

Fourth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Taking a break from school doesn't mean taking a break from reading. Research shows there are many benefits for students who read during the summer. In light of this research and in recognition of the importance of independent reading, students entering fourth grade will be required to complete the following assignment during summer vacation. The assignment will be collected on the first day of school in September. If you have any questions, please let us know.

DIRECTIONS: Choose one fiction book and one non-fiction book to read from the lists below. Then, write a three paragraph letter for each book you read. Follow the directions below and use the sample on the back to guide you. Your letters can be typed or written neatly on loose-leaf.

SUMMER READING BOOK LISTS

Fiction Book List

- **Frindle* by Andrew Clements
- **The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable* by Dan Gutman
- **The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies

Non-Fiction Book List

- **The Camping Trip that Changed America* by Barb Rosenstock
- **Her Right Foot* by Dave Eggers
- **Who Was Neil Armstrong?* by Roberta Edwards

*The first paragraph should include the book's title, author, publisher and copyright date. It should also tell the genre of the book such as historical fiction, fantasy, adventure, mystery, realistic fiction, science fiction or non-fiction.

The second paragraph about your *FICTION BOOK* should tell who the main characters are in the book. It should also tell the setting which is where and when the story takes place. It should also explain the main problem or problems the characters have to deal with in the story. Be sure to include details that explain how they solve this problem. If you want, this paragraph can also include the names of additional characters who make the story interesting.

The second paragraph about your *NON-FICTION BOOK* should tell who the book is about and what year the main event in the book takes place. Be sure to include at least three things you learned about this person by reading the book.

*The last paragraph explains your opinion of the book. Include how you would rate the book and tell your favorite part of the book. (However, if you didn't like the book, explain why you feel that way). Also tell if you learned any important lessons from the book. Finally, tell what kind of person would enjoy reading this book.

See the handwritten example on the back of this paper

July 5, 2020

Dear Mrs. Verrelli,

I recently read an interesting book called *The Daring Escape of Ellen Craft* by Cathy Moore. The illustrations were by Mary O'Keefe Young. This non-fiction book was published in the year 2002 by the publisher First Avenue Editions.

This book was mainly about two people named Ellen and William Craft. They were slaves who lived in the state of Georgia before the Civil War. The main problem was that Ellen and William wanted to run away to the free city of Philadelphia in the state of Pennsylvania so they could be free, but it would be a very dangerous and long journey. Their solution was to wait until they got Christmas passes which let them be away from their master's house for three days. Before they left, Ellen cut her hair and disguised herself as a white man so she could travel on a train and boat with a slave named William. Hopefully, nobody would become suspicious and they would get to Philadelphia before their passes expired and the master found out they had run away. Other characters were Master and Mrs. Collins and the suspicious station agent.

I would rate this book ten out of ten stars because it was suspenseful, but I wish it had more details about how they planned their escape. From reading this book, I learned it's important to be brave, daring and to stand up for my rights. People who like history and suspense will really enjoy *The Daring Escape of Ellen Craft*. It's available in our school library.

Sincerely,

_____, 3A