

May 2010

Dear New Fifth Graders,

I have had a wonderful year full of laughter and fun while teaching you this year! I will miss you and all your smiles over the summer! It is essential that you keep practicing your reading and math over the summer so you are ready for 5th grade. Keep reading to improve your comprehension and speed!



READING:

Timed Reading-

There is a calendar attached for recording your summer reading. You need to record the number of minutes that you read everyday. You are required to read for at least **20 minutes a day, 5 days a week.** You pick when you read and what you read so have fun with it!

When you read 'switch it up!' Below are some suggestions:

- *Read aloud to a sibling or parent
- *Read silently to yourself
- *Listen to a book on tape
- *Have an older sibling or adult read to you
- *Read fiction and non-fiction
- *Read novels, stories, magazines, newspapers and cartoons.

(Note to parents- There is a sheet attached that has questions to ask and discuss before reading, while reading or after reading. The questions are connected to all the skills taught in 4th grade reading this year. **This is just a suggestion list...nothing has to be turned in for this part!**)

Language Art Day Trips:

Choose **two** of the following trips to take over the summer. You must fill out an index card with the following information from your day trip:

Name:

Where you went:

Two things you saw or learned:

*Trip to a museum – Walk around carefully. Read the information provided to help you learn about what is being displayed.

*Go to the zoo. See how many new things you can learn about animals that you never knew! You can learn by observing and reading!

*Go out to eat. Keep a list of all the food that was ordered and the prices for each item. How much is the bill going to be at the end? Figure out a 10% tip. Write the math problem and answer on the index card.

*Go to a play or a puppet show. Think about the characters, plot, and time. Write a two sentence summary on your index card.

*Visit a library. Using the card catalog on the computer, pick out a book that you would not typically read! Read it and write a three sentence review on your index card.

*Go to the pool. See how long many laps you can swim in one minute. Then calculate how many meters you swam if one lap is 25 meters long. Write your answer on an index card.

*Take a field trip around your house. Stay outside for at least 30 minutes. Write down five things you observe using all your senses. (Look for animals, plants, temperature, smells, sounds, etc.)

* Create your own activity. (Please check with mom or dad to make sure the activity is appropriate for 5th grade.) For example, if you go on a trip, take pictures and write a few journal entries about your trip. What new things did you see? What did you do? Or another idea would be to write a brief newspaper article on an exciting and unique experience you had over the summer.

MATH:

You have to do an activity from Option A or Option B at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes. No matter what you end up doing, please write down the activity for Mrs. Limarzi on the calendar. Using the calendar that was provided, record how many minutes you spend on the website, practicing flashcards, playing a game, etc. (For example, if you practice long division for ten minutes you would write “Long division- 10 minutes’ on the calendar.)

Option A

*Websites:

Use one of the following websites to practice the skills we learned this year. Please make sure you hit the following skills a couple of times....multiplication, division, polygons, perimeter, area, volume, word problems, estimation, and fractions.

<http://www.mathplayground.com/gsmbegin.html>

<http://www.aaaknow.com/cmp.htm>

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

When using a website, make sure you are challenging yourself with skills that we learned in 4th grade. (If you are getting many problems wrong please ask mom or dad for help and write that you had difficulty with this skill on your calendar.)

* Flashcards: Practice multiplication and division flashcards at least **3 times a week for 10 minutes**. This will help get your ready for 5th grade!

Option B: (These activities can be done more than once.)

*Play a game of Monopoly and be the banker. (You can't use the new version that does the math for you.) Use a piece of paper to add and subtract the money if needed. Be sure not to make math mistakes.

*Play a game of War using a deck of cards. As you play, add up all the values of the cards on a piece of paper. See how high you get!

* Go to a store with your own money. Pick out something to buy, but before you pay for it, figure out how much change you will be getting back. (You don't actually have to purchase an item.)

* Clean house! Walk around your house and collect loose change. After thirty minutes of searching, count all the change.

Have a wonderful, safe, and fun summer! Please don't forget to wear sunscreen!



Ms. Phelan

What you **MUST** turn in:

Calendar with math times/activities and reading times listed

Index cards describing two or more day trips.

This is all due the first day of fifth grade!