

Incoming 4th Grade Summer Reading List

Directions: Students are expected to read a minimum of 2 books from the Summer Reading List. In addition to reading the books, students will need to complete a writing activity for each book. It is important for the student to determine if the book is *Fiction* or *Nonfiction* before reading in order to complete the correct activity.

Completed activities are due on the first day of school, **Tuesday, September 2, 2014.**

Fiction

***Ivy and Bean (Series)* by Annie Barrows**

When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected. Choose at least *one* book from this series.

***The Time Warp Trio (Series)* by Jon Scieska**

The zany time traveling trio of Fred, Joe, and Sam never fail to amuse and educate in their crazy adventures. Choose at least *one* book from this series.

***Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo**

This is the story of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin. This is also a great book on tape for the whole family to enjoy on long car trips.

***The World According to Humphrey* by Betty Birney**

You can learn a lot about life by observing another species. That's what Humphrey was told when he was first brought to Room 26. And boy, is it true! In addition to his classroom escapades, each weekend this amazing hamster gets to sleep over with a different student, like Lower-Your-Voice-A.J. and Speak-Up-Sayeh. Soon Humphrey learns to read, write, and even shoot rubber bands (only in self-defense, of course). Humphrey has friends, adventures, and a cage with a lock-that doesn't- lock. His life would be perfect, if only the teacher, Mrs. Brisbane, wasn't out to get him! (Sequels available)

***Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea**

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.

***A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck**

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother. Filled with adventure and much humor. In rural Kentucky in 1955, Serilda Collins, single mother of four lively girls, discovers that her orphaned nephew is in need of help. The girls come to his rescue in many humorous and touching situations.

Nonfiction

***Brooklyn Bridge* by Lynn Curlee**

The Brooklyn Bridge receives handsome tribute here as a great accomplishment of engineering and human labor. Full-page paintings provide impressive views of the underwater excavation of foundations, the construction of the anchoring towers, and the suspension of cables. While the text explains the technical aspects of construction, it also recounts the costly efforts of the Roebling family and the laborers.

***The Chimpanzees I Love: Saving Their World and Ours* by Jane Goodall**

Goodall centers her discussion on the animals: their tool use, interactions among family groups (especially mothers and their young), and intelligence and emotions. Descriptions of the chimpanzees are richly detailed and filled with personality. Goodall's affectionate relationship with the chimpanzees is evident in the photos from forty years of research. Final chapters explain the dangers faced by chimpanzees not only in the wild but in captivity.

***Odd Boy Out: Young Albert Einstein* by Don Brown**

Albert Einstein, a subject uncommon to young readers, is introduced in this picture book that portrays how his brilliance often caused him to be the odd boy in school and in life.

Descriptions of books are edited from a variety of sources such as Horn Book Guide Online, Capitol Choices 2005, previous summer reading lists, Amazon.com, and individual cataloging records.