

Dear Parents,

Students entering 4th and 5th grade will participate in a summer reading program. The reading reports and activities for each grade will be assessed in the fall. The requirements are as follows:

Students entering 4th Grade:

- Third grade students will read the **required book** *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary and complete the study guide to go along with it. The study guide is attached with this letter and will be submitted for a grade. Students will participate in activities connected with this book in the fall.
- Students will then choose **two book** options from the summer reading book list. They may choose books from their grade level or from the next grade level they are entering.
- Students should read **two books** and complete a book report form for each. The book report forms are also attached.

Students entering 5th Grade:

- Fourth grade students will read the **required book** *Sarah Plain and Tall* by Mae Lachlan and complete the study guide to go along with it. The study guide is attached with this letter and will be submitted for a grade. Students will participate in activities connected with this book in the fall.
- Students will then choose **two book** options from the summer reading book list. They may choose books from their grade level or from the next grade level they are entering.
- Students should read **two books** and complete a book report form for each. The book report forms are also attached.

Please help your child to complete these assignments over the summer. It is important that they start the next school year excited and prepared. We hope this program helps students to stay actively engaged in reading over the summer months. The required books we have selected are readily available in paperback. Please review the attached book list and make sure you can obtain copies of the books your child chooses to read. Many of the books can be purchased at any bookstore, through Scholastic Book Clubs, or at your local library. Your child must bring the required book back to school in the fall. It would also be helpful if the chosen books are brought in as well. If you have questions please contact Mrs. Doyle or Mr. DeMario at Saint Ferdinand. Thank you for your continued support! Enjoy your summer!

Mrs. Doyle and Mr. DeMario (Please return bottom portion to your teacher.)

I, _____ have read and understand the requirements for the 4th and 5th grade summer reading program.

Student's Name _____ Grade student is entering: _____

Suggested Books for Summer Reading, 2011

Students may choose books from their grade level

OR

from the next grade level they are entering

3RD to 4th Grade Level

Julian, Dream Dr. by Ann Cameron	The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry
The Fourth Grade Rats by Jerry Spinelli	Sideways Stories from Wayside School
Horrible Harry & the Green Slime by Kline	The Skirt by Gary Soto
Ramona the Pest by Beverly Cleary	Knights of the Kitchen Table by Scieszka
Hand, The Cowdog by John Erikson	Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco
Freckle Juice by Judy Blume	A Taste of Blackberries by Doris Smith
Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard Atwater	There's a Bat in Bunk Five by Danzinger
Pippi Goes on Board by Lindgren	The View from Saturday by Koningsburg
Maurice's Room by Paula Fox	Dinosaur Hunters by Kate McMullen
Baseball's Best: 5 True Stories by Gutelle	Homer Price by Robert McCloskey
Stuart Little by E.B. White	Chocolate Fever by Robert Kimmel Smith
The Dollhouse by Wright	The Secret Garden by Burnett
The Whipping Boy by S. Fleischman	Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary
There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom by Louis Sachar	The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes
The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary	Julia Gillian by Allison McGhee
The Family Under the Bridge by N. Savage Carlson	Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barret
	Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

4th to 5th Grade Level

BFG by Raold Dahl	Mystery of the Cupboard by Lynne Banks
Night of the Twisters by Ivy Ruckman	Baseball Fever by Johanna Hurwitz
Trumpet of the Swans by E.B. White	Betsy-Tacy by Maud Hart Lovelace
Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary	Beezus and Rmona by Beverly Cleary
Anastasia on Her Own by Lois Lowry	My Robot Buddy by Alfred Solte
Wish Giver by Brittain	Me and Terrible Two by Conford
Souder by W. Howard Armstrong	Sarah Plain and Tall by Mac Lachlan
Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry	Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O' Dell	Chronicles of Namia Series C.S. Lewis

Name: _____ Book Report Helper

Title: _____

Author: _____

Circle one: Fiction Nonfiction

Setting: (Where does the story take place?)

Character

Names: _____

Describe the main character. What kind of person is he or she?

The story begins with

The events in the story are: (include details)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

The story ends with

I learned that

I really liked

I didn't like when

I wonder

I would/would not recommend this book because

Name: _____

Book Report Helper

Title: _____

Author: _____

Circle one: Fiction Nonfiction

Setting: (Where does the story take place?)

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Names: _____

Describe the main character. What kind of person is he or she?

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I would/would not recommend this book because

Name _____ Student # _____ Date _____

Dear Mr. Henshaw-Study Guide

Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that **best** completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 1. What is the genre of the story, Dear Mr. Henshaw?
- a. fiction
 - b. realistic fiction
 - c. fantasy
 - d. biography
- _____ 2. Why does Leigh want to meet a famous author?
- a. He wants to get ideas for his next story.
 - b. He has never talked to a famous author before.
 - c. He wants to be an author himself.
 - d. He thinks the author might be Mr. Henshaw.
- _____ 3. What inspires Leigh to write "A Day on Dad's Rig"?
- a. The time his dad took him for a ride in his truck and they went for pizza.
 - b. The time his dad took him for a ride in his truck and they saw monarch butterflies.
 - c. The time his dad took Leigh and Barry for a ride in his truck.
 - d. The time his dad took him for a ride in his truck and they had a load of grapes.
- _____ 4. Why did Leigh decide to write a description rather than an imaginary story?
- a. Leigh doesn't think he has a good imagination.
 - b. He decided to choose a topic he knows about.
 - c. Leigh misses his dad so he wants to describe him.
 - d. He wants to be a trucker someday, so he thought it would be fun to write about it.
- _____ 5. Reread page 419. Which of the following character traits can you **infer** about Leigh from this entry?
- a. lazy
 - b. industrious
 - c. kind
 - d. hungry
- _____ 6. What is the problem with Barry's alarm?
- a. He needs Leigh to help him fix it.
 - b. His mom disconnected it because it always goes off.
 - c. He cannot get the alarm to work.
 - d. His little sister opens his door and the alarm goes off.
- _____ 7. Reread page 422. What details about Leigh's family situation has the author included?
- a. His parents are divorced.
 - b. Money is a problem for his father.
 - c. His mother doesn't think his father is bad.
 - d. All of the above.
- _____ 8. What causes Leigh to say that Monday, March 26, wasn't the greatest day of his life?
- a. His dad took a woman and her son for pizza.
 - b. His lunchbox was stolen.
 - c. He finds out he didn't win a prize in the writing contest.
 - d. His parents split up on that day.
- _____ 9. **Infer**-Reread page 422. Why does Leigh suddenly change the subject after he had a conversation with his mother about his father?
- a. He is sad because his mother says that she will not get back with his father.
 - b. He is sad because he did not win a prize.
 - c. He is mad at his mother for saying his father will not grow up.
 - d. He is feeling nervous about the contest.

- ___ 10. After Leigh found out he received an honorable mention, why was he glad Mr. Henshaw would not be at the luncheon?
- a. Because Mr. Henshaw was his favorite author. c. He was afraid Mr. Henshaw would not like his writing.
- b. Because he didn't want anyone else to meet Mr. Henshaw. d. He would be disappointed if he missed a chance to meet Mr. Henshaw.
- ___ 11. Why did Leigh get a chance to attend the luncheon after all?
- a. The girl who had the winning poem copied it out of a book. c. The girl who won became ill.
- b. The girl who had the winning mystery copied it out of a book. d. The author Angela Badger read Leigh's writing, "A Day on Dad's Rig" and liked it.
- ___ 12. **Infer**-Reread page 428. Why did Angela Badger like Leigh's writing?
- a. Because it was different than the other students' writing. c. Because of Leigh's descriptive writing, Angela felt like she was there.
- b. She felt like she was reading a story from a *real live author*. d. Angela did not agree with the judges and felt like Leigh should have won.
- ___ 13. Why do you think it was so important to Leigh to have been called an author by a real author?
- a. Leigh wants to be an author someday. c. Mrs. Badger is one of his favorite authors, so he is excited.
- b. Leigh respects her opinion. d. Mrs. Badger knows Mr. Henshaw and will tell him she liked Leigh's writing.
- ___ 14. Reread page 430. What does Leigh mean when he says, "If I had to go to school I would yawn?"
- a. He does not like to go to school. c. He is bored in school.
- b. He is tired of writing. d. He is emotionally tired from his busy day.
- ___ 15. Reread the letter on page 430. Why do you think the author has Leigh sign the letter as he does?
- a. To show that Leigh is getting prideful. c. To surprise Mr. Henshaw.
- b. To show that Leigh has improved his writing since the last letter he wrote. d. To show that he is proud of his accomplishment.
- ___ 16. An **antonym** for **rejected**
- a. submitted c. accepted
- b. impressed d. splendid
- ___ 17. A **synonym** for **understanding**
- a. misunderstanding c. rejected
- b. experience d. knowledge
- ___ 18. An **antonym** for **splendid**
- a. happy c. excellent
- b. rejected d. dreadful

Short Answer

19. **Evaluate**-The author shows Leigh's character through his diary and a letter. Does this format work to tell this story? Explain.
20. **Making Inferences**-Reread Leigh's letter to Mr. Henshaw on page 430. What can you infer about Leigh and Mr. Henshaw's relationship? Include an example from the story and something you know from your own experience(s) to explain your inference.