

Summer Reading 2026-2027 School Year

Third Grade Entering Fourth Grade

Students are required to read **one** book over the summer. The required reading book is The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate. The other books listed are suggestions for possible nonfiction books within your child's AR level. Please feel free to read additional fiction books based on student interest. (B.L. refers to book level and AR pts refers to the number of AR points per book)

***Required Reading: The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate 2012** (Fiction, but based on a true story)

B.L. 3.6 AR Pts: 4.0

When Ivan, a gorilla that has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides he must find her a better life.

***Available in a digital format through Amazon on Kindle or as an Audiobook**

Students will be required to take an AR quiz, complete an in class project, and/or writing assignment within the first weeks of school on their required reading book.

Nonfiction Book Options:

LEGO

Martha London 2019 B.L.: 3.4 AR Pts: 0.5

This book introduces readers to LEGO, covering its history, franchises and products, and worldwide impact.

***UnBEElievables: Honeybee Poems and Paintings**

Douglas Florian 2012 BL: 4.0 AR Pts: 0.5

In fourteen funny, fact-filled honeybee poems and paintings, this book explores the natural history of these often-unappreciated critters, revealing them to be a totally cool and totally important part of our ecosystem.

***On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein**

Jennifer Berne 2013 BL: 4.5 AR Pts: 0.5

Albert Einstein ultimately grew into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe. This book invites the reader to travel along with Einstein on a journey full of scientific discovery.

***Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker**

Patricia Hruby Powell 2014 B.L.: 4.6 AR Pts: 1.0

This book is an extraordinary portrait of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, the woman who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world.

***Queen of the Falls**

Chris Van Allsburg 2011 BL: 5.7 AR Pts: 1.0

This book recounts the stunt performed by sixty-two-year-old retired charm school instructor Annie Edson Taylor, who went over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel in an effort to gain fame and fortune.

***The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers Edition)**

William Kamkwamba 2016 BL: 5.8 AR Pts: 9.0

When William, a Malawian teen, began building a windmill from scraps and claimed the machine would generate electricity, everyone in his village thought he was crazy.

Please note that students may take an AR quiz on anything they have read over the summer. You may go onto www.arbookfind.com to see if a book you have is an AR book and to check appropriate reading level/ number of AR points.