GORDON SCHOOL

Summer Learning: Entering fourth grade

Math

We would like our rising fourth graders to practice their multiplication and division facts 1-10 through the summer so that they will be fluent and automatic with these facts by the start of school.

We have also created a short summer packet of math work that students should complete in August. You can access this packet here. You can print this out at home, or look for it in a mailing coming from the school in early June. Mr. Griffin can also get you additional paper copies if you write him at ggriffin@gordonschool.org. Please bring your completed work with you on the first day of school.

We recommend that you spend 15-20 minutes three times a week working on the math packet. This way, you will keep these concepts and skills fresh in your mind, which should make the start of the year easier. Please bring the math packet to your fourth grade teacher on the first day of school.

Informal math conversations
Incorporate math into daily routines. Make change at a store. Determine how many hours you will swim over the course of the summer. Cook with your child using fractions and calculating the measurements you need.

Bedtime Math
http://bedtimemath.org/
This is a great website with daily short stories and problems that will provide you with great mathematical conversation starters.

Gregtang.com
Go to Gregtang.com and click on online games.

Thinking Blocks
Students can go to http://www.mathplayground.com/thinkingblocks.html. This is a great way for them to practice bar modeling, which is a powerful method to solve challenging word problems.

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Reading

Rising fourth graders should continue reading this summer, too. The library team has created fun list of suggestions for all readers.

Incoming fourth graders will use some of their summer reading time to prepare for the Battle of the Books. A practice of reading daily for thirty minutes is highly recommended. A book is appropriate if the student can:

1. Stay with a book until the end
2. Decode and read the majority of the words on a page
3. Understand the majority of the words in the book, the greater plot of the story, and recall important details from the text

Attached is a reading log students should fill out throughout the summer and return in the fall.

Students should be able to demonstrate their understanding through a book discussion or in a written format. This can also be creative, and a student could create a book review to post or a video book review to share with relatives.

Some time should be devoted to reading aloud to someone or something (create a video, read to a pet, a sibling, etc..). Students should be offered a variety of genres - nonfiction informational texts, graphic novels, picture books, chapter books, picture book biographies, etc…

Rising fourth graders should also read or listen to four of these five Battle of the Books titles:

Midnight at the Barclay Hotel by Fleur Bradley
Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas
The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli by Karina Yan Glaser
Jerry Changed the Game by Don Tate
Stargazing by Jen Wang