

June 2017

Dear Fourth Grader,

Welcome to fourth grade! You have a very exciting year ahead of you. You are entering the intermediate grades and will be required to work very hard. To help you get ready to begin the year, you are being given summer assignments. One is in Reading and the other is in Math. The Reading assignments will be collected on the first day of school and be your first grades for the new school year. Instructions and grading for the summer Math assignments can be found online.

This summer you are required to complete two book reports. The book choices and directions for the report options are online. Some of the skills you will practice while doing these reports are skills that will be very important to fourth grade work. You will be working with phonics, spelling, outlining, identifying story parts, and characterization. For one of the reports you have a choice of the activity you would like to complete. Choose the one that is most interesting to you. The other report is a Scavenger Hunt that everyone must do. I hope you enjoy playing detective as you read your mystery story!

The Math assignment is equally important. It will help you practice the skills you need to be successful this year. In addition to completing the math problems, you should get some math fact flashcards for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division and practice them a little each day. Memorizing all your facts will help you in fourth grade. You will be using them throughout the year to solve all sorts of new math problems and the better you know your facts the easier and more fun the new math will be.

I hope you have fun this summer preparing for fourth grade and finding some time to also rest. I cannot wait to meet all of you in the Fall and begin the new school year together!

Have a wonderful summer and be safe!

God bless,
Miss Dawley

Book Jacket Report Directions

Have you ever picked up a book because you liked the way the cover looked? You can learn a lot about a book from its cover illustration and the information found on the book jacket.

What is a book jacket? A book jacket is made up of several parts. The front cover shows the title of the book, the name of the author, and artwork related to the book. The inside front flap has a paragraph about the book, while the back cover may have quotes from reviewers or a photo of the author.

For this report option, you will create a book jacket for either *Esperanza Rising* or *Wringer*. Please follow the directions below when creating your book jacket.

Most books have certain things in common. Take a look at a few book jackets. What similarities do you see?

Here is a list of information that often appears on a book jacket:

1. the title of the book
2. the author's name
3. title and author on spine
4. a summary of the book
5. quotations from reviews of the book
6. artwork related to the book's subject
7. a picture of the illustrator (you)

Decide which elements from the list above are the most important to the reader. Place them where they're most likely to be seen. Then choose the best place for the other elements.

After deciding on the cover design, the next step is to write a brief paragraph that describes what your book is about. This paragraph is like a short book report. It goes inside the front flap of your book cover and is called the flap copy. The more interesting the flap copy, the more likely people will read your book. Be sure to use lots of details when you write your paragraph. Remember start with a topic sentence, add your intriguing supporting details, and finish with a creative concluding sentence!

Make Your Book Jacket

Fold a piece of construction paper in half to make the jacket. Then fold down the inside flaps. Don't forget to leave a slight double crease in the center for the spine!

Draw the design you want on the cover, and then add the title and author. Add your name as illustrator. Please do not leave white space unless it is an important part of your cover design.

Put your flap copy on the inside of the front flap. Remember this is not a complete plot summary. You are to introduce the characters and plot; just enough to intrigue the reader to pick up the book and read it in its entirety!

Decorate the back cover with a picture and some "quotes/reviews" of this book.

Having trouble drawing? Try using some photos, pictures from magazines, or images downloaded from the computer and make a collage.

Don't be afraid to use lots of bright colors.

Use colored pencils, crayons, markers, or pen.
No regular pencils (colored pencils for illustrations are fine).

Remember, a book jacket has to catch your eye!

Name _____

Title of Book _____

Book Jacket Grading Sheet

This student turned in their book jacket on time. Yes No

Requirements (How to Get an A):

1. _____ The title of your book is obvious and easy to read.
2. _____ The author of the book is on the jacket.
3. _____ Your full name, as illustrator, is easy to read.
4. _____ The spine has the title of the book as well as the author's last name.
5. _____ Your written summary (flap copy) is well written with lots of details.
6. _____ The back inside flap has information about you, the illustrator.
7. _____ The cover design is neatly done and attractive to the reader.
8. _____ Your book jacket includes written reviews, and a colorful back cover.
9. _____ There were no more than 3 spelling errors and 3 grammatical errors.
10. _____ Your book jacket was neat and easy to read. (No work was done in pencil)

Book Jacket Grade:

Comments:

Book Report Recipe Instructions

Have you ever wondered what would make a perfect recipe for a book? In this book report you will use information from what you read to create the perfect recipe for a successful book. Just pick out a book and follow the directions below to make your next report a scrumptious success!

Book Report Recipe

1. **1 cup of plot**
Tell briefly what the story is about, but don't give away the ending.
2. **2 teaspoons of characters**
Who are the main characters? Describe them briefly.
3. **2 tablespoons of excitement**
Select a short passage from the book that describes something exciting that happened.
Try to find a passage that has the main character in it.
4. **Mix thoroughly and bake. When cool, frost with this special icing:**
 - **1/2 cup of opinion**
What did you like about the book? What didn't you like?
 - **1 teaspoon of recommendation**
Whom do you think would enjoy this book? Why?
5. **Finally sprinkle on the following information:**
 - **title of book**
 - **name of author**
 - **name of publisher**
 - **number of pages**
 - **literary genre**

Punch a hole through the left corner of each card then use yarn or a metal ring from a craft store to bind your recipe cards together.

Book Report Recipe Rubric

Name: _____

Book: _____

- _____ 1. Note card One contains a brief summary of the story (20 pts)
- _____ 2. Note card Two names the main characters and gives a description of each (20 pts)
- _____ 3. Note card Three has a direct quote of an exciting passage in the book (20pts)
- _____ 4. Note card Four answers what you liked and did not like about the book in a small in a small paragraph (10 pts)
- _____ 5. Note card Five contains the names of people you would recommend this book to and the reason why (10 pts)
- _____ 6. Note card Six contains the following (20pts):
- name of book
 - name of author
 - name of publisher
 - number of pages
 - literary genre

Total Points/Grade: _____

Scavenger Hunt Book Report

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Be a detective as you read your mystery book and make a list of the following items below:

1. A three syllable word _____
 2. A contraction _____
 3. A compound word _____
 4. A word with a silent *e* at the end _____
 5. A word with a suffix that required doubling the final consonant before adding the suffix

 6. A word with a suffix that required dropping a silent *e* before adding the suffix

 7. A word that includes the letters *tion* _____
 8. A four-syllable word _____
 9. A word that includes a silent letter other than *e* _____
 10. An adjective _____
 11. A word with a prefix _____
 12. A sentence that includes a simile

-

13. Rhyming words (you may write two sentences, highlighting the rhyming words)

14. Synonyms (you may write two sentences, highlighting the synonyms)

15. Antonyms/opposites (you may write two sentences, highlighting the antonyms)



Scrapbook Book Report

Check off each requirement after you have completed it.

Requirements

◇ SCRAPBOOK COVER

The scrapbook cover should include the character's name, the title of the book, the author's name and your name. Be creative as to how you incorporate each of these elements into the cover. Illustrate the cover so it is a reflection of the main character who created it.

◇ JOURNAL ENTRY

Write a journal entry from the main character's point of view that gives a summary of the book. The journal entry should include the following:

1. Write in complete paragraphs
2. Include a brief description of the following: main character, setting, major events and conclusion
3. Write on a sheet of paper and staple, glue, or tape it into the scrapbook
4. Include a date that reflects the "date" the character wrote it

◇ PICTURES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Five pictures or photographs should be included ("photos" can be drawn or cut out of magazines). Paste the pictures throughout the scrapbook and include an explanation that describes what is shown in each.

They should illustrate each of the following:

1. The main character in a scene from the book
2. The character's family or friends
3. The main character's major accomplishment
4. The setting of the story
5. A picture of your choice

◇ LETTER TO A FRIEND/LETTER FROM A FRIEND

Write two letters for this section. Put each letter into a separate envelope. Address it to the appropriate character and tape it in the scrapbook.

Letter 1

Write the first letter from the main character's point *of view and* address it to a secondary character. In the letter, describe the main problem (in complete detailed paragraphs) that the main character faces in the story.

Letter 2

Write the second letter from the secondary character's point of view to the main character. In the letter describe the solution (in complete, detailed paragraphs) to the main character's problem as it happens in the story.

◇ SOUVENIRS AND MEMENTOS

Draw, create, collect, or find at least six souvenirs that the main character would have put into the scrapbook. These objects should reflect events in the story or important aspects of your character. Include an explanation next to each object describing its significance.

◇ DIARY ENTRY

Write a diary entry from the main character's point of view that reflects the main character's feelings about him or her. Be sure the entry includes how the character changed from the beginning of the story to the end. Write it on a sheet of paper and put it into the scrapbook.

Scrapbook Book Report Rubric

Name: _____

Book: _____

Author: _____

_____ Scrapbook Cover (5pts)

- has character's name, book title, author's name, and student's name
- has an illustrated cover reflecting the main character

_____ Journal Entry (20pts)

- is written in paragraph form
- is written from the main character's point of view
- includes information about the main character, setting, main story events, and how the book ended
- has less than three spelling/grammatical errors

_____ Pictures and Photographs (15pts)

- contains five photos/illustrations as the directions state
- has written captions for the pictures

_____ Letter to a Friend (10pts)

- written in proper letter format
- written from the main character's point of view
- describes the problem in the story
- contains fewer than three spelling/grammatical errors

_____ Letter from a Friend (10pts)

- written in proper letter format**
- written from the secondary character's point of view**
- discusses the solution to the problem described in the first letter**
- contains fewer than three spelling/grammatical errors**

_____ Souvenirs and Momentos (20pts)

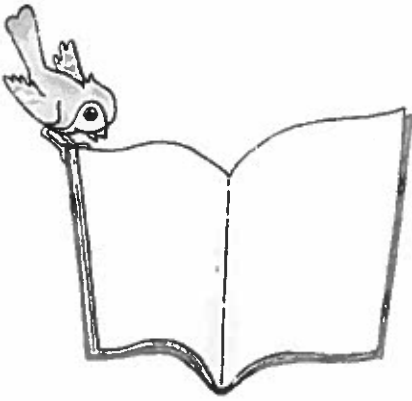
- includes a minimum of six objects reflecting the character and/or story events**
- includes a written explanation of the significance of each item**

_____ Diary Entry (20pts)

- written from the main character's point of view in paragraph form**
- explains how the character felt and changed from the beginning of the book to the end**
- contains fewer than three spelling/grammatical errors**

Total Points/Grade: _____

Comments:



Fourth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Students entering grade four must read and complete two book report assignments during the summer. On the first day of school, students are required to bring in their finished reports to be graded as their first Reading grades for the year.

Directions for the first book

1. Please choose one of the following books to read:

The Tale of Despereaux	by: Kate DiCamillo
Stuart Little	by: E.B. White
The Mouse and the Motorcycle	by: Beverly Cleary

2. Complete the Thumbnail Outline Worksheet for the book.
3. Choose one report from the options below to complete for the book you chose:
 - Book Jacket Report
 - Scrapbook Book Report
 - Recipe Book Report

Directions for the second book

1. Please choose a book from one of the following mystery series to read:

Nancy Drew Mystery Series	by: Caroline Keene
Hardy Boys Mystery Series	by: Franklin Dixon
Encyclopedia Brown Mystery Series	by: Donald Sobal

2. Complete the Thumbnail Outline Worksheet for the book.
3. Complete the Scavenger Hunt Book Report.

Thumbnail Outline Worksheet

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

I. Main Characters

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

II. Setting and Time Period

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

III. The Plot: A Timeline

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

IV. Best Parts of the Book

A. _____

B. _____

V. Criticism of the Book

A. _____

B. _____

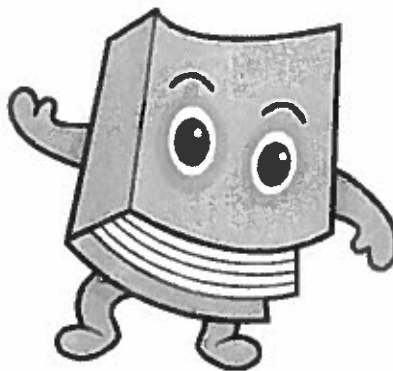
VI. Overall Opinion of the Book (and Details to Support Your Opinion)

A. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Saint Martha School IXL Summer Math

www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha

All students entering grades second thru eight are expected to complete online math work designed to maintain and extend foundational math skills over the summer break. Through use of the website IXL (www.ixl.com/signin/stmartha), students have access to a comprehensive math practice site with an unlimited number of math practice questions in hundreds of skills. In addition to making math practice exciting, IXL is designed to help your child learn at his or her own pace. The website is adaptive and will adjust to your child's demonstrated ability level. The site also saves all of your child's results and time spent, so that student progress can be monitored. Students will be able to access this program during the summer as well as throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

When your child logs into IXL, he/she should click on the tab for the GRADE LEVEL that they just completed. For example, if your child will be in 3rd grade this fall, he/she should work on grade level 2 this summer. Only exceptions: students taking prealgebra in grade 7 should work on grade 8; students taking Algebra 1 should work on Algebra 1. Students should work on a variety of exercises. I recommend cycling thru one exercise per topic.

You may email me at dscanlon@stmarthact.eduk12.net after June 19, 2017 with any questions. The school office will also have a list of usernames and passwords.

User Id: First letter of first name + Last name (note just a few students have the digit "1" added to their name)

Password: School ID number (6 digits) ***Can be found on report card!**

Expectations: During the summer students should spend 20 minutes a day reviewing math skills on IXL. Students entering grades five thru 8 are expected to spend a minimum of **10** hours on IXL this summer. Students entering grades two thru four are expected to spend **8** hours on IXL this summer. Make sure your child is logged into our IXL site by recognizing our red emblem to ensure that he/she will get credit for the time he/she spends on IXL. Thank you parents for your support!