

Rising 5th grade Summer Reading Assignment

To better prepare our students academically, Strong Rock Christian School incorporates a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select a single book from the list for each grade level. After reading the selected book, students will complete book cards. These cards will be due the first week of school in August. This information will be posted on our school website this summer. If you enroll after July 1st your book cards will be due August 31st.

Rising 5th Grade Titles:

***Trumpet of the Swan* by E. B. White**

Reading Level- 4.9

AR Points- 6

Like the rest of his family, Louis is a trumpeter swan. But unlike his four brothers and sisters, Louis can't trumpet joyfully. In fact, he can't even make a sound. And since he can't trumpet his love, the beautiful swan Serena pays absolutely no attention to him.

Louis tries everything he can think of to win Serena's affection—he even goes to school to learn to read and write. But nothing seems to work. Then his father steals him a real brass trumpet. Is a musical instrument the key to winning Louis his love?

(goodreads.com)

***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen**

Reading Level- 5.7

AR Points- 7

This award-winning contemporary classic is the survival story with which all others are compared—and a page-turning, heart-stopping adventure, recipient of the Newbery Honor. *Hatchet* has also been nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read*.

(books.google.com)

***Tales of the 4th Grade Nothing* by Judy Bloom**

Reading Level- 3.3

AR Points- 3

Life with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter Hatcher feel like a fourth grade nothing. Whether Fudge is throwing a temper tantrum in a shoe store, smearing mashed potatoes on the walls at Hamburger Heaven, or trying to fly, he's never far from trouble. He's an almost three-year-old terror who gets away with everything, and Peter's had it up to here! When Fudge walks off with Dribble, Peter's pet turtle, it's the last straw. Peter has put up with Fudge for too long. Way too long! How can he get his parents to pay attention to him for a change?

(goodreads.com)

***The Bad Beginning* by Lemony Snicket**

Reading Level- 6.4

AR Points- 4

Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire are intelligent children. They are charming, and resourceful, and have pleasant facial features. Unfortunately, they are exceptionally unlucky.

In the first two books alone, the three youngsters encounter a greedy and repulsive villain, itchy clothing, a disastrous fire, a plot to steal their fortune, a lumpy bed, a deadly serpent, a large brass reading lamp, a long knife, and a terrible odor.

In the tradition of great storytellers, from Dickens to Dahl, comes an exquisitely dark comedy that is both literary and irreverent, hilarious and deftly crafted. Never before has a tale of three likeable and unfortunate children been quite so enchanting or quite so uproariously unhappy.

(harpercollins.com)

***The Rising Tiger* by Kate DiCamillo**

Reading Level- 4.0

AR Points- 3

Walking through the misty Florida woods one morning, twelve-year-old Rob Horton is stunned to encounter a tiger—a real-life, very large tiger—pacing back and forth in a cage. What's more, on the same extraordinary day, he meets Sistine Bailey, a girl who shows her feelings as readily as Rob hides his. As they learn to trust each other, and ultimately, to be friends, Rob and Sistine prove that some things—like memories, and heartaches, and tigers—can't be locked up forever.

(katedicamillo.com)

*Strong Rock Christian School does not necessarily endorse all the content of these books or any book in the Strong Rock Christian School Library/Media Center. It is understood that to meet academic standards and to provide books of various fields of research and contents, Strong Rock Christian School must of necessity have many books of different types. The position of Strong Rock Christian School is well understood to be in strict adherence to the doctrines and principles taught in the Holy Scriptures.

Rising Fifth Grade Assignment

Read one book from the list and complete book cards. **This activity will count for extra credit in your fifth-grade language arts class.** *There is no penalty for not completing the project for rising fifth grade students.*

Book Card Requirements:

- ___ These index cards need to be the **large (5x8 inches) size**.
- ___ Write OR type on one side of the cards only.
- ___ Write your name on the back of EACH card.
- ___ Place a rubber band around the cards to turn them in.

___ **#1- Title Card:** Write the title, underline the title, put the author's name, and your name. Draw and color an illustration that represents the book.

___ **#2- Setting Card:** Write at least four sentences to describe the settings of your book.
Hint!! The Setting is the time and place of the story. Is it set a long time ago or now? Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story – a day? a year? A lifetime?

___ **#3- Plot Summary Card:** Summarize the main events of the book. Write 8-12 complete sentences.
Hint!! The Plot is what happens. You want to summarize what the story is mostly about. What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? How does the story end?

___ **#4- Character Card:** List the major characters by name and write a one or two sentence description of each.

Hint!! The Characters are who the story is about. The main character is called the protagonist. Who are the other important characters? Do they help or hinder the protagonist? Is there an antagonist? Why are they important?

___ **#5- Conflict Card:** Explain the main conflict of the book and tell how it is resolved. (1-2 sentences)
Hint!! The Conflict is the problem in the story? There may be one big conflict and several smaller ones- focus on the main one. Think about the types of conflict to help: Person vs. Self, Person vs. Person, Person vs. Society, Person vs. Unknown, Person vs. Nature, Person vs. Machine. Choose one to explain for the conflict in the book.

___ **#6- Theme Card:** Explain a theme of this book in 3-4 sentences.

Hint!! The Theme is the main lesson/moral of the story. Some examples might be the importance of friendship or how to be courageous in a difficult situation. Tell what you think the theme is and how you know.

- Give two examples of the theme you chose. How is it demonstrated in the story?

___ **#7- Point of View:** Choose the type of point of view from which this story is told and explain how you know: 1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person, etc (1-2 sentences)

___ **#8- Book Review Card:** In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of this book. Be sure to give detailed support (reasons why) for your opinion.

Hint!! Some questions you might want to answer are:

- Do you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the book? Why?
- How did the story make you feel? Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you recommend it to friends?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?