

# Summer Reading List

## Students Entering Grade 4

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### Favorites

**Alvin Ho Books**  
by Lenore Look

**Lowji Discovers America**  
by Candace Flemming

**Remembering Mrs. Rossi**  
by Amy Hest

**Piper Reed: Navy Brat**  
by Kimberly Holt

**Thunder Rose**  
by Jerdine Nolen

**The Comic Book Kid**  
by Adam Osterwell

**Hoop Queens**  
by Charles Smith Jr.

**Zathura**  
by Chris Van Allsburg

**Christopher Mouse: The Tale of a Small Traveler**  
by William Wise

**Jake Maddox Books**  
by Jake Maddox

Dear Parents,

Summer vacation is almost here! We hope that you make it a time to **REST, RELAX, READ**, but above all **ENJOY!**

Reading, like a sport, involves practice and skill. Real skill building occurs when children read for pleasure, when children read “just right” books

(not too easy and not too hard), and when they can explore books about topics that interest them. The more they practice with someone’s encouragement, suggestions and praise, the better and more confident readers they will become.

### Here are some tips to encourage reading:



Set aside a regular family reading and/or read aloud time.



Read to your children, even the older ones.



Recognize that your child’s own choice and interests are important ingredients toward your reading enjoyment.



Let your child see you reading for pleasure.



Don’t forget to pack a book wherever you go this summer.



Participate in activities at the local library



Learn more about children’s books, from your child’s friends, from the local library, or from the attached lists

**Turn over to the back for**

**Summer Reading Requirement for  
Entering 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Dear Soon-to-be-Fourth-Graders and Parents,

***"Summer reading is an important component of an overall reading program. Research shows that summer vacation often has a significant negative effect on student learning. Providing opportunities for students to read regularly during the summer can prevent documented reading achievement losses. The bottom line is that students who read during the summer do better in the fall."*<sup>1</sup>**

The fourth grade teachers, along with our administrators, want our students to continue to grow academically over the summer. We all believe that one component to help implement this task is a mandatory summer reading assignment. The fourth grade reading teacher has chosen different books from quality authors in a variety of genres. Your child should read one of these books over the summer and then either take the AR test for the book or complete a written assignment.

### **Mandatory Reading Book List**

• Fourth Grade Rats by Jerry Spinelli • Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume • Jake Drake, Class Clown by Andrew Clement • How To Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell • Encyclopedia Brown (#1), Boy Detective by Donald Sobol • The Fourth Grade Wizards by Barthe deClements • Any reading selection from the "Who Was?" Series • Any reading selection from the "I Survived" Series

### **AR Option**

If your child chooses to read the book during the months of June or July and would like to take the AR test, I would highly recommend that s/he takes the test very soon after completing the book. If your child chooses to read the book in August and would like to take the AR test, I would recommend waiting until later in the month because your child will have to wait to test until the first day of school. Your child must score an **80%** or better in order for the test to count. **If your child scores lower than this you must complete the written assignment or read another book from the list and take that AR test. Students new to St. Susanna in 4<sup>th</sup> grade must be sure to speak with Mrs. Terri Cunningham of Miss Nancy Thomas if they take the test during summer AR times.** We will have the computer lab open every Thursday afternoon but only on 2 Tuesday mornings. Please take note of the hours below. We will begin our summer hours on Thursday, June 7 and continue through Thursday, July 26. Hours are:

- Thursdays from 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm - 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26
- Tuesday, June 28 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm
- Tuesday, July 10 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm

### **Written Assignment**

Another option your child has in lieu of taking an AR test is to complete a chapter summary log. After **each** chapter of the book, the student needs to draw a picture of a scene from that chapter and write 2 sentences detailing what happened in that chapter. You may include more than one chapter summary on a page. **Your child should be prepared to turn in this assignment on the first day of school.**

### **Grading of Required Assignment**

Students who complete the required assignment will get an automatic 100% for this assignment in Reading. Students who do not have the required assignment completed by the **third day of school** will receive a 60% for this assignment in Reading. According to the St. Susanna grading scale, a 60% is a failing grade.

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<sup>1</sup> Read, Write, Think- Calendar Activities: June 21, 2009