

# Summer Reading Activities for entering 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer reading helps children get excited about reading and attending school in the fall. It also helps to avoid loss in their reading ability. This summer we are embarking on a fun reading adventure for incoming third graders at Marrero Academy. It will be your student's job to read one of the books from the suggested fiction reading list **and** one of the books from the suggested non-fiction reading list and record what they have read on their reading log. Any books can be added to the log, not just the ones from the reading list. In addition, they will complete a fiction and a non-fiction graphic organizer for their books and one of the activities listed on the attached pages. These assignments will be due within the first week of school and will count as participation grades. The fiction book will further be used in class assignments about characters, character traits and motivations, and plot. Non-fiction books will be used to study main idea, details, and summary. These assignments will count as test grades. We look forward to seeing all of the completed assignments in the fall!

Sincerely,

Melissa Brewer and Julie Kleppner

## SUGGESTED FICTION BOOK TITLES OR SERIES

- *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies
- *The Magic Tree House Series* by Mary Pope Osborne
- *The Ramona Series* by Beverly Cleary
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *The Judy Moody Series* by Megan McDonald
- *Any Chapter Book* by Matt Christopher
- *Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith

## SUGGESTED NON-FICTION BOOK TITLES

- Bishop, Nic - *Nic Bishop Lizards*
- Buchholz, Rachel - *How to Survive Anything*
- French, Jackie - *How to Scratch a Wombat: Where to Find It ... What to Feed It ... Why It Sleeps All Day*
- Jenkins, Steve - *Never Smile at a Monkey: And 17 Other Important Things to Remember*
- Krull, Kathleen - *Jim Henson: The Guy Who Played with Puppets*
- Markle, Sandra - *Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories*
- McCully, Emily Arnold. - *Wonder Horse: The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse*
- Rappaport, Doreen - *Eleanor, Quiet No More: The Life of Eleanor Roosevelt*
- Moss, Marissa - *Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, a Civil War Hero*
- Peot, Margaret - *Inkblot: Drip, Splat, and Squish Your Way to Creativity*
- Tavares, Matt - *Henry Aaron's Dream*
- Taylor, Sarah Stewart - *Amelia Earhart: This Broad Ocean*

**Graphic Organizer - FICTION  
COMPREHENSIVE QUESTIONS**

**Title of the Story:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Identify genre.** What is the genre of the novel? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Identify Sequence:** What happened at the end?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Infer Character Traits:** Name one character in the story  
\_\_\_\_\_

From what you have read, what is one trait you think that character has?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Give evidence:** Explain why you think the character has that character trait.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Identify Action:** What is something the character does?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Infer Motive:** Why do you think the character does that action—what is the reason?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Summarize** the story. Write your summary on these lines.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Infer the main idea:** What is the main idea of the novel?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Why do you think this is the main idea?**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Exceed:** Write about what you read. Explain what lesson people can learn from reading this story. Use examples from the story and your own experiences.

**Graphic Organizer - NON-FICTION  
COMPREHENSIVE QUESTIONS**

**1. What is the topic?** \_\_\_\_\_

*The topic is not the title.* What is the topic the passage explains?

**2. Infer the main idea of a paragraph:** What is the main idea of the first paragraph?

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Infer the purpose:** What is the purpose of the passage? Why did the writer write it?

\_\_\_\_\_

*Explain: How do you know that is the purpose?*

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Classify Fact and Opinion:** What is an opinion in the passage?

\_\_\_\_\_

*Explain: How do you know it is an opinion?*

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Infer the main idea of a passage.** What is the main idea of the whole passage?

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Write a summary.** Tell what is most important.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Exceed:** Explain why reading non-fiction is important. Use examples from this passage. Tell the kinds of skills you need to use.



Directions: Choose one activity to complete with the fiction book you read this summer.

**Write a new ending to your story.** This new ending should be at least one page in length.

*Write a new chapter.* What happens in the next chapter? This new chapter should be at least one page in length.

## Activities

**Write a comic book** that tells about your favorite part of the books. The comic strip should have a minimum of six scenes or sections. Include comic-style illustrations in either black and white or color. Include dialogue bubbles too.

**Write a song** that tells about your story. You may sing your song with or without music. This song can be pop, country, rap – the choice is yours! Be prepared to perform this for the class or have someone video your performance and bring the DVD for us to enjoy!