

Dear Parents of Rising Fifth Graders,

Students will be required to read five books over the course of the summer from the Summer Reading List provided in this packet: The two required book titles and three other book titles of his/her choice--from list only. Students are encouraged to read at least **30 minutes** each day this summer. Please fill in the **Reading Log** to track the selections and the time spent reading each selection.

Your child is also expected to complete **one project on each of the five selections** he or she chooses to read over the summer. Students must complete one book report, one shoebox diorama, one poster, one "Book Talk," and one picture book. Therefore, your child needs to create one of each type of project. However, the choice of books is completely up to them. Each of the five projects is fully explained below. It may look like a great deal of information, but it is important to be as thorough as possible in explaining the expectations. Please read carefully!

On the **first day of school** in August, the attached Reading Log and Reflection assignment will be collected. In respect to the **Reflection Sheet** assignment, as a parent of a child at a Catholic school you have likely noticed that Notre Dame Academy places a high value on reflection. Your child will hand in one Summer Reading project each day during the first week of school. The five projects will be handed in and presented on the following dates:

- Book Report on first day of school
- Shoebox diorama on second day of school
- Poster on third day of school
- "Book Talk" on fourth day of school
- Picture book on fifth day of school

Please keep in mind that each of the assignments will be counted as your child's first Reading grades of the fifth grade year. For every day that an assignment is late, that assignment will receive one letter grade off. Students are encouraged to get started on Summer Reading right away and to set an appropriate pace. Enjoy your summer reading!

# FIFTH GRADE'S FANTASTIC SUMMER READING LIST

*\* Students must read the two required selections  
and an additional three titles from the list below.*

## **Required Selections**

- *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverley Cleary
- *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George

## Realistic, Fantastic, and Mystery Fiction:

- *Earthquake Terror* by Peg Kehret
- *Baseball in April* by Gary Soto
- *The Fear Place* by Phyllis Reynolds

## Science and Historical Fiction:

- *Black Cowboy, Wild Horses* by Julius Lester
- *The Golden Lion Tamarin Comes Home* by George Ancona
- *Katie's Trunk* by Ann Turner
- *Pioneer Girl* by Andrea Warren

## Biography:

- *A Boy Called Slow* by Joseph Bruchac
- *Mae Jemison: Space Scientist* by Gail Sakurai
- *Michelle Kwan: Heart of a Champion* by Michelle Kwan
- *Now Is Your Time: The African-American Struggle for Freedom* by Walter Dean Myers



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## FIFTH GRADE SUMMER READING REFLECTION

1. Which book was your favorite? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which book was your least favorite? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which character was your favorite? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which character was your least favorite? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Which character was most like you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Name at least three authors or books you are interested in reading this year.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### SUMMER READING BOOK REPORT FORM

1. In the space below provide a summary (overview) of the book. Think of this as the information listed on the back of a chapter book that tells the reader what the book is about. Make sure to include details about the main characters, setting, and plot (the events that happened in the story).

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2. Who was your favorite character in the book? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What lesson did you learn from this story? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Would you recommend this book to a friend?                      YES                      NO

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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# SHOEBOX DIORAMA PROJECT EXPLANATION AND GUIDELINES

## CREATE MODEL SCENE FROM NOVEL

The following is an explanation of what a shoebox diorama project is. A diorama is a model representing a scene with three-dimensional figures. If they so choose, students may create a shoebox diorama of a scene from one or more of their Summer Reading novels. Please see the procedures and checklist below. I have also included an image of a sample diorama at the bottom of the page.

- Remove the lid of the shoebox. You will not need it for this project.
- The shoebox may be presented vertically or horizontally, just so that the audience is looking directly at the box and **not** peering down into it
- Paint or cover with material the outside of the shoebox
- In the shoebox a scene from the book should be represented...
  - A background/backdrop of the scene should be presented on the back of the shoebox
  - A foreground of the scene should then be depicted in front of this
  - Numerous 3-D details that reflect a thorough understanding of the novel (and more specifically this scene) should add greater detail to the background and foreground.
- Students should use different media to create the scene (e.g., paints, markers, fabric, clay, food, small toys/objects, magazines, newspaper, cotton balls, pipe cleaners, and other arts and craft supplies)
- On a separate piece of paper a summary that describes what is taking place in this scene should be written in the child's best handwriting. The summary should be at least one paragraph (at least 5 sentences) long and be grammatically correct (e.g., perfect punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc.).
- Tape or staple this summary on the top of the shoebox.

<b>Shoebox Diorama Checklist</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. I used an adult shoebox and turned it either horizontally or vertically on its side.		
2. I covered the outside of the box with material or paint.		
3. I represented an actual scene from the Summer Reading book that I read.		

4. I created a background in my shoebox.		
5. I created a foreground (front) scene in my shoebox.		
6. I used 3-D (real) objects and figures to bring my scene to life.		
7. I attached a brief summary that I wrote that describes the scene.		
8. I wrote a summary of the book that is neat and in my own handwriting.		
9. I have taped or stapled my summary on my shoebox.		
10. I am prepared to submit my project by the Friday of the first week of school.		

**POSTER PROJECT EXPLANATION AND GUIDELINES**  
*CREATE A POSTER FROM A SCENE IN THE BOOK*

The following is an explanation of what is expected for the poster project if your child chooses to do it as part of their five Summer Reading projects...

**PROCEDURES**

- Use a small or large piece of white posterboard and create a poster that shows a scene from your Summer Reading book
- Include the title and author of the book on the poster
- Use colored pencils, crayons, or markers on the poster.
- Use at least four or five different colors.
- At the bottom of the poster write a paragraph of at least five sentences that describes what is going on in the scene. The summary should be grammatically correct (e.g., perfect punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc.) and in your best handwriting.

<b>Poster Project Checklist</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. I used a small or large piece of white posterboard.		
2. I include the title and author of the book on the poster.		
3. I use colored pencils, crayons, or markers to create a poster that shows a scene from my Summer Reading book.		

4. I use at least four or five different colors.		
5. At the bottom of the poster I wrote a paragraph of at least five sentences that describes what is going on in the scene.		
6. I wrote my summary in my best handwriting.		
7. My summary also includes proper grammar (perfect punctuation, spelling, and capitalization).		

## "BOOK TALK" EXPLANATION AND GUIDELINES

### *AN ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE CLASS ABOUT THE BOOK*

Below is an explanation of what is expected for the "Book Talk" project if your child chooses to do it as part of their five Summer Reading projects. You must bring the book with you that Friday, August 21 to show to the class. During your presentation you will discuss the following things...

- Title of book, author, and genre
- Give a plot (events) summary of the book (10 sentences)
- Read a passage from the book and describe why this passage is important
- Give a powerful recommendation on why other students should read the book. During your oral presentation you must speak loudly, in a clear voice, make eye contact, and respond to questions from your audience.
- The presentation should last approximately 5 minutes

## PICTURE BOOK PROJECT EXPLANATION AND GUIDELINES

### *CREATE A PICTURE BOOK BASED ON THE STORY YOU HAVE READ*

Imagine that you have been selected to turn your book into a picture book. Your picture book will be 6 pages in length. It will have a front cover, five pages of information, and a back cover. In your picture book you will retell five important things about your book, including:

- Main character
- Setting
- Conflict

- Climax
- Important scene

\* *Each page should include a picture with a small caption in simple language retelling the story*