

Dear Rising Fourth Grade Parents,

In preparation for our fourth grade journey together, students will be **required** to read five books over the course of the summer from the Summer Reading List provided in this packet. The titles have been divided by genre because students possess different interest areas when it comes to reading.

Students are encouraged to read **a minimum of 30 minutes every day this summer**. Please remember, the more your child practices, the better their reading fluency and comprehension skills will become! Please fill in the Reading Log to track the selections and time spent reading each selection. This will also be beneficial in regards to the reading program sponsored by the Live Oak Libraries. (Your child earns prizes and chances in a drawing based on the number of hours that he/she reads during the summer.)

With your emerging reader, you will occasionally want to share the reading responsibilities (for example: read aloud together to help your child build fluency). Also, be sure to discuss what your child has read. This is very important in order to help your child gain understanding and strengthen comprehension skills. It will undoubtedly become an essential skill, so it is important to get a jump-start on building the reading comprehension foundation that your child has already begun to establish in the third grade.

Your child is also expected to complete **one project for each of the five books** that he/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**. Each project is fully explained in your packet. Please read each one carefully before beginning each project as these projects will be graded and included in your child’s first quarter grades.

On the **first day of school**, the attached Reading log and Reflection Sheet assignment will be collected. Each 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 days:

- First day of school – Book Report and Reflection Sheet
- Second day of school – Shoebox Diorama
- Third day of school – Poster
- Fourth day of school – “Book Talk”
- Fifth day of school – Picture Book

Please keep in mind that **each of the assignments will be counted as your child’s first Reading grades of the fourth grade year**. For every day that an assignment is late, that assignment will receive one letter grade off. Assignments turned in after the fifth day of school **will not be accepted**. The summer reading assignment has been established in order that your child will be ready to begin fourth grade prepared and motivated. Encourage your children to start early and set an appropriate pace. God Bless, and have a lovely summer!!

God’s Peace and Love,

Deanna Fanning

FOURTH GRADE'S FANTASTIC SUMMER READING LIST

* Students must choose at least 5 selections from this list

Realistic, Fantastic, and Mystery Fiction:

- *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Phineas L. MacGuire Erupts!: The First Experiment* by Frances Dowell
- *Joey Pigza Loses Control* by Jack Gantos
- *Babe and Me* by Dan Gutman
- *Stuart Little* by E.B. White
- *Best School Year Ever* by Barbara Robinson
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* by Jeff Kinney
- *Harriet the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh
- *I, Houdini* by Lynne Banks
- *Frindle* by Andrew Clements
- *Sarah Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom* by Louis Sachar
- *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl
- *George's Marvelous Medicine* by Roald Dahl
- *The Witches* by Roald Dahl
- *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* by Beverly Cleary
- *The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School* by Candace Fleming
- *Gooney Bird Greene* by Lois Lowry
- Any title from the *Judy Moody* series
- *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwell
- *Bunnicula* by Deborah Howe
- *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- *Cam Jansen and the Summer Camp Mysteries* by Dave Adler
- *Horrible Harry in Room 2B* by Suzy Kline
- *Marvin Redpost: Why Pick on Me* by Louis Sachar

Science and Historical Fiction:

- *Franny K. Stein: Lunch Walks Among Us* by Jim Benton
- *The Earthdragon Awakes: the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906* by Laurency Yep
- Anything from the *Magic Treehouse* series by Mary Pope Osbourne
- *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner
- *Magic School Bus Kicks Up a Storm* by Nancy White
- *Magic School Bus Inside a Hurricane* by Joanna Cole

Biography:

- *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez*
- *Buddy: The First Seeing Eye Dog* by Eva Moore
- *Young Helen Keller: Woman of Courage*
- Any title from the "Troll First Start Biography Series"

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).

2. Who was your favorite character in the book? _____

Why? _____

3. What lesson did you learn from this story? _____

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

Why or why not? _____

Name: _____

FOURTH 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: _____

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.

Shoebox Diorama Checklist	Yes	No
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.

Poster Project Checklist	Yes	No
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
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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*