachers and Parents

[*Awakening Intelligence*](#) Magda Lisseau

[*Evaluation, Homework, and Teacher's Support*](#) David Mitchell, ed.

[*From Images to Thinking*](#) David Mitchell, ed.

[*Growing Up Healthy in a World of Digital Media*](#) Michaela Glöckler

[*Immersion Learning: A Travelogue*](#) Frans Lutters

[*Second Grade Development, Observation, and Assessment*](#) Else Gottgens (Though titled, "second grade" it can be useful, in sections, for assessing at any age)

[*Tending the Spark*](#) Betty Staley

[*The Temperaments and the Arts*](#) Magda Lissau

[*Working with Anxious, Nervous, and Depressed Children*](#) Henning Koehler and Joseph Bailly

For Meeting Children's Needs in the Grade 5 Waldorf Classroom

[*Developing the Observing Eye*](#) Cynthia Lange

[*Difficult Children: There Is No Such Thing*](#) Henning Koehler and Joseph Bailey

[*Educating the Will*](#) Michael Howard

[*From Images to Thinking*](#) David Mitchell, ed.

[*Helping Children on Their Way*](#) Elizabeth Auer

[*Learning about the World through Modeling*](#) Arthur Auer

[*Raphael: The Mysteries of Illness and Healing*](#) Michaela Glöckler, M.D.

[*Will-Developed Intelligence*](#) Patricia Livingston and David Mitchell

[*Working with Anxious, Nervous, and Depressed Children*](#) Henning Koehler and Joseph Bailly

For Curriculum Development in Waldorf Grade 5:

Mathematics and Geometry in Waldorf Grade 5

[*Active Arithmetic*](#) Henning Andersen
[*Finding the Path*](#) Bengt Ulin (a book to stimulate your own relationship to math!)
[*Geometry Lessons in a Waldorf School*](#) Ernst
[*Math Lessons for Elementary Grades*](#) Dorothy Harrer
[*Making Math Meaningful, Workbook for Grade 5*](#) Jaimie York
The Waldorf Approach to Arithmetic Herman von Baravalle

Language Arts in Waldorf Grade 5

[*An English Grammar*](#) Rudolf Schmid
[*An English Manual*](#) Dorothy Harrer
[*Spelling by Hand*](#) Jeremy Herrmann
[*Teaching Language Arts in a Waldorf School*](#) Roberto Trostli, ed.
[*The Power of Grammar*](#) Anne Greer

History in Waldorf Grade 5

Ancient Mythologies: India, Persia, Babylon, Egypt Charles Kovacs
[*Chapters from Ancient History*](#) Dorothy Harrer
[*Hellas*](#) Wilem Frederik Veitman
[*Helen and Penelope*](#) L.F.C.Mees, M.D.
Her Bak, "Chick-Pea": The Living Face of Ancient Egypt (a series) Isha Schwaller de Lubicz.
[*On Teaching History*](#) Henry Barnes
[*The Revelations of Evolutionary Events*](#) Evelyn Debusschere

Botany in Waldorf Grade 5

[*Children & Nature: Making Connections*](#) George K. Russell, ed.
[*Little Bee Sunbeam*](#) Jakob Streit (also a good reader for fifth grade)
[*The Bee Book*](#) Jakob Streit (also a good reader for fifth grade)
[*The Dandelion's Cousin*](#) Gertrude Teutsch (also a good reader for fifth grade)
[*The Living World of Plants*](#) Gerbert Grohman

Music in Waldorf Grade 5

[*At Home in Harmony*](#) Meg Chittenden
[*Building the Chorus*](#) Arnold Logan
[*Music from around the World for Three Part Recorder Ensemble*](#) Michael Preston
[*Recorder Ensemble*](#) Stephen Bernstein
[*Songs of Heaven and Earth*](#) Merwin Lewis
[*The Importance of Being Musical*](#) Cynthia Frangello
[*Voyage in Song and Story*](#) Jennette Resnick

Drama and the Class Play in Waldorf Grade 5

[25 Plays](#) David Mitchell, ed.
[Eureka!](#) John Trevillion and Jeffrey Spade
[Hawthorne Valley Harvest](#) William Ward, ed.
[Pedagogical Theater](#) Arthur Pittis
[Three Plays for Small Classes](#) Vivian Jones-Schmidt

Art in Waldorf Grade 5

[Eurythmy: A Creative Force in Humanity](#) Sylvia Bardt
[Kinesthetic Learning for Adolescents](#) Leonore Russell, ed.
[Learning About the World through Modeling](#) Arthur Auer
[Learning to See the world through Drawing](#) Elizabeth Auer
[Leaving Room for the Angels](#) Reg Down

Readers for Waldorf Fifth Graders

Anne of Green Gables Lucy Maud Montgomery
Any book by Howard Pyle _ book of Pirates, Robin Hood, King Arthur
[At the Hot Gates](#) Donald Samson
[Jonathan and the Tree](#) Gilad Goldschmidt
[Little Bee Sunbeam](#) Jakob Streit
Paddle to the Sea Holling C. Holling
Sarah Plain and Tall Patricia McLachlan
[The Alpha Beta Book](#) Keith McCrary (learn to speak some Greek!)
[The Bee Book](#) Jakob Streit
[The Dandelion's Cousin](#) Gertrude Teutsch
[The Dragon Boy and the Star Trilogy](#) Donald Samson
The Hardy Boys Adventure books Franklin W. Dixon
[The Invisible Boat](#) Eric Müller
[The Invisible Boat and the Molton Dragon](#) Eric Müller
The Jack Tales Richard Chase
[The Living World of the Plants](#) Gerbert Grohman

Read Aloud Books for Parents and Teachers of Waldorf Fifth Graders

American Tall Tales Mary Pope Osborne
At the Back of the North Wind George MacDonald
Old Yeller Fred Rasca Sterling North
Redwall (series) Brian Jacques
Sarah Plain and Tall Patricia MacLachlan
The Littles (series) John Lawrence Peterson
The Jack Tales Richard Chase
Where the Red Fern Grows Wilson Rawls

For Waldorf Parents

[*Adventures in Parenting*](#) Rachel Ross

[*Assessment for Learning in Waldorf Classrooms*](#) Sara Ciborski & Helen-Ann Ireland

[*Child Development at a Glance*](#) Christian Breme

[*Into the World: How Waldorf Graduates Fare after High School*](#), Douglas Gerwin, Ilan Safit, ed

[*Parent Participation in the Life of a Waldorf School*](#) Manfred Liest

[*Partnerships of Hope*](#) Christopher Schaefer

[*Rubicon*](#) Rudolf Steiner/Monica

The Wisdom of Waldorf Education for the Future Rahima Baldwin

[*Trailing Clouds of Glory*](#) Douglas Gerwin

[*Waldorf Education: An Introduction*](#) Henry Barnes

[*Windows into Waldorf*](#) David Mitchell