

Dear Mercymount Families,

Research spanning 100 years has proven that students lose ground academically when they are out of school for the summer- a phenomenon known as “the summer slide.” Here are some facts about this achievement gap:


- When no work is done over the summer, it can take up to **2 months** from the first day of school for students’ brain development to get back on track.
- Teachers spend an average of **4-6 weeks reteaching** material that students have lost during the summer.
- Failing to read over the summer results in an academic loss equivalent of **2.6 months** of reading skills. Similar statistics apply to math as well.
- Third graders who can’t read on grade level are **4 times less likely to graduate** by age 18 when compared with proficient readers.
- A study conducted at Harvard’s Center for Evaluation found that reading **4 or 5 books** over the summer months had an impact on fall reading achievement comparable to attending summer school.
- **2-3 hours per week (20 minutes a day)** is all children need during the summer to prevent summer learning loss.

[\(https://www.oxfordlearning.com/summer-learning-loss-statistics/\)](https://www.oxfordlearning.com/summer-learning-loss-statistics/)

To help prevent “the summer slide” and to aid your child’s transition into the new school year, we appreciate your support with the following summer assignments.

Entering Grade...	Reading		Math
K	(Enter K-2) Read a book of your choice for 20 minutes for as many days as you can this summer. Read with a parent or read by yourself. If you can’t read the words by yourself, read the pictures. Use the attached checklist to try reading in different ways. Turn in the checklist with a parent signature during the first week of school and be ready to tell your teacher about an interesting reading experience you had over the summer.		(Entering K) Practice counting, recognizing, and writing your numbers through 20.
1			(Entering 1) Practice counting by 1’s, 5’s, and 10’s, recognizing, and writing your numbers through 120.
2			(Entering 2-8) Complete the attached math packet and turn in during the first week of school.
3	Grades 3-5 will be voting for this year’s Rhode Island Children’s Book Award. To qualify to vote, you must read at least 3 titles from the attached list. (QR Code also below) All students should be prepared to complete an assessment (test or project) of the teacher’s choosing during the first weeks of school.	(Entering 3) Any 2 books of your choice from the attached list. The third book will be read during the school year.	All students should be prepared to complete a math assessment (test or project) during the first weeks of school that covers the same topics addressed in the packet.
4		(Entering 4) Any 3 books of your choice from the attached list.	
5		(Entering 5) Book 1 (Must Read): <i>Just Like Rube Goldberg</i> by Sarah Aronson. Book 2 (Choice): <i>Wildfire</i> by Rodman Philbrick ~or~ <i>One-Third Nerd</i> by Gennifer Choldenko Book 3: Your choice from the RI Children’s Book Award List	



6	<p>Grades 6-8 will be voting for this year's Rhode Island Middle School Book Award. To qualify to vote you must read at least 2 titles from the attached list. (QR Code also below.) For all three assigned texts, all students should be prepared to complete an assessment (test or project) of the teacher's choosing during the first weeks of school.</p>	<p>(Entering 6)</p> <p><u>Free Choice</u> – one book from the attached list (<b>except for <i>I Can Make This Promise</i> by Christine Day which will be read together at school</b>)</p> <p><u>Teacher Choice:</u> <i>Winterhouse</i> by Ben Guterson</p>	
7		<p>(Entering 7)</p> <p><u>Free Choice</u> – one book from the attached list (<b>except for <i>The Bridge Home</i> by Padma Venkatraman which will be read together at school</b>)</p> <p><u>Teacher Choice</u> – <i>Rising Water: The Story of the Thai Cave Rescue</i> by Marc Aronson</p>	<p>(Entering 2-8) Complete the attached math packet and turn in during the first week of school. All students should be prepared to complete a math assessment (test or project) during the first weeks of school that covers the same topics addressed in the packet.</p>
8		<p>(Entering 8) 2 books:</p> <p><u>Free Choice</u> – one book from the attached list (<b>except for <i>Allies</i> by Alan Grantz which will be read together at school.</b>)</p> <p><u>Teacher Choice</u> – <i>New Kid</i> by Jerry Craft</p>	

Parent Signature



# SUMMER READING BUCKET LIST

[www.notimeforflashcards.com](http://www.notimeforflashcards.com)

read in a tent READ A BOOK ABOUT WILD ANIMALS read at breakfast

**read a book about a city far away**

read at the park READ A BOOK WITH CHAPTERS read a book about bugs

**read a book then act it out**

read a book to a pet **read at dinner** READ A BIOGRAPHY

**READ IN THE BATH** READ A MAGAZINE

read a book that makes you laugh

read in a blanket fort read an ebook **read a book you wrote**

**read a book about space** READ A BOOK ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

READ UNDER A TREE **READ ON VIDEO** read by flashlight

READ A BOOK WITHOUT WORDS **read a book about your country**

READ A BOOK AS A FAMILY

**read an alphabet book** **READ A COMIC BOOK**

read a book in a funny accent **read a pop up book**

**read at the beach** READ A BOOK ABOUT ART

**READ ALL SUMMER LONG**