



Sanford School Summer Reading, Writing, & Arithmetic 2010 - 4th Grade

Dear Future Fourth Graders,

We are looking forward to getting to know you next year! Together we will read and share many new experiences. To help make the fourth grade transition a bit smoother, here are some helpful summer tips. Make sure you complete all three parts of your summer reading, writing & arithmetic! Use the handy checklist at the end of the book list to keep track of your accomplishments!

Part I. READING – We encourage all of our students to read throughout the summer. This is a great opportunity to sit on a beach chair or snuggle up on a rainy day and travel, explore, and discover through reading. We would like each student to read a minimal of twenty minutes a day, five days a week (excluding family vacation time, unless a book is a welcomed companion in an airport or on a beach). A reading log is attached to help each student chart his or her progress. Reading logs will be collected on the first day of school. Students should choose books that interest them; this is how children begin to develop a special interest or passion and learn to love reading and learning. We also encourage students to read and discover different genres. In addition, students should choose one book from the attached book list or a book of their choice of appropriate reading level and complete a book project from the list below. **This project is due the first day of school and will be presented during the first week.**

Book Projects - Choose one project that best suits your book choice.

1. Make puppets of the main characters. Prepare a short puppet play to share with your class.
2. Design a poster using a Venn diagram, in which you compare one of the main characters to yourself.
3. Make a collage that represents the main characters, events and settings. Use old magazines.
4. Make a time line for the main events of the story. Include a written description and illustration for each event.
5. Design a new book jacket for the book.
6. Write a letter or e-mail to the author sharing your thoughts about the book. If you have access to the Internet, you could try searching for the author's home page and actually sending your e-mail if an address is given.
7. Create an author study poster in which you share information about the author. Look in *Something About the Author* available at Hockessin library or search for the author on the World Wide Web.
8. Make a diorama (3-D creation, possibly in a shoebox) that represents a scene in the story. Include a short written description to explain the diorama.
9. Design an advertising campaign to promote the sale of the book. Choose from the following: a poster, a commercial, a magazine ad, or a brochure.

Part II. WRITING - Super Duper Summer Journal: This is your chance to make your summer memories last a lifetime. Please purchase a marble composition notebook and if you like design a cover for it.

What should I include in my scrapbook?

Keep it informal & fun!!!! Use your best cursive writing and include pictures, drawings, poems, ticket stubs, newspaper clippings etc. You should write in your journal, using cursive writing, at least 6 times, that's just a minimum of 2 times per month! You can write about different days, trips, experiences, adventures, friendships, play dates, etc... or here are some other ideas for things to write about. **The journal is due on the first day of school.**

1. Write the directions for how to make the sun shine or how to get bubble gum out of your hair. Include specific adjectives.
2. Pretend that you are opening a store – a bike store, a toy store, a bookstore, or an ice cream parlor, etc... Describe what your store would be like. Include as many details as possible.
3. Invent and describe a new product that would be guaranteed to wake up anybody in the morning gently, but firmly. Write an advertisement for your invention.
4. Write 6 reasons for having a pet.
5. In your journal, design a flag for yourself. Make it any shape or size and include your favorite colors. Write words or phrases or sentences that tell about things or ideas in which you believe.
6. Trace your hand in your journal. Inside of it, write all the things that you can do with your hands.

Part III. ARITHMETIC – Each student is required to practice and study multiplication facts on a regular basis and have them memorized when school begins. Students are expected to be able to complete 50 math facts in three minutes or less. Mad Minutes will begin the first week of school. ☺ This can be a fun way to spend time as a family; dominos and card games are a great and fun way to practice. Math review books are also encouraged to help students maintain their skills. In addition below are some wonderful web sites that your student may enjoy.

- <http://www.amblesideprimary.com/ambleweb/mentalmaths/additiontest.html>
- <http://oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/mathmagician/maths1.html>
- <http://www.funbrain.com/math/>

Part IV. CURSIVE- Practice your cursive over the summer. (Use cursive writing in your journal.)

Have a wonderful summer!
The 4th Grade Teachers

Reading -

Read Book #1 _____ Completed Book Project #1 _____

Writing – (Write in your best cursive.)

Scrapbook

Entry #1 _____ Entry #2 _____ Entry #3 _____ Entry #4 _____ Entry #5 _____ Entry #6 _____

Arithmetic –

Memorized Times Tables (1-9) _____

2010 Summer Reading Grade 4		
<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Book Description</u>
Meg Cabot	<i>Allie Finkle Rules for Girls: Best Friends and Drama Queens</i>	Read these three books if you like a combination of laughter and real life issues!
Blume, Judy	<i>Iggie's House</i>	When an African American family with three children moves into the white neighborhood, eleven-year-old Winnie learns the difference between being a good neighbor and being a good friend.
Cleary, Beverly	<i>Dear Mr. Henshaw</i>	In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.
Clements, Andrew	<i>Frindle</i>	Read about Nick who loves to liven things up at school! When he invents a new word, inspired by his teacher's love of the dictionary, things get out of control very quickly. This book will keep you laughing!
Cruise, Roberta	<i>The Top-Secret Journal of Fiona Claire Jardin</i>	In this humorous, heartbreaking-and hopeful-novel, a young girl struggles to come to terms with her parents' divorce. Funny, poignant, and above all, honest, Fiona's journal entries reveal a roller coaster of emotions as she tries to cope in a world that's been turned upside down. This story is sure to strike a chord with anyone-young or old-who has experienced the comfort and turmoil of family life.
Danzinger, Paula	<i>Amber Brown Series- Any titles</i>	Delightfully funny tales about Amber Brown, a girl who seems to find trouble all too often. Truly enjoyable stories about a loveable character.
Erickson, John R.	<i>Hank The Cowdog Series-Any titles</i>	Guts, glory, danger, & sacrifice are all in a day's work for Hank the Cowdog, Head of Ranch security! Check out these witty adventures of Hank the Cowdog if you like dogs, humor, & mystery!
Hurwitz, Johanna	<i>Baseball Fever</i>	The only game Ezra's father has any respect for is chess. How can Ezra ever convince him that cheering for the national past time isn't completely off base?
Hurwitz, Johanna	<i>School's Out</i>	The "Class Clown" is back! Lucas Cott is ready for a summer vacation -- no more homework, no teachers, no rules! But when his mother hires a French au pair named Genevieve to help take care of Lucas and his younger brothers, he thinks it will be like living with a teacher all summer.
Lindgren, Astrid	<i>Pippi Longstocking</i>	"A rollicking story of Pippi who lives without any grownups in a little house at the edge of the village." <i>The Horn Book</i>
MacLachlan, Patricia	<i>Journey</i>	Journey is eleven the summer his mother leaves him and his sister, Cat, with their grandparents. He is sad and angry, and spends the summer looking for the clues that will explain why she left.

Marshall, James	<i>A Summer in the South</i>	There is a series of strange happenings in a small hotel on a lovely beach, and one of the hotel guests is responsible. Vacationing detective Eleanor Owl is determined to find out who it is. Could it be . . . the hotelkeeper (a turkey who loves his hotel); Foster Pig; Don Coyote; The Squirrel Twins (who appreciate a racket and a good "furry dipping"); Miss Marietta Chicken; or the mysterious Cootie family from Puddle Rapids?
Mead, Alice	<i>Junebug</i>	Nearing his tenth birthday, Junebug fears he will have to join a gang with the older boys in the housing project. He is a smart boy faced with difficult decisions. It is a wonderful story that makes you feel like you are right there with the main character. You will want to read the sequel!
Mead, Alice	<i>Junebug & the Reverend</i>	Junebug is set to leave all his old problems behind when his family moves from the projects to a better neighborhood. But new problems crop up when he runs into school bullies and has trouble making new friends. His younger sister, Tasha, quickly fits in and makes friends with the tenants in their building, a group home for the elderly that their mama supervises.
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>Shiloh</i>	When eleven-year-old Marty finds a young beagle on the road past an old schoolhouse, he attempts to save it from its cruel owner.
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>Shiloh Season</i>	The sequel to Shiloh. Even though Marty now owns his beloved dog, his problems are not over. When Marty's father suspects Judd is hunting illegally on their property and confronts him, Marty has cause to worry about a lot, especially Shiloh's safety.
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>Saving Shiloh</i>	The final volume in the Shiloh trilogy. Marty Preston wonders why people are still so willing to think the worst of Judd Travers. Then a terrifying life-or-death situation brings a moral dilemma into sharp focus, causing Marty to question his judgment.
Rockwell, Thomas	<i>How to Eat Fried Worms</i>	Billy will eat anything on a bet, even worms, especially when the bet will win him the \$50 he needs to buy a new mini-bike. Can he eat fifteen worms in fifteen days? This is a hilarious story!
Rowling, J. K.	<i>Any Titles in the Harry Potter Series</i>	
Sachar, Louis	<i>Dogs Don't Tell Jokes</i>	Class clown Gary Boone is certain that the school talent show will be his ticket to success, figuring that he can win with his stand-up comedy routine, but instead his comic debut may become the ticket to disaster.
Selden, George	<i>Cricket in Times Square</i>	The comic, sometimes-tragic side of life in the city is brought into vivid relief as Chester Cricket and his friends struggle to bring success to their human friends' nearly bankrupt newsstand.
Smith, Robert Kimmel	<i>Jelly Belly</i>	It's tough for eleven-year-old Ned to stop eating. When his parents send him to a summer diet camp, he and his bunkmates can't quite give up their old habits. Ned realizes there is only one way to lose weight for good.
Smith, Robert Kimmel	<i>The War with Grandpa</i>	Peter is thrilled that Grandpa is coming to live with his family. That is until Grandpa moves right into Peter's room forcing him upstairs. Peter loves Grandpa, but wants his room back and has no choice except to declare war!

Steger, Will	<i>Over the Top of the World</i>	The book first describes the purpose of the trip and introduces the hardy, courageous members of the team, both human and canine, before embarking on the diary-like narrative of the trek. Written with crispness and immediacy, the narrative reads like an adventure story, with dramatic, compelling photographs (like that of a team member with his beard frozen into tiny icicles) adding greatly to the interest.
Strasser, Todd	<i>HELP! I'm Trapped in the First Day of Summer Camp</i>	Jake Sherman's first day at summer camp is pretty bad. But it gets even worse when he has to live through it again and again!
Taylor, Mildred	<i>The Friendship & The Gold Cadillac</i>	The Friendship: Cassie Logan tells the story of a neighbor in Mississippi, Mr. Tom Bee, who dares to call a white storekeeper by his first name. The Gold Cadillac: Wilma and her sister are proud of their father's brand new shiny gold Cadillac.
Warner, Gertrude Chandler	<i>The Summer Camp Mystery</i>	Henry, Jessie, Violet, & Benny used to live alone in a boxcar. Now they have a home with their grandfather, and they are spending a week at Camp Seagull on beautiful Claw Island.
White, E.B.	<i>Stuart Little</i>	Stuart Little, a mouse in the family of Frederick C. Littles as a pleasant, with a shy but engaging manner. He sets out in the world to seek his dearest friend, Margalo, a beautiful little bird who stayed in the Littles' Boston fern.
White, E.B. & Garth Williams	<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Wilbur, a lovable pig, is rescued from a cruel fate by a beautiful and intelligent spider named Charlotte.
<u>Kid recommendations:</u>		
Gordon Korman	<i>Swindle</i>	When Griffin Bing and his pal Ben discover an old Babe Ruth baseball card in a home about to be demolished, Griffin—aware that his dad's lack of success as an inventor is causing increasing stress at home—dreams of selling it for thousands and using his share to keep the family financially afloat.
Various authors	<i>Any titles in the series The 39 Clues</i>	Orphans Amy and Dan belong to a rich and powerful family related to nearly everyone important in history. When their grandmother dies, she leaves 39 clues, spread across the planet, to a treasure that will make the finder immensely powerful.
Ann M. Martin	<i>A Dog's Life: Autobiography of a Stray</i>	Two stray dogs, Squirrel and Bone, have to battle other strays for food and manage to survive on their own.
Pam Munoz Ryan	<i>Esperanza Rising</i>	Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, & servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances--Mama's life and her own depend on it.
Brain Selznick	<i>The Invention of Hugo Cabret</i>	Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity.
Ron Roy	<i>A-Z Mysteries</i>	Besides solving crimes and capers in their hometown of Green Lawn, Connecticut, the trio also goes to exciting places like a dude ranch in Montana, a castle in Maine, and an island in the Indian Ocean. From A to Z, you'll enjoy unraveling these mysteries along with Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose!
Tui T. Sutherland	<i>Pet Trouble</i>	When Parker's older sister leaves for college, she arranges for him to adopt a golden retriever who livens things up in ways he never expected.
Cornelia Funke	<i>Inkheart</i>	One night Meggie's father, Mo, reads aloud from a book called ' Inkheart ,' and an evil ruler named Capricorn escapes the boundaries of fiction and lands in ...