

Incoming 4th Grade Summer Reading List

Listed Alphabetically by Author

Summer provides many opportunities for parents and young children to enjoy unforgettable books together. A suggested list of titles is listed below. I encourage you to visit your local library.

Choose **one** book to read this summer from the provided list. **Complete the Paper Bag Book Report Project by Thursday, August 16th.**

Title	Author	Synopsis	Genre	Suitable for
Mr. Popper's Penguins	Atwater, Richard	An absurd tale of an unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin that changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions. Newbery Honor	Humor	***
Finding the Titanic	Ballard, Robert	Describes the voyage of the Titanic, the accident that caused it to sink, and the rescue of those who survived.	Nonfiction	**
The Indian in the Cupboard	Banks, Lynn Reid	What could be better than a small cupboard that makes toys come alive? A simple birthday present turns Omri's life into a magical adventure.	Fantasy Adventure	***
The Field Guide (Spiderwick Chronicles #1)	Black, Holly and Tony DiTerlizzi	When the Grace children go to stay at their Great Aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures and begin to have some unusual experiences.	Fantasy	***
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing	Blume, Judy	Peter Hatcher, fourth grader, is sick and tired of his two-year-old, terror of a brother, Fudge. How can Peter get his parents to pay attention to him for a change?	Realistic Fiction Family	**
Skateboard Tough	Christopher, Matt	When Brett finds a mysterious skateboard buried in his front yard, his skateboarding abilities suddenly improve. His friends wonder—is the skateboard haunted?	Fiction Sports	***
James and the Giant Peach	Dahl, Roald	James is miserable. After his parents are killed, he is forced to live with his wicked aunts. Until a stranger gives him some magic crystals that change his life forever.	Fantasy Adventure	***
I, Amber Brown	Danzinger, Paula	Amber's parents are divorced and when her dad moves back to town, life becomes harder for Amber as she must share everything between mom and dad. Amber just wants something of her own and takes matters into her own hands.	Realistic Fiction	***
Jack Adrift: Fourth Grade Without a Clue	Gantos, Jack	Fourth-grader Jack learns there are no easy answers when his family moves to Cape Hatteras and he is faced with a crazy school year and a bizarre neighbor.	Realistic Fiction Humor	**
Just Juice	Hesse, Karen	Times are bad for Juice and her family—Pa is unemployed, food is short, Ma is having	Realistic Fiction	**

		another baby and Pa is about to lose the house because he can't read. Juice often stays home from school to work with Pa and helps to take care of Ma. This is a story about a strong, loving family who pulls it together.		
A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin	Hesse, Karen	In the 1860s, while working in her father's lighthouse on an island off the coast of Delaware, 15-year-old Amelia records in her diary how the Civil War is beginning to devastate her divided state.	Historical Nonfiction	***
Balto and the Great Race	Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody	An epidemic strikes the children of Nome, Alaska in 1925. There are no roads through the icy wilderness. The only way to get the cure is by sled – Balto, a sled dog, leads the race for life!	Nonfiction	*
Shiloh	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to be unkind to his dogs. Newbery Winner	Realistic Fiction	**
Stage Fright on a Summer Night	Osborne, Mary Pope	#25 in the Magic Tree House series has Jack and Annie traveling back in time to Elizabethan London, where they become actors in a production of A Midsummer Night's Dream and try to rescue a tame bear.	Fantasy	*

*the student who struggles or who does not like to read

**the student who likes to read and can read on his/her own without help

***the student who would like a challenge

Some annotations taken from the Barnes and Noble website: www.bn.com

Name _____

Paper Bag Book Report

Due August 16

Please return this paper with your project!



This is your first book report. You need to choose a book from the Summer Reading List and begin reading it. There is enough time to read and begin this project. Please don't procrastinate! Follow the directions below as soon as you finish your book!

1. Get a lunch-size paper bag. Please write the title and your name on the front and draw/color an illustration to go along with your book.
2. Put 4 items in the bag that can help you retell the story. Item 1 should tell about a character. Item 2 should tell about a setting. Item 3 should tell about a problem or event in the story. Item 4 should tell the solution or ending to the story. **Pictures may be drawn for 2 of these items, but not all 4.**
3. On paper, write the title, author, and then write one paragraph for each item and describe how it relates to your story. Ex. The first item in my bag in a _____. It represents the character because _____.

Be prepared to talk about your book and the items in your bag as part of your grade! You will not get to read from your paragraphs for the presentation.

Paper Bag Rubric

Content

Followed directions/completed	(20) _____
Items in the bag show relation to story	(15) _____
Paragraphs are well organized with topic sentence in each	(15) _____

Mechanics

Good sentence structure, capitalization, punctuation, spelling	(15) _____
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Presentation

Loud and clear voice with expression	(10) _____
Well prepared	(10) _____
Eye contact with audience	(10) _____

Neat illustration on bag	(5) _____
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Total Points	(100) _____
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