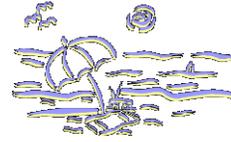




Grade 4 Summer Reading



You are required to read:

The Chocolate Touch by: Patrick Skene Catling

You will pick a chapter from this story and illustrate your favorite scene on an 8"x10.5" plain paper. Be creative and show your best work. You will also write a 4-paragraph summary of the story. Be sure to write the number of sentences required for each paragraph.

First Paragraph- Include the title, author, and the genre of the book. Also, explain what you thought this book was about before you read it. (3-5 sentences)

Second Paragraph-Describe the main character(s) in the book. The sentences should use many adjectives and vivid details. (4-6 sentences) Describe the setting of the book (time and place). (2-3 sentences)

Third Paragraph-Give a short summary of the plot. How does the story begin? What is the problem in the story? How is the problem resolved? Include information about any important events. (5-7 sentences)

Fourth Paragraph- Give your opinion of the book. It's okay if you didn't like it! Be sure to include reasons to support your opinion. (3-4 sentences)

This can be written on white lined paper or typed on the computer. This is due on the first day of school.

You are to choose one of the following fourth grade favorites:

Fourth Grade Fuss by Johanna Hurwitz

Amber Brown Goes Fourth by Paula Danziger

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Fourth Grade Rats by Jerry Spinelli

Help! Someone Get Me Out of Fourth Grade by Henry Wrinkler and Lin Oliver

Awfully Short for Fourth Grade by Elvira Woodruff

The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School by Candace Fleming

Keep Ms. Sugarman in the Fourth Grade by Elizabeth Levy

Frindle by Andrew Clements

7 x 9=Trouble by Claudia Mills

How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell

Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka

Just Juice by Karen Hesse

You will hand write a letter to the author of the book you chose. This letter will be 2 paragraphs. The first paragraph should explain why you chose that particular book. Be honest. The second paragraph should express what you liked or did not like about the story. (Use examples from the story) Each paragraph should be 4-7 sentences. Be sure to use the basic parts for a letter, heading, greeting, body, closing, and signature. This should be written in your best cursive (or manuscript if you do not know how to do cursive yet). This letter will be handed in on the first day of school. You will be graded on the required parts of the letter, sentences, spelling and grammar, and letter format. (See example)



How to Write a Friendly Letter

1. Date

August 22, 2006

2. Greeting

Dear Mr. Childers,

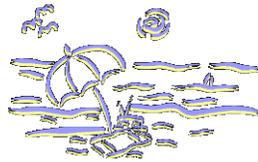
3. Body

I wanted to let you know how much I love third grade at Union Hill. We have so much fun in third grade. We get to read lots of books and take tests on the computer. We play a lot of games to help us learn about math. My favorite thing, however, about third grade is working on projects. I think third grade is the best grade ever! You should come to our class one day and be a third grader with us. I think it would be more fun than being the principal.

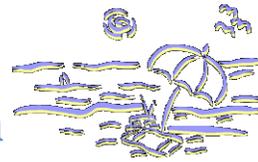
4. Closing

Your student,
Jane Doe

5. Signature



Grade 4 Summer Math



Dear Parent or Guardian,

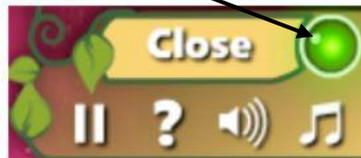
Great news! Your child will be using Reflex Math, the world's most effective (and fun!) program for helping students master their basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts for summer math.

Your child's goal for the summer is to completely fill in the "Family Pyramid" chart by the first day of school (**August 30**). This chart will fill in automatically as they learn the facts. It is very important that your child works on this website at least 3 to 4 times a week during the summer. It is also important that they work on the website until they get a solid green dot for that session. It takes approximately 15-20 minutes to get the complete green dot. (see diagram below.)

The dot starts out as solid black



The solid green dot means that your child has spent the right amount of time for that session.



If your child waits for the end of the summer to work on Reflex math they will not be able to complete the goal of filling in the "Family Pyramid". It is imperative that your child completes the chart before the start of the school year as it will be the first Math grade of the new school year. I will be checking Reflex during the summer to see how they are progressing towards their goal of filling the "Family Pyramid" and how much time they are spending on the site.

Reflex continually monitors student progress and adapts to each student's needs, so it is very important that **only your child works on their account**.

Students entering Grade 4 will need to fill in the "Family Pyramid" for addition and subtraction on or before July 16th. All students will be switched to multiplication and division through the start of the school year.

Have a wonderful summer and see you in August!

Peace,

Mrs. Primavera

lori.primavera@tca11.com



Grade 4 Supply List

PLEASE PUT NAMES ON ALL BELONGINGS



- ✓ 1 ruler with metric and standard unit (hard plastic or wooden)
- ✓ 4 standard one subject notebooks (Math, Social Studies, Science, Writing...Please label with the subject/name)
- ✓ 2 standard size pencil pouches (I highly recommend the ones that have a zipper for durability)
- ✓ 1 pair of scissors
- ✓ 2 glue sticks
- ✓ 3 sturdy folders
 - Label: "Homework" and name
 - Label: "Projects" and name
 - Label: Name only
- ✓ 8 pencils
- ✓ 1 large eraser
- ✓ 1 package of pencil erasers (the ones that go on the end of pencils)
- ✓ 10 erasable pens (blue or black only)
- ✓ 4 colored pens for correcting
- ✓ 1 highlighter
- ✓ 1 package colored pencils (these should be put into one of the pencil boxes)
- ✓ 3 Black *Expo* markers (large size)
- ✓ 300 3x5 lined index cards
- ✓ 2 containers of disinfecting wipes
- ✓ 2 boxes of tissues
- ✓ A check for \$10.00 made out to TCA for the Scholastic News Magazine. This is used as a part of the Social Studies curriculum.

Students will need to cover all textbooks and workbooks. Brown paper bags protect our books the best. Please do not use any Book Soxs for the textbooks. DO NOT use contact covers on any textbook even if implies it is easily removed. Contact paper is fine for the workbooks (Math, Simple Solutions, and Vocabulary only).

Please do not send in binders, markers, or pencil sharpeners. We have 3 pencil sharpeners in the classroom.

It is recommended that when school supplies are available during the back to school sales, that extra supplies be bought and stored. There should be a supply of erasable pens and pencils at home.

I am looking forward to a wonderful school year. See you in August!

~~~Peace,

*Mrs. Primavera*

P.S. \*Summer is a time to relax and have fun. It is also a wonderful time to read together, sharing the adventure and excitement of a new book. Parents play an important role in a child's development of a love for reading. The local libraries usually have great summer reading programs for the students with great incentives! This can be an enjoyable experience that will keep reading skills active. I encourage all students to read more than just the summer reading for school!!! (See back for article on "Preventing the Summer Slide")

# Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child –explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.

