

Incoming 5th Grade Summer ELA Assignment:

Welcome to Fifth Grade!

You will be required to read two books this summer. All students must read *Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea. Everyone is expected to read the book and complete the assignment. When we return to school, you will also have a book test in the first two weeks of school.

Book: *Because of Mr. Terupt*, by Rob Buyea

Directions: Students will be asked to create an original book cover for: **Because of Mr. Terupt**. This should be done on white paper. Be creative! Please include the student name at the bottom. This book cover needs to be stapled to your responses. You can either type this assignment or handwrite it. Make sure it is neat and legible. *The rubric included with this assignment is provided. Please use this while completing the assignment.*

After you read *Because of Mr. Terupt* you will answer the following questions listed below. Each question needs to be answered in a well-constructed paragraph of **5-8 sentences**.

1. Choose **ONE** character in the book. What words would you use to describe him/her? Use evidence from the book to explain why this word describes the character.
2. Pick one of the seven main characters (a different one than you picked above).
How has the main character changed from the beginning of the novel to the end? Explain using evidence (details) from the book.
3. What is one theme (lesson or message) you can learn about life from this book? Explain.
4. A short summary of the plot. Make sure to include: rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution of the story. **This summary should be 15 sentences presented in three paragraphs.**
 - Please make sure to check your spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.
 - If you type the summary, it must be:
 - Typed in Times New Roman
 - 12 font
 - Double-spaced.

Please use the rubric that is attached to help you complete the *Because of Mr. Terupt* summer reading assignment. Do not lose the rubric! You will need to hand in the rubric with your assignment

The second book is a book you will choose from the attached lists. After you read your choice book, please fill out the book review included in this packet. You are encouraged to make your review as colorful as you like. I'm looking forward to seeing what types of books you all enjoy and sharing some of my favorites with you, too!

Book Assignments will be due on the First Friday of the beginning of school.

Have a great summer! Stay safe, have fun, relax, and recharge! I'm so excited to meet you in September!
:) Continue to READ! -

Warm regards,
Ms. O'Hara

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Rubric for Responses

Front Cover with original illustration and title and name	/10
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Character Description	/20
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Change of Main Character	/20
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Theme of Story	/15
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Short Summary	/20
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Grammar and spelling	/10
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Neatness	/5
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Total points	/100
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Comments:

Book Review

Name of Reviewer: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Put in your own words, mystery, science fiction, fantasy, etc. (If you're not sure, just write "mystery".)

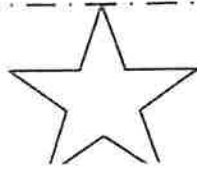
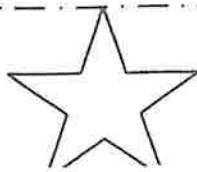
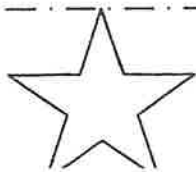
Put in your own words, a book about a person, a book about a place, etc.

Write your review.

A brief summary (no spoilers)! This novel is set in _____ The main character(s) _____ This book is about _____

Recommendation:s: Who do you think would like this book and why? Would you NOT recommend this book and why?

Bulldog Stars: How many Jimmy the Bulldog stars do you give this book?



FOURTH GRADE ENTERING FIFTH GRADE

Aim by Joyce Moyer Hostetter As World War II threatens the United States in 1941, fourteen-year-old Junior Bledsoe fights his own battles at home. Junior struggles with school and with anger—at his father, his insufferable granddaddy, his neighbors, and himself—as he desperately tries to understand himself and find his own aim in life. ©2016 Grade Level 5–7

Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. ©2011 Grade Level 4-6

Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson - a coming-of-age story about Jesse Aarons, who befriends Leslie Burke after she beats him in a footrace. Together, they create an imaginary world called Terabithia, where they escape their problems and find joy in their friendship. ©1977 Grade Level 4-7. Newbery Medal 1978

Bob by Wendy Mass It's been five years since Livy and her family have visited Livy's grandmother in Australia. Now that she's back, Livy has the feeling she's forgotten something really, really important about Gran's house. ©2019 Grade Level 5-6

Eggs by Jerry Spinelli - about two children, David and Primrose, who forge a unique friendship while grappling with loss, family dynamics, and finding their place in the world. Their contrasting backgrounds and personalities lead them on an unlikely adventure, helping each other navigate their individual struggles. ©2008 Grade Level 3-7

From the Mixed-Up Files of Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg - Claudia Kincaid, a clever 12-year-old who runs away from home to the Metropolitan Museum of Art with her younger brother Jamie. While hiding in the museum, they discover a mysterious statue, a potential lost work by Michelangelo, and become entangled in the secrets of the statue's former owner, Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler. ©1967 Grade Level 3-8. 1968 Newbery Medal

Girls Who Code: Learn to Code and Change the World by Reshma Saujani The world's first coders were women. Pioneers such as Grace Hopper and Ada Lovelace helped shape the programming landscape as we know it today — and yet, according to recent research from Stack Overflow, only 7.7 percent of developers in the United States are women. ©2017 Grade Level 5-6

Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams-Garcia Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern are off to Alabama to visit their grandmother Big Ma and her mother, Ma Charles. Across the way lives Ma Charles's half-sister, Miss Trotter. The two half-sisters haven't spoken in years. As Delphine hears about her family history, she uncovers the surprising truth that's been keeping the sisters apart. Grade Level 5–7. Coretta Scott King Award ©2016

Holes by Louis Sachar - follows Stanley Yelnats, who is wrongly convicted of stealing and sent to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention center where boys dig holes in the desert. As Stanley and other boys endure the hard labor, they uncover a family curse, a hidden treasure, and the secrets of the past. ©1998 Grade Level 4–7. Newbery Medal 1999, National Book Award 1998

The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary by Laura Shovan Emerson Elementary is closing its doors and is due to be replaced by a shopping mall. Not everyone in this multiracial fifth-grade class feels the same about the school's imminent closure. The variety of expressive writing styles for each character makes this book unique. ©2016 Grade Level 5–7

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis - The story follows four Pevensie children who discover a magical wardrobe leading to Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter by the evil White Witch. They must help Aslan, a powerful lion, defeat the witch and restore peace to Narnia. ©1950 Grade Level 3-6

Loser by Jerry Spinelli - Donald Zinkoss, a young character who demonstrates great self-acceptance and who is not afraid to fail. With the encouragement of his family, he learns to approach life with a positive spirit and to enjoy all that it has to offer. ©1996 Grade Level 3-7. Garden State Children's Book Award 2005, William Allen White Children's Book Award Winner 2005

Recommended Reading 2025

Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park A girl determined to fit in and realize her dreams: getting an education, becoming a dressmaker in her father's shop, and making at least one friend. Hanna, a half-Asian girl in a small town in

America's heartland, lives in 1880. Hanna's adjustment to her new surroundings, and the townspeople's prejudice against Asians, is at the heart of the story. ©1996 Grade Level 5–8

Mother Teresa: In My Own Words - by Mother Teresa It's a way to experience the love and wisdom she shared with the poor, the dying, and those in need, offering solace and hope to readers. The book aims to inspire compassion and generosity, much like her life's work. ©2020 Grade Level 5–6

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin - Rose Howard, a fifth-grader with autism who is fiercely devoted to her dog, Rain. When Rain goes missing during a storm, Rose embarks on a journey to find her beloved companion, learning about the world, social situations, and the importance of following rules, even when they are difficult. ©2018 Grade Level 4-7. Schneider Family Book Award, Bank Street/Josette Frank Award, Judy Lopez Memorial Award

Saving Winslow by Sharon Creech Louie doesn't have the best luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures. So when his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he's determined to save him. He names him Winslow. ©2019 Grade Level 5-7 ALA Notable Children's Book, Texas Bluebonnet Award Winner

Stargazing by Jen Wang Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. ©2019 Grade Level 3-4

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper Stella lives in the segregated South in Bumblebee, North Carolina, to be exact about it. Some stores she can go into; some stores she can't. Some folks are right, pleasant; others are a lot less so. To Stella, it sort of evens out, and heck, the Klan hasn't bothered them for years. ©2016 Grade Level 5-8

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo - a small, sickly mouse named Despereaux who falls in love with a princess. Despereaux's unusual affection for humans and his courage lead him on a journey where his fate intertwines with a kind serving girl and a rat who also desires light. 2003 Grade Level 2-5. Newbery Medal 2004

Two Minute Drill by Mike Lupica - two unlikely friends: Scott, the smart but clumsy new kid on the football team, and Chris, the star quarterback who struggles in school. Through their friendship, they learn that the will to succeed can be more valuable than raw talent, helping each other improve both academically and athletically. ©2009 Grade Level 3-7

Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement by Carole Boston Weatherford Despite fierce prejudice and abuse, even being beaten to within an inch of her life, Fannie Lou Hamer was a champion of civil rights from the 1950s until her death in 1977. Integral to the Freedom Summer of 1964. ©2015 Grade Level 3-6. 2016 Caldecott Honor Book, Robert F. Sibert Honor Book, John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award

The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis - the Watson family's journey from Flint, Michigan, to Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, as seen through the eyes of 10-year-old Kenny. The book explores themes of family, the Civil Rights Movement, and the impact of racism, culminating in a tragic event at the 16th Street Baptist Church. ©2016 Grade Level 5–6. Newbery Honor 1996, Coretta Scott King, ALA best book for Young Adults

The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley Nine-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So, when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him. 2016 Newbery Honor Book and 2016 Schneider Family Book Award ©2016 Grade Level 5–6

We the Children by Andrew Clements - Benjamin Pratt, a boy who discovers a secret about his beloved old school that involves a real estate deal and the school's history. ©2010 Grade Level 2-5.

When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller When Lily and her family move in with her sick grandmother, a magical tiger straight out of her halmoni's Korean folktales arrives, prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history. ©2020 Grade Level 4-5. Newbery Medal and Asian/Pacific American Award

Who Was Anne Frank by Ann Abramson - explores the life of Anne Frank, from her childhood to the secret annex where she hid with her family, and delves into the legacy of her diary. ©2007 Grade Level 5-8.

Recommended Reading 2025

Wonder by R.J. Palacio - 10-year-old August "Auggie" Pullman, a boy with significant facial differences, as he transitions from being homeschooled to attending mainstream school for the first time. Auggie navigates the challenges of navigating friendships, prejudice, and bullying while trying to be accepted by his classmates. ©2012