

SUMMER READING

GRADE 4 GOING TO GRADE 5

Please choose **ONE** of the following novels to read over the summer. Then, complete each section of the trifold reading report **using proper paragraph structure with at least four to six sentences in each paragraph**. This counts as your first Language Arts grade. **It is due to your teacher no later than Friday, September 11, 2026.**

THE BLACK STALLION by Walter Farley



A teenager named Alec Ramsay befriends a wild stallion of exotic beauty in Farley's novel. From an Arabian seaport to a New York farm, Alec and the stallion—called simply "the Black"—forge a relationship that causes other characters to marvel. Alec achieves growth and self-realization as he struggles to control a horse whose winning characteristics continue to enthrall readers.

The Birchbark House by Louise Erdich



An eight-year old Ojibwa girl lives with her family in Minnesota around 1849. Omakayas does not have a blood tie to her family, but she does not know this. As a baby, she was the lone survivor of her people, all of whom died during a smallpox outbreak on Spirit Island. Old Tallow, an Ojibwa woman, rescued the surviving baby from Spirit Island and placed her with the couple Migwam and Yellow Kettle. In their home, Omakayas is a beloved daughter. The novel is organized into four sections, representing each of the four seasons, together creating a story that occurs within a year's natural cycle.

The Flip-Flop Girl by Katherine Paterson



Sometimes only a true friend can help you put your life back together. Vinnie Matthews needs a real lifesaver — one that will bring her father back to life and let her family go home. Living with Grandma means having to be responsible for her little brother. Then Vinnie meets Lupe, the mysterious "flip-flop girl" — who might just be the friend she needs, if only Vinnie can ignore the rumors about her past. . .

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin



The main character of the book is Minli, a young Chinese girl from the Village of the Fruitless Mountain. Her family is very poor and Minli very much wishes she could change her family's fortune. Her parents, Ba and Ma, are left in the dust when Minli leaves them to go on a quest to fix her family's fortune after hearing tales of the Old Man of the Moon, who knows the future and has the power to change fortunes.

Midnight for Charlie Bone by Jenny Nimmo



A mysterious case, the search for a missing girl, and a legacy of magic . . .
When Charlie Bone discovers that he can hear the conversations of people in photographs, he is shipped off to Bloor's Academy, an elite school for the rich, gifted, and magically endowed. Once there, he realizes that some of his classmates have equally mysterious powers, and Charlie becomes absorbed in uncovering their dangerous secrets. Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking.

The Bad Beginning by Daniel Handler



The Bad Beginning is actually a great beginning. It's the first book in Lemony Snicket's, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, a wonderfully different and disastrous children's story starring three highly unlucky siblings. In this first book, readers are introduced to the unfortunate Baudelaire children -- 14-year-old Violet, 12-year-old Klaus, and their infant sister, Sunny -- when they learn they've just been orphaned by a terrible house fire.

Setting
(4-6 complete sentences)

Characters
(include names and details about the characters 4-6 complete sentences)

Plot
(4-6 complete sentences)

Fold here

Fold here

Student's Reaction
(4-6 complete sentences)

Student's Name and
Autobiography
(4-6 complete sentences)

Title & Author
(illustration/picture - neat and colored)

Fold here

Fold here