

Summer Reading Information for SVMS rising 4th Graders

Mrs. Armas 2024-2025 – Reading/Writing

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 Reading/Writing classes:

1.) a novel of fiction, and

2.) ANY "Who Was..." biography. (These are part of 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 uncertain 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.

Five Finger Rule

0-1 = too easy

2-3 = just right

4 = okay to try

5+ = too hard



▪ Open a book to any page. Start reading. Hold up a finger every time you see a word you do not know. ▪

Following is a list of some commonly chosen “favorites” by fellow rising 4th graders. Also, the two websites listed have great suggestions.

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)

<https://www.teachingexpertise.com/classroom-ideas/4th-grade-books/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/4th-grade-reading-list>

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 Reading/Writing

Fiction Novel Activity

Student 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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