

Summer Reading Projects:

1. Keep a reading log (title) of the books you read this summer. For each book, write a 1 paragraph summary. (Include the problem and solution only.)
2. Choose 1 of the fiction chapter books below and one project to complete:

Byars, Betsy. **Dead Letter.**

Herculeah Jones and her best friend Meat set out to crack the case of the mysterious note which she finds in the lining of a second-hand coat.

Gantos, Jack. **Heads or Tails.**

Jack's diary helps him deal with his problems which include dog-eating alligators, a terror for an older sister, a younger brother who keeps breaking parts of himself, and next-door neighbors who are really weird.

Hicks, Betty. **Goof-Off Goalie.**

Ten-year-old Goose is best at goofing off, but when he decides to become the goalie for their soccer team, his friend Henry sets up a practice schedule and enlists their other friends to help Goose improve his skills.

Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief.**

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war.

Wallace, Rich. **The Roar of the Crowd.**

After years of playing nothing but soccer in Hudson City, New Jersey, Manny has to work very hard to play on the middle school football team, using determination, speed, and smarts to make up for being small and inexperienced.

Weston, Carol. **The Diary of Melanie Martin.**

Fourth-grader Melanie Martin writes in her diary, describing her family's trip to Italy and all that she learned.

Birney, Betty. **The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs.**

Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World.

Gifford, Peggy. **Mox Maxwell does not love Stuart Little.**

Mox Maxwell spends the summer between third and fourth grade finding ways to avoid reading Stuart Little.

Nolan, Lucy. **On the Road.**

A dog who thinks her name is Down Girl goes on a car ride to the beach, goes camping in the woods, and reluctantly pays a visit to the vet with her master, Ruff.

Project Choices

A-B-C Book/Poster: Find a word, phrase, or sentence that relates to your story that begins with each letter of the alphabet. (The difficult letters, Q, Z and X can be somewhere in the word). Explain why that word, phrase or sentence is important to your story. For example, if I am reading Skinnybones, I would use the word baseball for the letter “B” because Skinnybones plays baseball throughout the story and the field plays a major role in many of the conflicts. You can either make a book or design a poster to display your alphabet.

Setting Diorama: Using the most important setting in your story, create a diorama displaying the scene. Write a paragraph explaining what role the setting plays in your story.

Diary/Journal: Pretend you are one of the characters in your book. Provide a short summary of the story. Write 3-5 diary entries as if you were the character. What would you do? What would you say? How would you act? Be creative.

Using Your Senses: You have 5 senses: (seeing, tasting, hearing, smelling, touching). Write about how those 5 senses were used in your book. Display your findings on a poster or chart. (Example: In the story Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Charlie sees the Oompa Loompas, Augustus Gloop hears the chocolate waterfall, Charlie touches the whipped cream, etc.)

Broadway Musical: You are in charge of turning your book into a Broadway musical. Create a theme song that would go along with your story.

Comprehension Jeopardy: Create a Jeopardy game using various comprehension questions that you make up dealing with your story. Make sure your easy questions are worth less points. You should have 3-4 categories with 3-4 questions in each category. Make sure you make an answer key.

Your Own Talk Show: Write an interview between you, the talk show host, and the main character in your story. Write the questions out and the answers the character would give you. You may record this, using a friend, sibling or parent as the interviewer or the character.