

June 1, 2018

Dear Brown School Families,

Summer is just around the corner, a time for travel, relaxation, and **reading!** Children entering first through sixth grade will be asked to complete a summer reading assignment. Our teachers and school librarian have collaborated to select books and create a variety of projects that are differentiated for our students. The project should be based on a book from the suggested list. Your child's completed assignment is due to the child's teacher the first full week back to school.

We encourage students to explore different genres and authors and read at least thirty minutes a day. There will be only one assigned project, but we encourage students to select other books to read from the generated list or other appropriate books for their reading level.

Summer is an important time for students to keep reading and improve their language skills. Numerous studies indicate that students who don't read or read infrequently during their summer vacation see their reading abilities stagnate or decline. Let's make sure the only *summer slide* students go down this summer is at the playground. Take a trip to the local library, our school library, or a bookstore and make sure your child is engaged in reading this summer.

Sincerely,

Patti Vitale  
Head of Brown School

## **3rd, 4th, & 5th Suggested Book Lists for Summer Reading**

### **3rd Grade Fiction:**

*A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold  
*Adirondack Kids* by Justin and Gary Vanriper  
*Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead [Mrs. Wyngowski's Summer Reading Pick!]  
*Dory Fantasmagory* (part of a series) by Abby Hanlon  
*Hello Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly  
*Jackie and Me* by Dan Gutman  
*Juana and Lucas* by Juana Medina  
*Just Dance* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*Knights of the Kitchen Table* by Jon Scieszka  
*Legend of Spud Murphy* by Eoin Colfer  
*Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism* by Georgia Byng  
*Mountain Born* by Elizabeth Yates  
*Oh Say, I Can't See* by Jon Scieszka  
*Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume, Roy Doty (illus.)  
*The Eye of the Forest* by Philip Kerr  
*The Great Brain* by John D. Fitzgerald  
*Waylon!* by Sara Pennypacker

### **3rd Grade Nonfiction:**

*Her Right Foot* by Dave Eggers  
*How to be an Elephant: Growing up in the African Wild* by Katherine Roy  
*Fireboat: The Heroic Adventures of the John J. Harvey* by Maira Kalman  
*Shark Lady: The True Adventures of Eugenie Clark* by Ann McGovern  
*The Big Rock* by Bruce Hiscock  
*The Day-Glo Brothers* by Chris Barton  
*The Inventors of LEGO Toys* by Erin Hagar, illustration by Paige Garrison  
*The Impossibly True Story of Tricky Vic The Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower* by Greg Pizzoli  
*What Are You Figuring Now? A Story About Benjamin Banneker* by Jeri Ferris, Amy Johnson (illus.)

### **4th Grade Fiction:**

*Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead [Mrs. Wyngowski's Summer Reading Pick!]  
*Book Scavenger* by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman  
*Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate  
*The Contest: Everest #1* by Gordon Korman  
*El Deafo* by Cece Bell  
*Full of Beans* by Jennifer L. Holm  
*Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke  
*Junonia* by Kevin Henkes  
*The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies  
*Makoons* by Louise Erdrich  
*Magyk: Septimus Heap Book One* by Angie Sage  
*Moo* by Sharon Creech  
*No Talking* by Andrew Clements, illustrated by: Mark Elliott

*Pax* by Sara Pennypacker  
*The Jumbies* by Tracey Baptiste  
*The Land of Stories* (series) by Chris Colfer  
*The Quest Begins: Seekers #1* by Erin Hunter  
*Time Twisters: Abraham Lincoln Pro Wrestler* by Steve Sheinkin

**4th Grade Nonfiction:**

*The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life* by Sid Fleischman  
*Ancient Egypt (Ken Jennings' Junior Genius Guides)* by Ken Jennings, illustrated by Mike Lowery  
*Extreme Animals: The Toughest Creatures on Earth* by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Neal Layton  
*Grand Canyon* by Jason Chin  
*Knots in My Yo-Yo String* by Jerry Spinelli  
*Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales* (Any of the 7 books in the series) - by Nathan Hale  
*Natural Disasters* by Claire Watts and Trevor Day  
*What is the Declaration of Independence* by Michael C. Harris  
*Where are the Great Pyramids* by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler

**5th Grade Fiction:**

*Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan  
*A Girl Named Disaster* by Nancy Farmer  
*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle  
*Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk  
*Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead [Mrs. Wyngowski's Summer Reading Pick!]  
*Clayton Byrd Goes Underground* by Rita Williams Garcia  
*Echo* by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
*Lights, Camera, Middle School!* (Babymouse Tales from the Locker #1) By Jennifer Holm  
*Me and Marvin Gardens* by Amy Sarig King  
*Orphan Island* by Laurel Snyder  
*Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper  
*Restart* by Gordon Korman  
*Rules* by Cynthia Lord  
*The Boy Who Saved Baseball* by John H. Ritter  
*The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder  
*The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberley Brubaker Bradley  
*The War I Finally Won* by Kimberley Brubaker Bradley

**5th Grade Nonfiction:**

*Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream* by Tanya Lee. Stone  
*Anastasia's Album* by Hugh Brester  
*Black Potatoes* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti  
*Exploring the Titanic* by Robert Ballard  
*Music (Eyewitness)* by Neil Ardley  
*The Microscope* by Christine Petersen  
*The Planet Hunters* by Dennis Brindell Fradin  
*Voyager's Greatest Hits: The Epic Trek to Interstellar Space* by Alexandra Siy

## **Book Report Project Ideas for All Grades**

1. Make a diorama – showing your favorite scene from the story
2. Create a book jacket – different than the original
3. Design a t-shirt that represents a character, scene, or favorite part from the story
4. Write a “Who Am I?” riddle – create a list of 7-10 facts that describe a character
5. Create a word cloud collage – using words and phrases to describe the story
6. Make a movie poster – pretend your book is going to be made into a movie
7. Write the author a letter – explaining why you liked or disliked the book
8. Illustrate and design a comic strip
9. Recipe/ food item – cook a food featured in your book or create a recipe for a food
10. Make a hanging mobile – create your favorite scene
11. Create a timeline – include the important topics
12. Create a magazine ad for the book
13. Make a board game
14. Put together a slideshow presentation on the computer
15. Write a letter to a friend informing them why they should read the book
16. Make a bookmark illustrating your favorite chapter or character
17. Create a wordsearch – use vocabulary words in the book
18. Write a song – about a part of the story; you may use a familiar tune to create your song
19. Make a memory game – use index card with vocabulary words
20. Outline your favorite chapter
21. Brochure – create a brochure that describes a variety of story elements
22. Write a poem
23. Book Review – use a provided template or create your own to write a review of the story

\*Some project ideas may not be appropriate for all levels.

# Book Review

Title \_\_\_\_\_

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Author \_\_\_\_\_

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Genre: \_\_\_\_\_

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Summary

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Main Characters

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Setting

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Main Character (Hero) \_\_\_\_\_

Hero's Character Traits \_\_\_\_\_

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Main Character (Villain) \_\_\_\_\_

Villain's Character Traits \_\_\_\_\_

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Favorite Quote

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Theme

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A Connection I Made  
(Book, Self, or World)

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Something I Wish Could Be Different

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Why

My Favorite Part (Illustration)



Recommendation

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# Book Review

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Author \_\_\_\_\_  
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Genre: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Summary

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Main Characters

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Setting

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Main Character (Hero) \_\_\_\_\_  
Hero's Character Traits \_\_\_\_\_  
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Main Character (Villain) \_\_\_\_\_  
Villain's Character Traits \_\_\_\_\_  
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Favorite Quote

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Theme

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A Connection I Made  
(Book, Self, or World)

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Something I Wish Could Be Different

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Why

My Favorite Part (Illustration)



Recommendation

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