

Entering 4th grade summer reading

1. Required summer reading:

***The Land of Roar* by Jenny McLachlan**—Students need to bring this book to class with them the first week of school. We will be discussing the book and taking a test.

2. Choose at least one book **that you have not already read** from the list below. You will complete a book report/project on this book when you return to school. You need to bring the copy of the book to class.

4th grade summer reading choice books

***Deadman's Castle* by Iain Lawrence:** For most of his life, Igor and his family have been on the run. Danger lurks around every corner—or so he's been told! When Igor was 5, his father witnessed a terrible crime, and ever since his family has been hunted by a foreboding figure bent on revenge, known only as the Lizard Man. Now Igor is 12, and he longs for a normal life. Slowly, Igor starts bending all the rules he's lived by all his life—making friends for the first time. He begins noticing strange things around him—is it his imagination?

***High Score* by Destiny Howell:** My name's Darius James, but everyone calls me DJ. At my old school, I was the go-to guy for all kinds of tricky problems that needed creative solutions. But at my new school, I am just trying to fit in. Well, I was, anyway, until my best friend Conor got himself transferred to the same school! Now Conor owes 100,000 arcade tickets to the biggest bully around—and he only has 2 weeks to make it happen! Impossible? Not with my head in the game.

***Just Right Jillian* by Nicole D. Collier:** Fifth grader Jillian will do just about anything to blend in, including staying quiet even when she has the right answer. After she loses a classroom competition because she won't speak up, she sets her mind on winning her school's biggest competition. But breaking out of her shell is easier said than done, and Jillian has only a month to keep her promise to her grandmother and prove to herself that she can speak up and show everyone her true self.

***Stella* by McCall Hoyle:** Told from Stella the dog's perspective, this story is about a special dog who must overcome her fears to help save a girl who has epilepsy.

***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein:** When Kyle Keeley learns that the world's most famous game maker, Luigi Lemoncello, has designed the town's new library and is having an invitation-only lock-in on opening night, he's determined to be there! But the tricky part isn't getting *into* the library—it's getting *out*. Because when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Kyle and the other kids must catch every clue and solve every puzzle to find the hidden escape route!

***The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer:** (series) Twins Alex and Conner Bailey are given a fairy-tale book by their grandmother. The twins fall into the book and into the very weird Land of Stories where Goldilocks is a fugitive, Red Riding Hood runs her own kingdom, and Cinderella is a queen about to become a mother! The twins try to get back home, but the Evil Queen is hot on their trail, preventing them from doing so.

****If you've read this book, you may choose another book in the series.**

***Welcome to Wonderland—Home Sweet Motel* by Chris Grabenstein:** (series) Eleven-year-old P. T. Wilkie may be the greatest storyteller alive. But he knows one thing for a fact: the Wonderland Motel is the best place a kid could ever live! All-you-can-eat poolside ice cream! A snack machine in the living room! A frog slide! A giant rampaging alligator! (Okay, that last one may or may not be made up.) There's only one thing the Wonderland doesn't have, though—customers. And if the Wonderland doesn't get them soon, P.T. and his friend Gloria may have to say goodbye to their beloved motel forever.

They need to think BIG. They need to think BOLD. They need an OUTRAGEOUS plan. Luckily for them, Gloria is a business GENIUS, and OUTRAGEOUS is practically P.T.'s middle name. With Gloria's smarts and P.T.'s world-famous stories and schemes, there's got to be a way to save the Wonderland!

***Two-Minute Drill* by Mike Lupica:** (Comeback Kids series) Chris Conlan is the coolest kid in sixth grade, the golden-armed quarterback of the football team, and the boy all the others look up to. Scott Parry is the new kid, the boy with the huge brain, but with feet that trip over themselves. These two boys may seem like an odd pair, but each has a secret that draws them together, and proves that the will to succeed is even more important than raw talent.

****You may choose another book in this series by Mike Lupica**

***Rain Reign* by Ann M. Martin:** Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms. She's thrilled that her own name is a homonym, and she purposely gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign, Rein), which, according to Rose's rules of homonyms, is very special. Not everyone understands Rose's obsessions, her rules, and the other things that make her different—not her teachers, not other kids, and not her single father.

When a storm hits their rural town, rivers overflow, the roads are flooded, and Rain goes missing. Rose's father shouldn't have let Rain out. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places to search.

***The Winning Stroke* by Matt Christopher:** When Jerry Grayson turns to the swimming pool to help heal his baseball injury, he never suspects that he will become interested in the sport of competitive swimming. To Jerry, swimming is pretty tame, until the day he catches the last part of a swim meet. After watching the quick starts, photo finishes, and powerful strokes, he finds himself wondering if there isn't more to this sport than he thought. But does he have what it takes to make a real splash?

****You may choose any other book by Matt Christopher.**

***The Birthday Buck* by Jimmy Tidmore:** A boy named Jet works to get his first deer. His journey teaches him valuable lessons about life and the outdoors.

***The Frog Princess* by E.D. Baker:** Princess Esmerelda, who dislikes her arranged marriage and the courtly life, meets a talking frog who claims to be a cursed prince. She kisses him to break the curse, but instead, she turns into a frog as well. Together, Esmerelda and the now-frog Eadric embark on an adventure to find the

witch who cursed him and reverse the spell, facing magical creatures and other challenges along the way.

***The Legend of Spud Murphy* by Eoin Colfer** Every kid in town knows about Spud Murphy. Grown-ups think she's the kindly old librarian, but kids know the truth. They've heard all about the gas-powered spud gun she keeps hidden under her desk—make so much as a sound in her library and you could get spudded with soggy potatoes. Laugh out loud and you may never be seen again . . . And now, in a major coup of parental injustice, Will and his older brother, Marty, have been ordered to spend their summer vacation in Spud's library! Will brothers Will and Marty survive a summer marooned on the carpet of Spud's children's section, under the watchful eye of this terrifying librarian? Or will they discover a new interest that surprises even them?

***The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate:** Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes.

***Sideways Stories from Wayside School* by Louis Sachar:** Accidentally built sideways and standing thirty stories high (the builder said he was very sorry for the mistake), Wayside School has some of the wackiest classes in town, especially on the thirtieth floor. That's where you'll meet Bebe, the fastest draw in art class; John, who only reads upside down; Myron, the best class president ever; and Sammy, the new kid—he's a real rat.

***Alvin Ho* by Lenore Look (series):** Alvin, an Asian American second grader, is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. He's so afraid of school that, while he's there, he never, ever, says a word. But at home, Alvin is a very loud superhero named Firecracker Man, a brother to Calvin and Anibelly, and a gentleman-in-training, just like his dad. With the help of his family, can Alvin take on the outside world without letting his fears get the best of him?

****You may choose any book in this series.**