

3rd Grade SUMMER READING: 2026



SELECTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING THIRD GRADE

You are asked to complete a “book float” for your summer reading activity. Here are some suggestions, but you may choose something to read that is not on this list. Students **should also choose an additional book from a different genre to read for pleasure**.

If you like **funny** books, you'll enjoy a book from one of these series:

- Big Nate (series) by Lincoln Pierce
- The Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja (series) by Marcus Emerson
- The Terrible Two (series) by Mac Barnett and Jory John
- Lunch Lady (series) by Jarrett J. Krosoczka

If you like **friendship** stories, you'll enjoy:

- Never Girls (series)
- The Year of ... (series) by Andrea Cheng
- Almost Home by Joan Bauer
- Jessica Finch in Pig Trouble (series) by Megan McDonald

If you like **adventure and mystery** books, you'll enjoy:

- I Survived (series) by Lauren Tarshis
- Secret Agent Jack Stalwart (series) by Elizabeth Singer Hunt
- The Haunted Library (series) by Dori Hillstad Butler
- The Great Shelby Holmes by Elizabeth Eulberg
- The 39 Clues (series) by a collaboration of authors

If you like **animal** books, you'll enjoy:

- The Critter Club (series) by Callie Barkley and Marsha Riti
- The Rescue Princesses (series) by Paula Harrison
- Rainbow Street Shelter (series) by Wendy Orr
- Puppy Place (series) by Ellen Miles

If you like **fantasy** books, you'll enjoy:

- The Familiars (series) by Adam Jay Epstein and Andrew Jacobson
- The Olympians (series) by George O'Connor
- Whatever After (series) by Sarah Mylnowski
- Spiderwick Chronicles (series) by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi

Assignment

Students will design a "book float" for their chosen book. They will decorate the shoe box to go with the book, and it will be like a float in a parade.

Please be sure to follow all guidelines, as they will be used to assess an overall grade for the project. A scoring guideline form, which the teacher will use to calculate your child's grade for the assignment, is on the reverse. Please note this project will count as a Writing and Grammar project grade for the first quarter.

***Project Due Date: The Friday of the first week of school!!**

Half a letter grade will be deducted from the overall grade for each day it is late

Materials:

- empty shoe box
- construction paper or gift wrap paper
- scissors
- crayons
- pencil
- paper
- miscellaneous natural materials (rocks, sand, leaf clippings, etc... as needed)
- other miscellaneous materials (craft sticks, etc... as needed)

Procedure:

Each student is asked to decorate an upside down shoe box to correspond with a scene from the book or the book's general theme (planets, pioneers, biography, horses, etc.) The students need to visualize this as a "float" in a parade—a book parade. Each project will be graded according to the following instructions and requirements:

1. All advertisements on the shoe box should be covered.
2. The title of the book should be neatly displayed on the front/long side of the "float". This title should be written in correct form with the proper words capitalized and the whole title underlined (for example: Little House on the Prairie). The author's name should also be written after the title.
3. A neat and brief summary of the book should be on the right end side of the "float." Paragraph should have a first/topic sentence introducing the book characters and setting. The 3 detail sentences should include the beginning, middle, and end of the story (can be more than 3 sentences). The last/conclusion sentence should be an opinion telling if you liked the book and why or why not.
4. The student's name should be written neatly on the left end side of the "float."
5. Natural materials or student-made decorations should be used to build the scene on top of the shoe box. Purchased materials should be used sparingly.
6. Although we encourage parent involvement, we would like to see as much of this project done by the student. Thank you!

Scoring Guideline:

Name: _____ Grade: _____

	As Expected 5-4	Mostly Completed 3-2	Not Attempted 1-0
Passed In (On Time) Late (_____)			
1. Box Is Covered			
2. Title and Author are Clear			
3. 5 Sentence Summary			
1 st Sentence - Topic Sentence			
3 Sentence Body - Details			
Last Sentence- Opinion / Conclusion			
4. Child's Name			
5. Natural/Made Materials			
6. Child's Work			

Total Points: _____

(The following projects are just examples.)

