

Summer Reading Information for SVMS rising 4th Graders Language Arts / Reading – Mrs. Armas 2020-2021

Dear Rising Fourth Grader,

Studies reveal that one of the best ways to improve reading ability is to read *literature of choice* at one's appropriate reading level. Incoming 4th graders are required to read **two** books of their choice for our LAR class: **1.) a novel of fiction and 2.) any "Who Was..." biography.** (The latter is a series of biographies by various authors and are easily attainable.) After reading, complete the **attached activities**. ***These assignments are due the first week of school and must be submitted to me.***

Following is a list of **suggested** books from which to choose. Of course, reading more than two books this long and lazy summer would be wonderful, and the surest way to avoid reading level regression is to practice, practice, practice. If you're interested in reading great literature that's age appropriate, the works that follow are most commonly chosen as "favorites" by fellow rising 4th graders.

If you're not sure of the reading level of these or other books, you can check **Scholastic's** Book Wizard website page. On the Book Wizard page, type in the title or author, and a grade level equivalent will appear for most books. If it says 3.1, that means third grade, 1st month. If it says 6.7, that means sixth grade, 7th month. This will help guide you to books at grade levels. If you need more guidance than just the grade level of a book, use the "five finger test." (See the following chart.) This is not an exact science, but should help.



Amber Brown Goes Fourth by Paula Danziger
Fourth Grade Celebrity by Patricia Reilly Giff
Jake Drake, Class Clown by Andrew Clements
No Talking by Andrew Clements
A Week in the Woods by Andrew Clements
The Jacket by Andrew Clements
Fudge by Judy Blume (series)
A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy
Ramona by Beverly Cleary (series)
Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary
The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary (series)
Adventures of Humphrey by Betty Birney (series)
Baseball Card Adventures by Dan Gutman
Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka (series)
Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (series)
Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder (series)
My Life in Dog Years by Gary Paulsen
(Other enjoyable series: Encyclopedia Brown (Donald J. Sobol) , Boxcar Children (Gertrude Chandler), Clementine (Sara Pennypacker), Just Grace (Charise Mericle Harper), The Penderwicks (Jeanne Birdsall), Wayside School (Louis Sacher)

Happy reading! If you have any questions, email me at jarmas@svmsnj.org. I wish you a joyous and healthy summer, and I look forward to guiding you on your literacy journey during the next school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Armas
Grade 4 Language Arts/Reading

Fiction Novel Activity

4th grader's name: _____

Novel read: _____

Author: _____

Pick the two most important characters in this story. Sketch and color portraits of both. Write three adjectives to describe each character on the lines below the boxes.

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