

2010 Summer Reading Assignments

Incoming 1st and 2nd Graders

Research has shown that the best way to improve reading skills is to simply READ more! Please make sure that your child continues to read during the summer. Ask him/her to make predictions, evaluate, and summarize the reading material afterwards. Encourage your child to write often. Writing stories, letters, and journal entries are great ways to get thoughts organized and implement newly learned vocabulary.

Incoming 3rd Graders

Read an appropriate book written by Beverly Cleary, a wonderful children's author who has written many books such as *Ramona Age 8*, *Ramona the Brave*, and *Ralph and the Motorcycle* and all of the Henry books. After reading the book, fill out the book report form found on the last two pages of this document. On the first day of school in September, the book report forms will be collected and the students will discuss the books that they read.

Incoming 4th Graders

Read at least two chapter books from the following list of authors/series:

Contemporary Fiction: Judy Blume, Betsy Byars (Bingo Brown series), Matt Christopher (sports fiction), Beverly Cleary (Ramona & Henry series), Andrew Clements (Jake Drake series), Paula Danziger (Amber Brown series), Lois Lowry (Anastasia Krupnik series), Megan McDonald (Judy Moody series), Barbara Park (Junie B. Jones series), Robert Newton Peck (Soup series), Dav Pilkey (Captain Underpants series), Louis Sachar (Marvin Redpost & Wayside series), Lemony Snicket (Series of Unfortunate Events), Betty Ren Wright (ghost stories)

Historical Fiction: Jean Fritz (also writes biographies of historical figures), Mildred Taylor, Laura Ingalls Wilder (Little House series), American Girl series

Fantasy: Tony Abbott (Secrets of Droon series), Jon Scieszka (Time Warp Trio series), Jane Yolen (Tartan Magic series)

Mystery: David Adler (Cam Jansen series), James Howe (Bunnicula series), Donald Sobol (Encyclopedia Brown series), Gertrude Chandler Warner (Boxcar Children series)

Science Fiction: Mark Crilley (Akiko series), Ursula LeGuin (Catwings series)

Fold drawing paper into 4 boxes and draw 4 important scenes from each book to tell the story (beginning, middle, end). Include your name, the title, and the author.

Incoming 5th Graders

Read *Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare and do the following:

Pretend you are Matt. Your family has been gone for months and you are keeping a journal of your days alone. In three well-written paragraphs, write about three of your personal experiences that happened in the story. Include your feelings, hopes, and fears. This will be used as your first book report. Please return the book, if you've borrowed it, with the assignment the first week of school.

Incoming 6th Graders

Read two young adult novels of your choice, each 150 pages or longer. *You are required to keep a reading journal.* Write a journal entry for every 25-30 pages you read (approximately 6 entries per book). Your journal entry can include summaries, questions, personal connections, suggestions, or other thoughts you had while reading your books. In September, your first writing assignment will be based on your summer reading.

Incoming 7th Graders

Read two books, one "classic" novel from the list below and a second book of 150 pages or longer of your own choosing:

White Fang by Jack London

The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

In September, your first writing assignment will be based on your summer reading. **10 points of extra credit will be given for keeping a reading journal for both books. Reading journals should contain at least 6 entries (one entry for each 25 pages read).

Incoming 8th Graders

Read *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith. In September, your first writing assignment will be based on your summer reading. **Extra credit of 10 points will be awarded for reading a second book of 150 pages or longer of your own choosing. **Also, 10 points of extra credit will be awarded for keeping a reading journal for both books. Reading journals should contain at least 6 entries (one entry for each 25-30 pages read). There is a maximum of 20 points of extra credit per student. In September, your first writing assignment will be based on your summer reading.

THE 3RD GRADE BOOK REPORT FORM FOLLOWS ON THE NEXT TWO PAGES.

Third Grade Book Report Form

Name _____

What is the title of the book and the author's name?

Briefly describe the main character (s), setting and plot. (Use at least 6 sentences)

How did the book make you feel? What happened in the book to make you feel that way?

Why did you like or dislike the book?

If there were illustrations, did you like them? Why or why not?

Did the characters in the book remind you of yourself or of someone else? Why?

Did this book remind you of anything else (other books, movies, television programs)? Which ones and why?

Do you have something you would like to ask the author about? If yes, what?