

# 4th Grade Summer Reading

Dear Parents,

Another school year is ending, and the long summer days lie ahead. Even though leisure activities start taking precedence over academic endeavors, we encourage you to keep reading high on your child's list of summer activities. Readers are indeed leaders. Like other skills your children are learning, such as how to hit a baseball or play the piano, reading needs to be practiced daily to maintain and strengthen skills.

An extensive body of research tells us that academic achievement is directly related to how much time children spend reading outside of school; a large part is because reading builds vocabulary and background knowledge. Educators are concerned about summer reading loss or "summer slide" when children don't read over the summer. It may take a month or two for students who did not read over the summer months to get back to the level at which they were reading at the end of the previous year. While missing out on reading for one or two months may not seem like much, the effect can be very detrimental when it happens year after year.

The fourth-grade team has come up with great fiction authors for students to enjoy this summer. We want students to read one fiction and one non-fiction chapter book this summer. Then, when students advance to 4th grade this August, they will do a project on their reading choices during the first week of school. The project will be counted as an assessment grade. Finally, to get to know our students, we ask them to write a detailed letter introducing themselves to their teacher, so we can get to know their unique qualities. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Mrs. Chenault ([echenault@dhca.org](mailto:echenault@dhca.org)).

Kind Regards,

4th Grade DHCA Team



## 4th Grade Summer Reading & Letter of Introduction

You must read one fiction and one non-fiction chapter book:

You may choose any fiction chapter book from these authors:

- Kate DiCamillo
- Andrew Clements
- Judy Blume

You may choose from these nonfiction options:

- "The Watson's go to Birmingham" (Christopher Paul Curtis)
- "I Survived" series
- "Who Was" series
- Choose a non-fiction chapter book of your choice

### Introduce Yourself

Reading and writing go hand-in-hand! Please write a detailed letter introducing yourself to your future 4th grade teacher. We cannot wait to read all the unique things that make up YOU!