

Somerville Public Schools

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CAROLYN ROSENBERG, Ed.D.

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology

June 1, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Enclosed is your child's summer reading assignment. The goal of the district's Summer Reading Program is to "develop a love of reading by promoting reading as an enjoyable experience." This year, Summer Reading Friday is on September 18, 2009 and celebrates the summer reading assignment in your child's class.

Please encourage reading during the summer. You are invited to share in the joy and pleasure of reading with your child.

This summer and fall, Somerville High School is participating in a *One Book, One Community* program, which occurs every four years. We invite faculty, families, friends, and community members to participate in this shared literacy experience by reading *Rocket Boys* by Homer H. Hickam, Jr. Your child's summer reading assignment and information about *One Book, One Community* activities and events are available on the district website: www.somervillenk12.org.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Rosenberg, Ed.D.

Read, relax, and enjoy your summer!

Attachments

c: Susan Haynes, Principal of Van Derveer Elementary School



Van Derveer School 2009 Summer Reading – Grade 5

The required summer reading for all students entering grade 5 is to select a person you are interested in learning more about and read a biography about that person.

Each fifth grade student must read at least two books: the required biography about a person he/she is interested in learning more about and a book of his/her choice.

Suggestions for the second book are listed below.

Suggested Additional Readings:

- ✓ *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw* by Jeff Kinney
- ✓ *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl
- ✓ *Lost and Found* by Andrew Clements
- ✓ *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- ✓ *Mickey and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure* by Dan Gutman
- ✓ *Rules* by Cynthia Lord
- ✓ *The Girl's Revenge* by Phyllis Naylor
- ✓ *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- ✓ *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis
- ✓ *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo
- ✓ A book of your choice focused on an area of personal interest (such as sports, careers, hobbies)

Other suggestions for more challenging readings: (Optional)

- *Growing up in Coal Country* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
- *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
- *My Teacher is an Alien* by Bruce Coville
- *The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey* by Trenton Stewart
- *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo
- *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin
- *Warriors* by Erin Hunter

Complete the attached form and bring it to school on Summer Reading Friday, September 18, 2009.

Visit the district website to download summer reading activities at: www.somervillenk12.org

Read, relax, and enjoy your summer!



Name: _____

Entering: 5th Grade

Summer Reading Summary

Parents/Guardians: Please encourage your child to read as much of this book as he/she can.
You are welcome to read this book along with your child to share in the joy and pleasure of reading.

Select a person you are interested in learning more about and read a biography about that person.

Title:

Author:

Setting(s): Time/Place

List the character traits of the person featured in your biography.

How did the time during which the character lived influence his or her contributions to society?

The second book I read was:

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

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