

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are sending home this summer reading packet so that you can best support your child's robust reading life over the summer.

- A child's independent reading level is typically **independent O** at the end of the third grade school year. A child should **enter fourth grade reading on independent O or higher**.
- A child should read **20 minutes each day and 40 minutes 1 day per week or more over the summer** and throughout their fourth grade year.
- Your child should read this many books on their level per week over the summer. This is based on your child's end of 3rd grade **independent reading level**:

If my level is...	Then I should read about _____ books per week.	What types of books are on this level?	Example Books
J, K	8-10 books on or around level J, K	harder early reader books	<i>Nate the Great</i>
L, M	4-6 books on or around level L, M	easy chapter books	<i>Freckle Juice</i>
N, O, P, Q	2-4 books on or around level N,O,P,Q	medium chapter books	Lower end: <i>Amber Brown</i> Higher end: <i>Fudge-a-Mania</i>
R, S, T	1-3 books on or around level R,S,T	challenging chapter books	Lower end: <i>Because of Winn Dixie</i> Higher end: <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>
U, V, W	1-3 books on or around level U, V, W	complex chapter books	Lower end: <i>Loser</i> Higher end: <i>Walk Two Moons</i>

- To find a book on your child's reading level, please go to the Book Wizard site:
 - <http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>
 - Please choose the "Guided Reading" reading level
- If your child is a reluctant reader:
 - Have them go to an online reading site such as RAZ Kids or *Epic*
 - Try out magazines, kid-friendly newspapers, stat reports or news updates from a sport they enjoy, graphic novels, comics, or other types of print that they like
 - Read to them, act it out, make it exciting!

Entering 4th Grade Summer Reading Goals

Name: _____ 3rd Grade Teacher: _____

Directions:

1. Record your summer reading goals below.
2. Over the summer, record evidence of achieving your goals.
3. **Bring this paper and your favorite summer reading book to the first day of school; you will create a project about it in class.**

Goals	Evidence	Date Achieved
<p><i>Examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>I want to read 10 books this summer</i>• <i>I want to read 2 nonfiction books and 2 fantasy books in addition to realistic fiction</i>• <i>I want to create strong post-its with evidence</i>• <i>I want to use a notebook to jot my thinking</i>• <i>I will read for 20 minutes a day in July and 30 minutes a day in August</i>	<p><i>Examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Titles of books read</i>• <i>Title of book with best post-its</i>• <i>Example of best post-it with title, page number, and date</i>	
1.		

Goals	Evidence	Date Achieved
2.		
3.		

Reminder: Bring this paper and your favorite summer reading book to the first day of school; you will create a project about it in class.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

The list of fiction books below is **a small sample** of the books written within each band of levels. For additional assistance in finding the guided reading level of a book, visit www.scholastic.com/bookwizard.

Levels F-G:

The stories in these levels have a clear beginning, middle and end and more episodes. The content is familiar but the experiences extend beyond the home. There are some new formats such as letters, questions/answers. The sentences become longer with clauses, phrases and adjectives. Sentences may have long dialogue statements that are often split by containing the speaker identification in the middle of the statement made by the speaker. There are more multisyllabic words and words with irregular spelling. Decoding strategies: Read across the word part by part; look for a part you know; do you know a word that looks like that? (if you know dad, you know glad)

*Biscuit (series) by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
The Carrot Seed by Krauss
Cookie's Week by Cindy Ward, Tomie dePaola
Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell
Don't You Feel Well, Sam? (series) by Amy Hest
Eloise (series) by Kay Thompson
Hooray for Snail by John Stadler
Itch, Itchy Chicken Pox by Grace MacCarone
Just Like Daddy by Frank Asch*

*A New House for Mole and Mouse by Harriet Ziefert
Nicky Upstairs and Down by Harriet Ziefert
Oh, David (series) by David Shannon
Pup and Hound series by Susan Hood
Puppy Mudge by Cynthia Rylant
Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins
Titch by Pat Hutchins
Zoo Looking by Mem Fox*

Levels H-I

The stories at these levels have episodes which are elaborated and are less repetitive and often occur over time. Many compound sentences are used and there is an introduction of subject specific vocabulary. There is a wider range of sight words and the spelling patterns become more complex. This is the area when easy, illustrated chapter books begin. Decoding strategies: all of the previous plus try all the sounds that the letter(s) can make (ie. long/short vowel sounds;hard/soft g)

*A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni
Danny and the Dinosaur by Syd Hoff
Dragon (series) by Dav Pilkey
Father Bear Comes Home by Pat Minarik
Fly Guy by Ted Arnold
Good Night Owl! By Hutchins
Happy Birthday, Sam by Hutchins
Hiccups for Elephant James Preller
I Like Me by Carlson
How to Lose All Your Friends by Carlson
Hattie and the Fox Mem Fox
Captain Cat Syd Hoff
There's a Nightmare in My Closet by Mercer Mayer
We Are Best Friends by Aliki*

*A Kiss for Little Bear by Minarik
Leo the Late Bloomer by Kraus
Messy Bessy by McKissack
Mrs. McNosh Hangs Up Her Wash by Sarah Weeks
Noisy Nora by Rosemary Wells
Timothy Goes to School by Rosemary Wells
Baa-Choo! by Sarah Weeks
Pig in the Pond by Martin Waddell
Sammy the Seal by Syd Hoff
Mrs. Brice's Mice by Syd Hoff
Tidy Titch by Pat Hutchins
The Teeny-Tiny Woman Ziefert
Where Are you Going Little Mouse? By. Kraus
Whose Mouse Are You? By Kraus
You Can Swim, Baby Duck Hest*

Levels J – K

These stories are typically beginning chapter books with short chapters with episodes occurring over time. There is little repetition. Some figurative language (simile, metaphor) is introduced. The setting becomes important to understand the plot of the story. Picture support is decreased; there are more pages of print without pictures. Words with multiple syllables provide a challenge for decoding. Decoding strategies: Readers need to be flexible by trying all the strategies they know.

*Andy Shane (series) by Abby Carter
Arthur (series) by Lillian Hoban
A Bargain for Frances by Russell Hoban
Bear (series) by Frank Asch
Benny and Penny (graphic series) by Geoffrey Hayes
Chester by Melanie Watt
Chester's Back by Melanie Watt
Chester's Masterpiece by Melanie Watt
Clifford (series) by Norman Bridwell
Commander Toad (series) by Jane Yolen
Curious George (series) by Margret & H.A. Rey
D.W. (series) by Marc Brown
Fancy Nancy (series) by Jane O'Connor
Fox (series) by Edward Marshal
Franklin (series) by Sharon Jennings
Frog and Toad (series) by Arnold Lobel
Froggy (series) by Jonathan London
Henry and Mudge (series) by Cynthia Rylant
Harry the Dirty Dog (series) by Gene Zion*

*High-Rise Private Eyes (series) by Cynthia Rylant
Houndsley and Catina (series) by James Howe
Iris and Walter (series) by Elissa Haden Guest
Jimmy's Boa (series) by Trinka Hakes Noble
Little Bear (series) by Else Holmelund Minarik
Lovable Lyle by Bernard Waber
Henry and Mudge (series) by Cynthia Rylant
Meet M & M (series) by Pat Ross
Mercy Watson (series) by Kate DiCamillo
Morris the Moose Goes to School by Bernard Wiseman
Mr. Putter and Tabby (series) by Cynthia Rylant
Minnie & Moo (series) by Denys Cazet
Nate the Great (series) by Sharmat
Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin
Poppleton (series) by Mark Teague
Ruby the Copycat by Peggy Rathmann
Watch Out, Ronald Morgan! By Patricia Reilly Giff
Young Cam Jansen (series) by David Adler*

Levels L –M

These stories include character series and chapter books with fewer illustrations and more sophisticated language structure. The longer stories and chapters are more involved and take place over longer periods of time. The vocabulary is detailed and descriptive and the plots become more complex. Punctuation becomes varied (i.e. italics, ellipses)

*Amelia Bedelia (series) by Peggy Parish
Arthur Chapter Books (series) by Marc Brown
Bailey School Kids (series) by Debbie Dadey
Bink and Gollie (series) by Kate DiCamillo
Cam Jansen (series) by David Adler
George and Martha (series) by James Marshall
Horrible Harry (series) by Suzy Kline
Jenny Archer (series) by Ellen Conford
Judy Moody (series) by Megan McDonald
Junie B. Jones (series) by Barbara Park
Katie Kazoo (series) by Nancy Krulik
The Kids of the Polk Street School (series) by Patricia Reilly Giff
Magic Tree House (series) by Mary Pope Osborne
Marvin Redpost (series) by Louis Sachar*

*Madeline (series) by Ludwig Bemelmans
The Littles (series) by John Peterson
Magic Tree House (series) by Mary Pope Osborne
Matt Christopher sports by Matt Christopher
Minnie and Moo (series) by Denys Cazet
Miss Nelson is Missing by James Marshall
My Weird School (series) by Dan Gutman
Pee Wee Scouts (series) by Judy Delton
Pinky and Rex (series) by James Howe
Ready Freddy! (series) by Abby Klein
Ricky Ricotta (series) by Dav Pilkey
Riverside Kids (series) by Johanna Hurwitz
Sophie (series) by Lara Bergen
Stink (series) by Megan McDonald
Tales of Amanda Pig by Jean Van Leeuwen*

Levels N- O

<p><i>These stories become more complex and are about more sophisticated themes. The longer chapters present a variety of problems that go beyond personal experiences. The themes require interpretation. There is use of literary devices such as irony and suspense. The vocabulary continues to expand and increases in difficulty.</i></p>	
<p>A-Z Mysteries (series) by Ron Roy <i>The Adventures of Ali Baba Bernstein</i> Johanna Hurwitz <i>All Star Sport Stories</i> by Fred Bowen <i>Amber Brown</i> (series) by Paula Danziger <i>Babymouse</i> (series) by Jennifer and Matt Holm-graphic novel <i>Backyard Sports</i> (series) by Michael Teitelbaum <i>Boxcar Children</i> (series) by Gertrude Warner <i>Catwings Adventures</i> (series) by Ursula Leguin <i>Chocolate Fever</i> by Kimmel-Smith <i>Class Clown</i> by Hurwitz <i>Doyle & Fossey Science Detectives</i> (series) by Michelle Torrey <i>Dragon Slayers' Academy</i> by Kate McMullin <i>Franny K. Stein</i> (series) by Jim Benton <i>Otis Spofford</i> by Beverly Cleary <i>Ramona</i> (series) by Beverly Cleary <i>Ribsy</i> by Beverly Cleary <i>Ruby Lu, Brave and True</i> (series) by Lenore Look <i>Socks</i> by Beverly Cleary <i>Secrets of Droon</i> (series) by Tony Abbott <i>Tales from the House of Bunnacula</i> (series) by James Howe</p>	<p><i>Flat Stanley</i> (series) by Jeff Brown <i>Hank Zipzer</i> (series) by Henry Winkler <i>Geronimo Stilton</i> (series) by Geronimo Stilton <i>Gooney Gird Greene</i> (series) by Lois Lowry <i>Herbie Jones</i> (series) by Suzy Klein <i>Here Comes McBroom</i> by Sid Fleischman <i>Julian/Huey stories</i> (series) by Ann Cameron <i>Jake Drake</i> (series) by Andrew Clements <i>The Magic Finger</i> by Roald Dahl <i>Mallory</i> (series) by Laurie Friedman <i>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</i> by Beverly Cleary <i>Meg Mackintosh</i> (series) by Lucinda Landon <i>Melvin Beederman, Superhero</i> (series) by Greg <i>Trine</i> (graphic novel) <i>The Night Crossing</i> by Karen Ackerman <i>My Weird School Daze</i> (series) by Dan Gutman <i>Pony Pals</i> (series) by Jeanne Betancourt <i>Pippi Longstocking</i> by Lindgren <i>The Zach Files</i> (series) by Dan Greenburg <i>Utterly Me, Clarice Bean</i> (series) by Lauren Child <i>Weird Planet</i> (series) by Dan Greenburg</p>

Levels P-Q-R

<p><i>These longer stories require the reader to sustain interest and meaning over time. They contain complex themes and are written using sophisticated vocabulary which is not clearly defined for the reader. The sentence structures become longer and more complex. The topics go beyond personal experiences and require the reader to take on perspectives.</i></p>	
<p><i>Abby Hayes</i> (series) by Anne Mazor <i>Aliens Ate My Homework</i> by Bruce Coville <i>American Girl</i> (series) <i>Anastasia Krupnik</i> by Lois Lowry <i>Animal Ark</i> (series) by Ben Baglio <i>Battle for the Castle</i> by Winthrop <i>Because of Winn Dixie</i> by Kate DiCamillo <i>Big Nate</i> (series) by Lincoln Peirce <i>Bunnacula</i> (series) by James Howe <i>Chet Gecko Mysteries</i> (series) by Bruce Hale <i>The Celery Stalks at Midnight</i> by James Howe <i>Clarice Bean Spells Trouble</i> by Lauren Child <i>Danger on Panther Peak</i> by Bill Wallace <i>Dear Mr. Henshaw</i> by Beverly Cleary <i>Deltora Quest</i> (series) by Emily Rodda <i>Marvin Redpost</i> (series) by Louis Sachar <i>Madeline</i> (series) by Ludwig Bemelmans</p>	<p><i>Fudge</i> series by Judy Blume <i>Help, I'm Trapped</i> (series) by Eth Clifford <i>Howliday Inn</i> by James Howe <i>Gooseberry Park</i> by Cynthia Rylant <i>Humphrey</i> (series) by Betty Birney <i>James and the Giant Peach</i> by Roald Dahl <i>Jake Maddox</i> (series) (sports) <i>Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher</i> by Bruce Coville <i>Joshua T. Bates</i> (series) by Susan Shreve <i>Just Juice</i> by Karen Hesse <i>The Library Card</i> by Jerry Spinelli <i>A Lion to Guard Us</i> by Clyde Bulla <i>Lunch Money</i> by Andrew Clements <i>Mystery of the Cupboard</i> by Emily Rodda <i>No Talking</i> by Andrew Clements <i>Pigs Might Fly</i> by Dick King-Smith</p>

<p><i>Dragon Slayers' Academy</i> (series) by Kate McMullen</p> <p><i>Encyclopedia Brown</i> (series) by Donald Sobol</p> <p><i>Family Under the Bridge</i> by Natalie Carlson</p> <p><i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i> by Roald Dahl</p> <p><i>Frindle</i> by Andrew Clements</p> <p><i>Fig Pudding</i> by Ralph Fletcher</p> <p><i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen</p> <p><i>Horse Stories</i> (series) by Marguerite Henry</p> <p><i>Time Warp Trio</i> (series) by Scieszka</p> <p><i>Thank You, Jackie Robinson</i> by Barbara Cohen</p>	<p><i>On the Run and Kidnapped</i> (series) by Gordon Korman</p> <p><i>Sideways Stories from Wayside School</i> (series) by Louis Sachar</p> <p><i>Skinnybones</i> by Parks</p> <p><i>Spiderwick Chronicles</i> (series) by Holly Black</p> <p><i>Spider Boy</i> by Ralph Fletcher</p> <p><i>Strider</i> by Beverly Cleary</p> <p><i>Stuart Little</i> by E.B. White</p> <p><i>The Homework Machine</i> by Dan Gutman</p> <p><i>The Report Card</i> by Andrew Clements</p> <p><i>The TV Kid</i> by Betsy Byars</p> <p><i>They Came From Center Field</i> by Dan Gutman</p>
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Levels S-T-U

The books at these levels cover a wide variety of genres, including historical fiction. The settings may be unfamiliar to the reader. The characters become more complex often with multiple dimensions. Characters are often developed through symbolism. The plots and subplots develop themes including those of coming of age. Readers should be able to make connections with previously read texts and historical events.

<p><i>Charlie Bones</i> (series) by Jenn Nummo</p> <p><i>The BFG</i> by Roald Dahl</p> <p><i>The City of Ember</i> (series) by Jeanne DuPrau</p> <p><i>The Sisters Grimm</i> (series) by Michael Buckley</p> <p><i>Donuthead</i> by Sue Staffacher</p> <p><i>Dragons of Deltora</i> (series) Emily Rodda</p> <p><i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians</i> (series) by Rick Riordan</p> <p><i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i> (series) by Jeff Kinney</p> <p><i>Chronicles of Narnia</i> (series) by C.S. Lewis</p> <p><i>Ida B. and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World</i> by Katherine Hannigan</p> <p><i>Inkspell</i> by Cornelia Funk</p> <p><i>Emily Windsnap</i> (series) by Liz Kessler</p> <p><i>Flying Solo</i> by Ralph Fletcher</p> <p><i>Herculeah Jones Mysteries</i> (series) by Betsy Byars</p> <p><i>Hot Hand</i> by Mike Lupicia</p> <p><i>Kira Kira</i> by Cynthia Kadohata</p> <p><i>The Bell Bandit</i> by Jacqueline Davies</p> <p><i>The Lemonade Crime</i> by Jacqueline Davies</p> <p><i>The Lemonade War</i> by Jacqueline Davies</p> <p><i>The Magician's Elephant</i> by Kate DiCamillo</p> <p><i>My Teacher is an Alien</i> (series) by Bruce Coville</p>	<p><i>The Ranger's Apprentice</i> (series) by John Flanagan</p> <p>Matt Christopher sports (series)</p> <p>Million Dollar Sports (series) by Dan Gutman</p> <p><i>No More Dead Dogs</i> by Gordon Korman</p> <p><i>39 Clues</i> (series) by various authors</p> <p><i>Wringer</i> by Jerry Spinelli</p> <p><i>The Warriors</i> (series) by Erin Hunter</p> <p><i>Which Witch?</i> By Eva Ibbotson</p> <p>Other popular authors:</p> <p>Gary Paulsen</p> <p>Nancy Krulik</p> <p>Andrew Clements</p> <p>Bruce Brooks (sports)</p> <p>Kate DiCamillo</p> <p>Katherine Paterson</p> <p>Avi</p> <p>Roald Dahl</p> <p>Gordon Korman</p> <p>Edward Bloor</p> <p>Jerry Spinelli</p> <p>Eva Ibbotson</p>
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Levels V-W

The books at these levels continue to include a full range of genre. Texts are longer, requiring readers to remember information and connect ideas over many days of reading. Plots are complex with multiple story lines and detailed episodes with characters often showing uncertainty and confusion. Themes are mature often focusing on adolescent and social issues. Complex fantasy offer increased use of symbolism. Readers need to infer to understand the development of multidimensional characters. These texts have long stretches of descriptive language that are important to understanding the setting and characters. Authors use a full range of literary devices.

Dragon's Gate by Lawrence Yep
Chomp by Carl Hiaasen
City of Ember (series) by Jeanne DuPrau
Dragon Wings by Lawrence Yep
Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis
Fablehaven (series) by Brandon Mull
The Fighting Ground by Avi
Guardians Of Ga'Hoole (series) by Katherine Lasky
Harry Potter (series) by J.K. Rowling
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
They Came From Center Field by Dan Gutman
Herculeah Jones Mysteries (series) by Betsy Byars
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke
The Mysterious Benedict Society by Stewart Trenton

Other popular authors:
The Princess Academy (series) by Shannon Hale
The Rainbow People by Lawrence Yep
A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
The Underland Chronicles by Suzanne Collins
Yolanda's Genius by Carol Fenner

Pam Munoz Ryan
Richard Peck
Sharon Creech
Will Hobbs
Jerry Spinelli

Reading nonfiction is also very important to build vocabulary and background knowledge. These books support the interests and increase the motivation for many readers. The topics listed below are some of the nonfiction topics covered at the fourth grade level.

Grade Four

Energy
Sound and light waves
Weather
Biomes and ecosystems
Classification of living things
Body systems
Weathering and erosion
Cells
New Jersey studies
American Revolution

Magazines are a good source of high interest short text

- *Boy's Life Magazine*
- *Children's Digest*
- *Highlights for Children*
- *Stone Soup, The Magazine by Children*
- *Your Big Backyard*
- *Calliope World History for Kids*
- *Cobblestone: The U.S. History Magazine for Young People*

- *Faces: A World Culture Magazine for Kids*
- *National Geographic Kids*
- *Ranger Rick*
- *Smithsonian for Kids*
- *Sports Illustrated for Kids*
- *Zillions: Consumer Reports for Kids*