Grades 4-5 Summer Reading Assignment 2019-2020
English Language Arts Department
Broad Street School

June 2019

Dear Broad Street Students and Parents,

Our students have been working hard all year to grow as readers and writers; and summer is a great time to continue reading to maintain the literacy skills gained throughout the year. Many studies have shown that students tend to experience the “summer slide,” a slow-down in reading abilities, accuracy, vocabulary, and focus. In addition, studies have also shown that when kids read over the summer, they are more likely to leap ahead when they return to school, often called the “summer leap.” Our school has made it a priority to keep our students’ skills sharp by encouraging them to read over the summer. Our goal is to minimize “summer slide” and maximize summer gain.

This summer, all incoming 4th and 5th graders will be required to read a book and complete a character analysis assignment. Your responsibility is to select and read one book from your grade level list and complete the attached graphic organizer. This graphic organizer will count as a quiz grade and is due on the first day of school. This is a mandatory assignment for all 4th and 5th grade students. During the first week of classes, you will be asked to write an essay on the main character in your chosen novel. The graphic organizer (attached) will help you with this so you can write a successful essay in September.

Our goal for all students is to help them master the strategies that are critical to their success in school and beyond. By maintaining an active literacy life over the summer, students can ensure the best start to the school year.

If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment, please contact:

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4th grade ELA
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Please find your grade level below and choose one book to read. Some novels are available at school, and others you can purchase or borrow from the public library. **All students were provided with a school novel**; however, you may choose to purchase one of the other book options. **You must return the school novel on the first day of school.**

**5th Grade Book List (CHOOSE ONE)**

- **Running Out of Time** by Margaret Peterson Haddix (available at school)
  Jessie lives with her family in the frontier village of Clifton, Indiana, in 1840—or so she believes. When diphtheria strikes the village and the children of Clifton start dying, Jessie’s mother reveals a shocking secret—it’s actually 1996, and they are living in a reconstructed village that serves as a tourist site. In the world outside, medicine exists that can cure the dreaded disease, and Jessie’s mother is sending her on a dangerous mission to bring back help.
  But beyond the walls of Clifton, Jessie discovers a world even more alien and threatening than she could have imagined, and soon she finds her own life in jeopardy. Can she get help before the children of Clifton, and Jessie herself, run out of time?

- **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key** by Jack Gantos (available at school)
  Joey Pigza can’t sit still. He can’t pay attention, he can’t follow the rules, and he can’t help it—especially when his meds aren’t working. Joey’s had problems ever since he was born, problems just like his dad and grandma have. And whether he’s wreaking havoc on a class trip or swallowing his house key, Joey’s problems are getting worse. In fact, his behavior is so off the wall that his teachers are threatening to send him to the special-ed center downtown.
  Joey knows he’s really a good kid, but no matter how hard he tries to do the right thing, something always seems to go wrong. Will he ever get anything right?

- **The Lemonade War** by Jacqueline Davies (available at school)
  Fourth-grader Evan Treski is people-smart. He’s good at talking with people, even grownups. His younger sister, Jessie, on the other hand, is math-smart, but not especially good with people. So when the siblings’ lemonade stand war begins, there really is no telling who will win; or even if their fight will ever end.
  Brimming with savvy marketing tips for making money at any business, definitions of business terms, charts, diagrams, and even math problems, this fresh, funny, emotionally charged novel subtly explores how arguments can escalate beyond anyone’s intent.

- **The Landry News** by Andrew Clements (available at school)
  NEW STUDENT GETS OLD TEACHER: The bad news is that Cara Landry is the new kid at Denton Elementary School. The worse news is that her teacher, Mr. Larson, would rather read the paper and drink coffee than teach his students anything. So Cara decides to give Mr. Larson something else to read—her own newspaper, The Landry News.
  Before she knows it, the whole fifth-grade class is in on the project. But then the principal finds a copy of The Landry News, with unexpected results. Tomorrow’s headline: Will Cara’s newspaper cost Mr. Larson his job?

- **Me, Mop, and the Moondance Kid** by Walter Dean Myers (available at school)
  T.J., his younger brother, Moondance, and Mop—Miss Olivia Parrish—grew up together in the same orphanage. Now T.J. and Moondance have been adopted, and Mop has to find a family before the orphanage closes and “leftover” kids are sent away. Mop hopes that if she can play catcher for the Elks, the Little League baseball team that her friends have joined, the coach will be so impressed that he and his wife will adopt her. It’s going to take a lot of teamwork for her, T.J, and little Moondance to make their dreams come true!
Please find your grade level below and choose one book to read. Some novels are available at school, and others you can purchase or borrow from the public library. All students were provided with a school novel; however, you may choose to purchase one of the other book options. You must return the school novel on the first day of school.

4th Grade Book List (CHOOSE ONE)

- Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary (available at school)
  After his parents separate, Leigh Botts moves to a new town with his mother. Struggling to make friends and deal with his anger toward his absent father, Leigh loses himself in a class assignment in which he must write to his favorite author. When Mr. Henshaw responds, the two form an unexpected friendship that will change Leigh’s life forever.

- The Dollhouse Murders by Betty Ren Wright (available at school)
  Amy is terrified. She hears scratching and scurrying noises coming from the dollhouse, and the dolls she was playing with are not where she left them. Dolls can’t move by themselves, she tells herself. But every night when Amy goes into the attic to check on the dollhouse, it is filled with an eerie light and the dolls have moved again! Are the dolls trying to tell her something? Are their movements connected to grisly murders of her own great-grandparents?

- A Snicker of Magic by Natalie Lloyd (available at school)
  Felicity is tired of wandering from place to place. Making friends when you’re the new girl can be harder than fractions. But when the family’s dusty green van rolls into Midnight Gulch, Felicity feels her luck begin to change. For the first time in her eleven years, she’s found a place where she can grow some good memories… and maybe even make a new friend. That’s because Midnight Gulch used to be magical—until a curse drove the magic away. At least, that’s what most people think. Felicity can tell there’s still a snicker of magic in Midnight Gulch. It hasn’t disappeared; it’s just been playing hide-and-seek for a very long time. All she has to do is find the right words to turn it loose.

- Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo (must be purchased)
  One summer’s day, ten-year-old India Opal Buloni goes down to the local supermarket for some groceries — and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog. It’s because of Winn-Dixie that Opal begins to make friends. And it’s because of Winn-Dixie that she finally dares to ask her father about her mother, who left when Opal was three. In fact, as Opal admits, just about everything that happens that summer is because of Winn-Dixie.
Broad Street School Summer Reading Assignment

Character Analysis Graphic Organizer

DIRECTIONS: As you read your summer reading book, think about the traits that describe the main character. Use the graphic organizer to list THREE traits and write down evidence (quote with page number) and an explanation to support each trait. One piece of evidence and explanation is required for each of your three traits, but you may include a second piece of evidence and explanation for each trait.

Book Title:

Main Character:

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<th>Trait:</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
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<td>EXAMPLE: Example Trait: Greedy</td>
<td>“Half price for children under six weeks old!” Aunt Sponge shouted. (Page 21)</td>
<td>This shows that Aunt Sponge is greedy because she is charging parents money for their babies, too. These babies under six weeks old don’t understand what they are seeing and won’t remember it, so they shouldn’t be charged money at all.</td>
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