

Guidelines for the Summer Reading Response Activity for Students Currently in Grades 4, 5, 6, 7

Dear Parents and Students,

As you begin to plan for the months ahead, we want to share our reading response expectations with you. We request that you write a letter about at least **one** book you will have read (see below for specific details) to your **2016-17** language arts' teacher. You may choose to write about more than one book, but **you must write about at least one book.**

In your letter, tell about yourself and share your thoughts on a book you will have read this summer. This will allow you to introduce yourself to your teacher and share important information about yourself with your teacher. During the academic year, you will continue to engage in this process of writing in response to the books you are reading.

Your letter may be one-two pages in length and should be organized as a friendly letter that is proofread for spelling, capitalization and punctuation. An example of the mechanics of the letter is listed below:

Date
Greeting,
Body of letter organized in paragraphs
Closing,
Signature

Some Ideas for the Content of Your Letter

Please consider including **some** of the below-listed topics when writing in response to your reading. You **may** want to start your letter by sharing important facts about yourself and your reading life.

Your **first** paragraph **may** incorporate:

- your interests and favorite past times
- your family, friends, and pets
- your goals
- books you have read and enjoyed
- details of your summer events and experiences
- things that are important to you
- your learning style, anecdotal information, etc.

Your **second** and **third** paragraphs **need** to include **some** of the below-listed suggestions:

- why you chose the book (include the book's title, author, and genre)
- why you think the author wrote the book (inform, entertain, persuade)
- something that surprised, puzzled, or interested you about the book
- what you liked or disliked about the book and why
- whether or not you would recommend this book and why
- information about the character(s) in the book
- the ways in which the main character or events in the book change over time
- what you noticed about the author's style of writing
- what you think the author's message is
- what you would change about the book
- what the theme of the book may be
- how the book connects to other books you've, the world around you, etc.