



Dear Future Third Grader and Parents:

Congratulations on finishing second grade successfully! It is with great pleasure for me to be your teacher next year. I look forward to getting to know each of you better when the new school year begins. Get ready for an amazing year full of new adventures and journeys.

Speaking of journeys, summer reading will focus on all kinds of different journeys. There are stories that tell of journeys through difficulties, changes, or new experiences. Each of the books involves character(s) that will go on a journey to discover who they are. It is your job to keep track of who, what, when, where, why, and how things change over the story. I suggest you keep a stack of post-its nearby (or write directly in the books) to write notes about your thoughts and feelings regarding the reading and what you are learning from it.

The reading list has two portions: a required reading section and recommended reading. Of course, if you have other books that interest you, you may read those as well. Your goal for this summer is to read **four** books; two required and two recommended.

REQUIRED READING

1. Non-fiction Selection – *A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin* By Jen Bryant

Born in Pennsylvania in 1888, Horace Pippin loved to draw and paint as a child. When he was in eighth grade, his father left the family. Horace quit school and worked to support them. Later wounded as a soldier in WWI, he never regained full use of his right arm. Back home, Pippin began painting again, using his left arm to guide his right. Painting subjects drawn mainly from observation, memory, family stories, and the Bible, this self-taught African American artist was eventually discovered by the art community.

2. Fiction Selection – *Frindle* by Andrew Clements

Ten-year-old Nick Allen has a reputation for devising clever, time-wasting schemes guaranteed to distract even the most conscientious teacher. His diversions backfire in Mrs. Granger's fifth-grade class, however, resulting in Nick being assigned an extra report on how new entries are added to the dictionary. Surprisingly, the research provides Nick with his best idea ever, and he decides to coin his own new word.

RECOMMENED READING

(See list at end of document)

Projects

You will need a composition book to make into a summer reading journal. In this journal, you will keep all of your responses and activities.

Supplies Needed:

- Composition Book (wide rule) aka “journal”
- Books (listed above)
- Watercolors and watercolor paper (or cardstock)
- Art supplies to create dictionary
- Computer and printer

Overall Guidelines:

1. Separate the composition into sections by creating a cover page for each book read.
 - a. Behind each cover page should include all the answers and information for that specific book

A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin By Jen Bryant

In your composition book:

- **Vocabulary:** words below and 3 or more words you don't know from the reading
 - *regiment, trenches, shells, droned*

You must...

- Define
- Give the part of speech
- Draw a picture of the word's meaning
- Write it in a sentence
- **Reading Response: BEFORE** you read the book – answer or do the following:
 - Locate **West Chester, PA** on a map. Draw or cut and paste the map in your journal. List the major cities near **West Chester, PA**
 - Make a list of chores you do at home. As you read, think about the chores Horace had. How are they similar (same) and different? Explain which you would rather do? Why?
- **Reading Response: DURING** - Answer the questions below while you read!
 - What is important about the colors Horace used in his painting, especially the splash of red?
 - How do the illustrations help build the tone and mood of the book?
 - **Tone** is the author's attitude in presenting the writing. It can be positive (good), negative (bad), neutral (neither/no attitude). Is the story playful, serious, frightening, cheerful, etc?
 - **Using words that show feelings creates mood** like happy, fearful, or heartbroken.
- **Reading Response: AFTER**
 - Choose one of Pippin's sayings – write it then explain what it means in your own words.
 - In fairy tales everyone always lives happily ever after. In real life that is not always the case. Do you think Horace Pippin had a happily –ever-after life? Explain why or why not.
 - Create a watercolor drawing of your favorite place to be (use thick paper and put into composition book)

Frindle by Andrew Clements

In your composition book: Make another section for this book

Reading Response: DURING:

Write the question then answer or print questions and answers.

1. What is Mrs. Granger's famous "battle cry" that all her former students remember?
2. What question does Nick ask Mrs. Granger on the first day of class to stall the lesson?
How does she outsmart him?
3. List the three important events that lead to Nick's big idea: renaming a pen "a frindle."
4. What exactly does Mrs. Granger mean when she says that "dog" means dog because we all agree it does?
5. Why do those students want to stay after school and be punished by Mrs. Granger?
Why do they consider it a "badge of honor"?
6. If "ain't" is not a proper word, how can it be in the dictionary, as Nick points out?
What is Nick trying to prove when he brings this point up with Mrs. Chatham, the principal?
7. Imagine that you are the reporter from the Wakefield Gazette, trying to get the scoop on the new word "frindle." What questions would you ask Mrs. Granger? How would you convince the principal to give you the real story?
8. Bud Lawrence wants to own the copyright for the word "frindle." What does he plan to do with it? How can someone own the rights to a word? Explain how this is different from owning a bike or a pair of sneakers, or even a pet dog.
9. When the reporter from the TV station asks Nick "What's next for you and your new word?" Nick replies "frindle belongs to everyone now." How can a word belong to everyone? What does someone "do" with a word that belongs to them?
10. How does the experience of inventing a new word and becoming a celebrity affect Nick? Why does he think twice about testing out his new idea: protesting the poor food in the cafeteria?
11. In her letter to Nick (which he opens years later, after he's in college), Mrs. Granger says: "A person can watch the sunset, but he cannot slow it down or stop it or make it go backward." What do you think this observation has to do with Nick's word?

Project: AFTER

- Create your own mini dictionary of words you would invent for **10 words or more**. Your dictionary **must** have the following:
 - A Cover with your dictionary name, your name, date (Summer 2016)
 - Formatted like an actual dictionary - Entry guide words at the top of each page
 - Words with pronunciation key – for example: book /bo̩k/
 - Part of speech
 - Definition
 - Used in a sentence
 - A picture

- Your dictionary entries **MUST be typed***

*Parents, this is an excellent time for them to practice keyboarding and keystrokes.

Recommended Reading Guidelines

Make sure to keep a reading log of all books read in the composition book (journal) with the following information:

- Title and author
- **Short summary** following the format: Somebody (characters), wanted (goal of the story), but (conflict), so (solution).
- Would you recommend this book for others to read? Why or why not?
 - Go to our class website www.mrsyoungsggrade3.weebly.com summer reading section and write a recommendation for your book(s).

RECOMMENDED READING

Fiction

Animal Tales

Carris, Joan. *Welcome to the Bed & Biscuit*. A mini-pig, a Vietnamese mynah bird, and a young cat have many conversations and adventures in this warm story about family, friendship, and new arrivals. A quick, clever, and humorous summer read!

Cleary, Beverly. *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*. A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling. Also try the Ramona & Beezus series and Henry Huggins by the same author. Classics!

Hiaasen, Carl. *Hoot, Flush, and Scat*. These three stand alone novels can be read in any order. All are realistic fiction books containing fast paced action, themes of environmental stewardship, and surprise twists in the plot. Great summer read!

Smith, Alexander McCall. *Akimbo and the Elephant*; Akimbo and the Lion; Akimbo and the Crocodile Man. Wonderfully engaging realistic fiction about a young boy helping his father on a game preserve in Africa. Alexander McCall Smith is an author some adult readers might recognize from his Lady Detective series.

Westera, Marleen. *Sheep and Goat*. You will never drive by a field of farm animals again and not wonder “What are they thinking?!” The book is the humorous and philosophical daily exchanges between a sheep and a goat who occupy the same pasture. This book is ideal for reading one chapter a night aloud -- it is a great spring board discussion and inquires.

White, E.B. *Stuart Little*. Don't leave SFS Lower School without reading this classic adventure! Include Charlotte's Web and Trumpet of the Swan, both by E.B. White, on your list as well if you haven't already visited those tales.

Fantastic Adventures

Barry, Dave & Ridley Pearson. *Peter and the Star Catchers*. Yes, the same Dave Barry from the humorous newspaper columns of the past! The funny back story of how Peter became Peter Pan and how Capitan Hook lost his hand. A long and satisfying summer read.

Edwards, Julie Andrews. *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles*. A classic fantasy tale of determination and perseverance told by none other than the famous actress from Mary Poppins, The Sound of Music, and now The Princess Diaries. How can one person be so talented? An amazing book, even for those who don't normally prefer this genre.

Funke, Cornella. *Igraine the Brave*. A story of castles, knights, magicians, and a girl whose “boring” life is about to be propelled into action and acts of bravery. A great early reader introduction to this well known author.

Keller, Laurie. *The Scrambles States of America*. The states are bored at always being in the same place all the time on the map so they decide to have a party and mix things up a bit. A funny picture book that is also a great way to learn about the 50 states. (There is a board game by the same name).

Stories about Friends and Families

Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks*. In this tender tale the characters deal with the loss of a parent, sisterhood, and friendship all woven into a fast paced adventure that is both humorous and poignant. Claimed to be “My favorite book ever!” by many readers.

Blume, Judy. *Fudge-a-Mania*. (series) Farley Drexel Hatcher, more commonly known as Fudge, is a definite source of amusement and annoyance to his older brother, Peter. A classic that a lot of the parents may remember from their own childhood reading!

Danzinger, Paula. *Amber Brown is not a Crayon*. (series) Amber Brown has just entered third grade only to find that her best friend is moving away! Sweet series about the ups and downs of school and childhood friendships.

Horvarth, Polly. *The Trolls*. Eccentric Aunt Sally comes from Canada to babysit the Anderson children while their parents are on a trip to Paris and every night the bedtime story adds another piece to a very suspect family history. Also try Everything on a Waffle by the same author.

McDonald, Megan. *Judy Moody*. (series) Judy, her friends, and her little brother, Stink, have lots of fun times together during her third grade year. Be prepared to read the whole collection- once you get started it is hard to not know what happens next to crazy Judy Moody! And now Stink has his own series as well!

Nonfiction

Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960. The authenticity of Ms. Bridges' voice is marked with understated charm and heroism.

Brown, Don. *Odd Boy Out: Young Albert Einstein*. A picture book biography of Albert Einstein, focusing on his oddness throughout his childhood, his disinterest in school, and discussing the significance of his discovers in physics.

Bryant, Jen. *Abe's Fish*. This picture book is classified as historical fiction, but contains an astounding author's note on the final pages that explains the extensive research of Abraham Lincoln's early years and boyhood. Fascinating!

Demi. *Muhammad, Gandhi, and Mary*. Are just a few titles by this prolific author and illustrator that explore world figures in a manner of great detail that is informative, yet very accessible to young readers. Demi is also retells and illustrates many traditional tales from around the world in her books *The Hungry Coat* and *The Empty Pot*. This author is not to be missed!

Jenkins, Steve. *Actual Size*. This inventive, startling paper collage gallery allows readers to view almost twenty creatures (or as much of them that will fit on the page) at actual size. Also by the same author: *Prehistoric Size* and his newest *Living Color*.

Krull, Kathleen. *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez*. A biography of Cesar Chavez, from his childhood on his family's ranch in Arizona, to age thirty- eight, when he led a peaceful protest against California migrant worker's miserable working conditions.

St. George, Judith. *So You Want to be President?* Entertaining trivia, intriguing scandals, and thought-provoking lessons embellish an overview of the presidency and the men who lead the country. Great read since this is election year! Be aware this book is dated and doesn't include our last 2 very important presidents who also changed American history.

Poetry

Franco, Betsy. *Mathmatickles!* Word lovers might stand a better chance of becoming math lovers if more math lessons were like these: "apples + worms = sweet tunnels." The four seasons provide the framework for a book made up of equations and graphs, each one encapsulating a seasonal sight or experience. The watercolor and gouache pictures show a little girl styled like a sixties cartoon character; the pages brim with joyfully bright color.

George, Kristine O'Connell. *Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems*. The pleasure and surprises of going camping are conveyed in eighteen brief poems. Familiar camping experiences—including pitching a tent, sleeping in a sleeping bag, and watching a chipmunk—are described, in addition to more unusual experiences like walking through a field of mustard, seeing a moose, and discovering a cave.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*. Make sure and get the copy illustrated by Christopher Bing ISBN#1929766130.

Peters, Lisa Westberg. *Earthshake: Poems for the Ground Up*. Twenty-two clever poem about geology with engaging illustrations—sure to inspire a summer rock hunt in the backyard or local park!

Prelutsky, Jack. *If Not for the Cat*. An all time favorite collection of haikus that are thought provoking and fun to quote—paired with large, colorful illustrations.
Descriptions of books are edited from a variety of sources such as Horn Book Guide Online, Capitol Choices, previous summer reading lists, and individual cataloging records.

If you choose other books, please include it in the reading log section of your journal

Have a wonderful summer!

Warmly,
Mrs. Atkins Young
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Required Reading. Barbara Kellerman. From the December 2001 Issue.Â The Prince is still read today because of passages such as the one in which Machiavelli sounds eerily like a hard-nosed, modern-day media adviser. The leader, he writes, "should think how to avoid those things that make him hateful and contemptible" What makes him contemptible is to be held variable, light, effeminate, pusillanimous, irresolute, from which a prince should guard himself as from a shoal. Required reading definition: If you say that something is required reading for a particular group of people, you mean | Meaning, pronunciation, translations and examples.Â If you say that something is required reading for a particular group of people, you mean that you think it is essential for them to read it because it will give them information which they should have. It is an important report that should be required reading for every MP. [+ for]. require. COBUILD Advanced English Dictionary. Copyright Â© HarperCollins Publishers.