

Dear Families and future third graders:

Summer is time for family bonding. It is a time for making memories and being carefree. It is also a great time for learning. It is time to relax with our favorite books by the pool or in the evening to decompress from the day's activities. It is a time for exploration of nature and developing the curiosity to create STEM projects and experiments. It is a time to practice real world math skills that will scaffold the discussions that will be had next year. In this spirit, the summer activities that are recommended have been selected to boost learning, but also allow for freedom of individual expression and natural curiosity and imagination. Have an amazing summer! I cannot wait to hear all about it in September!

Reading:

I am including a reading log that tracks date, time and title of the book! Try to read 5 days a week for 20 minutes each time. Prizes will be given for completed logs as well as for the amount of minutes read over the summer!

I would also recommend visiting the local library or their website to join their summer reading programs!

I am including a list of suitable books for children entering third grade, but your child can read and enjoy whatever books he or she likes best!

STEAM

Be curious! Be problem solvers! Think creatively! Here are a couple of links to some fun STEAM projects that are perfect for summer days. When my kids were younger, I cut up STEM ideas and placed them in a jar. When we had a "what are we going to do today?" type of day, we chose one out of the jar, collected the supplies, and let loose!

<https://www.steampoweredfamily.com/activities/summer-stem-activities/>

<https://www.makeandtakes.com/summer-steam-projects>

Math:

You can work in a Summer Bridge book, such as the one here:

https://www.amazon.com/Summer-Bridge-Activities%C2%AE-Grades-Activities/dp/148381582X/ref=sr_1_6?dchild=1&keywords=summer+bridge&qid=1621962663&sr=8-6

Practice using any of the following sites:

Splash Learn- www.splashlearn.com - Sign up for a free account.

ABCya- www.abcya.com

Room Recess- www.roomrecess.com

Arcademics- www.arcademics.com

Math Playground- www.mathplayground.com

Math Games- www.mathgames.com

Practice Real world math problems by:

-cooking and baking, allowing for measurements to be done carefully by your child.

Have your child read the recipe and figure out the fractions.

-allow your child to make purchases and count change at the store.

-Have your child estimate and figure out totals when shopping

-Make tally charts and collect data when having guests or friends over to figure out activities and supplies.

-Refer to an analog clock and have your child tell time on it

-When dividing items amongst siblings or friends, have your child figure out how many each person should get so the items are distributed evenly.

-When shopping, have your child round the cost of each item and estimate the total.

Whenever possible, have your child conquer the real-life math problems that are encountered. It may take a little longer to go to the grocery store or bake something new, but your child will have the concrete knowledge to tackle the theoretical concepts when they encounter them in third grade!

Love,

Mrs. Winington

FICTION

Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White

Stone Fox, by John Reynolds Gardiner

Matt Christopher series - choose one

Sarah, Plain and Tall, by Patricia MacLachlan

A-Z Mysteries series, by Ron Roy - choose one

Jigsaw Jones series, by James Preller - choose one

Magic Treehouse series, by Mary Pope Osborne - choose one

The Mouse and the Motorcycle, by Beverly Cleary

Encyclopedia Brown series, by Donald J. Sobol - choose one

Balto and the Great Race, Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

Because of Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo

My Father's Dragon, by Ruth Stiles Gannett

The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth George Speare

The Swiss Family Robinson (Classic Starts Version), by Johann David Wyss

The Penderwicks, A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, by Jeanne Birdsall

Henry and the Paper Route, by Beverly Cleary

Ramona the Pest, by Beverly Cleary

The Humphrey Series by Betty G. Birney

NON-FICTION

Who Was...series

Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl, by Kate Waters

The Story of George Washington Carver, by Eva Moore

Balto and the Great Race, by Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

I Survived...series

Samuel Eaton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy, by Kate Waters

The Daring Escape of Ellen Craft, by Cathy Moore

On My Own History... series