 “Dig Into Summer” Activities 

Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grades

Remember, to earn the Diamond Level Prize, you must complete 40 activities and return 10 special activity sheets to school by August 29, 2013.

\*Indicates a “Special Activity” sheet is included in your packet.

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| **Digging for Nouns and Verbs**  Read for 15 – 20 minutes. Write down 5 nouns and 5 verbs from your book.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | **Cave Drawings**  Cave drawings tell a story. Use illustrations to tell a story and share it with someone.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Read under a tree for  15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Visit a library and read a book at the library or check out a book to read at home.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Plant Word Search**  Complete the enclosed plant word search.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| Go for a walk and collect cool rocks. Use the internet or books about rocks to try to find out what types of rocks you found.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Read to someone for  15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Read 5 poems from the book  What I Did on my Summer Vacation  by Lansky and Carpenter.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Invent An Insect**  Invent a new insect. Draw it and write a description of its characteristics.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | **Comparing Two Characters**  Compare and Contrast two characters from the book you are reading or a book you have just read.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| **Summer Book Review**  Read the book you received on the last day of school. Write a note to your teacher – did you like the book? Why or why not? Rate the book.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Help an adult write a shopping list. Check off the items as you find them in the store.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | With an adult’s permission, hide an item in a safe place. Write clues and/or draw a map to help someone find the object.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Find a cozy spot inside or outside and read for  15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Attend a program at the library.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Read the book The Reason for a Flower by Ruth Heller or another book about plants, trees, or flowers.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Cartoon Time**  Draw a comic strip about a scene from your book. Be sure to include dialog with your pictures.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | With an adult’s permission, take a walk outside to look for insects. Make tally marks for at least 3 types of insects that you see.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Book Sketch**  Sketch a favorite part of your book.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Read outside for  15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Make a list of words that rhyme with grow.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Alphabet Treasure Hunt**  Go for a walk and try to find items for each letter of the alphabet.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Grab a towel and a cool drink. Find a place to sit and read for  15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **3, 2, 1**  Read a nonfiction book. Complete the 3, 2, 1 activity sheet after reading your book.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | **Endless Endings**  Write a different ending for your story.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| **Story Quilt**  Read for 15 – 20 minutes. Then draw a picture of an interesting part of the story on the Quilt Pattern.    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Go Underground! Read a book featuring an underground animal or character. Try: The Borrowers; Compost Stew; Dirt Boy; Toil in the Soil; Trapped: How the world rescued 33 miners from 2,000 feet below the Chilean desert; etc.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | Be mole-like today. Use Legos, wooden blocks, and other materials to create a maze-like tunnel. Bonus: try to blow a cotton ball through the maze!  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Read for 15 – 20 minutes today.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **Perfect Day**  Imagine a perfect day. Write about what you would do, eat, and wear.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | **Character Report Card**  Fill out a Character Report Card for a character in a book that you’ve read this summer.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Visit a library in a different town.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Christmas in July!  Grab a holiday story, make a favorite snack, and enjoy reading the story while snacking!  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Make a list of all the school supplies you would like to have for next year.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Draw a map of your neighborhood. Highlight important landmarks.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | July is National Ice Cream Month. List all of your favorite ice cream flavors. Research how ice cream is made.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Explore ancient Egypt by reading a book about (or set in) that time period. Dig deeper by exploring Rick Riordan’s website full of Egyptian facts.  Rick Riordan’s website: [www.rickriordan.com](http://www.rickriordan.com)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | **Author Letter**  Write a letter to your favorite author. Explain why he/she is your favorite author.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| **Cinquain**  Write a cinquain about your favorite book or character.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Find out if your favorite author has a website. If so, check it out!  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Make a list of animals that burrow underground. Visit the library and check out a book about one of these animals or research it on the internet.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Read, Read, Read…  find a cozy place to curl up and read for 15 – 20 minutes.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Celebrity Dining**  If you could invite your favorite book character to dinner, where would you go? What would you talk about? Write about your experience.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| **What I Did this Summer**  Write about the best thing that’s happened to you this summer.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Look through some cookbooks. Find some recipes that you could help to make.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Read for 15 – 20 minutes with somebody you love.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Do you prefer dogs or cats? Why? Write a story or draw a picture about your favorite animal.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Practice your math facts…  Addition  Subtraction  Multiplication  or  Division  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

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| Go to your local library and check out an audiobook (or download one to your computer/mp3 player/kindle using the Overdrive site/app – [www.pvpl.org](http://www.pvpl.org)).  Listen to the story while following along in the book.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Digging for Non-Fiction Text Features**  Choose any non-fiction book. Find 5 of the following:  a caption a photo  bold print a map  a key an illustration  a heading  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | **Nature Alphabet Poster**  Draw or write things from Nature for each letter of the alphabet. Items can begin with the letter or be in the shape of the letter (ex. – grass for the letter “G” and a twig in the shape of an L for the letter “L”).  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* |
| Ice Archeology - Place several small plastic toys and objects in a large plastic container. Fill the container with water and place in the freezer. When solid, turn the ice out of the container in a place where it is safe to excavate. Use toy and wooden hammers, plastic spoons, and other safe tools to excavate your “site”.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Field Guide**  Use a Field Guide to identify 5 things from nature that you found around your home or on vacation.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \* | Photo Safari - Create a photo safari! Brainstorm a list of items to “hunt” for in your neighborhood (or park). With a grown-up, hunt for your items on your list. Capture the items by using a camera to take pictures of them. Share your discoveries with someone who did not help you hunt for them.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_