



Summer 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students Entering 3rd Grade:

Required Summer Reading/Writing

St. Jude Regional Catholic School believes that summer reading is a valuable experience for all students and an important extension of our educational programs. Therefore, students entering third grade must:

- Read three books from the attached list (Any book in the book series is ok) One book must be fiction, one non-fiction and the third book can be either fiction or non-fiction.
- Complete the attached book reports. Additional pages may be added. They may also type the book reports. If the book reports are typed, they do not need to be typed on the form and the questions do not need to be retyped. Reports will be collected the day the students return to school in September. All reports will be graded and counted as quiz grades.

Some of the books are more difficult to read than others. When choosing a book, have your child turn to the middle and read two or three pages. If there are as many as five or more words that your child doesn't know the meaning of or can't pronounce then the book is probably too difficult. If your child can read the pages easily then he/she will most likely enjoy reading the entire book.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and READ! READ! READ!

Third Grade Required Summer Reading
Choose Three Books- 1 Fiction, 1 Non-fiction and 1 of Your Choice.

Fiction Books

Abbott, Tony *The Secrets of Droon (series)*

Eric, Julie, and Neal, a trio of best friends from our world stumble upon the magical world of Droon, a realm populated by wizards and sorcerers and full of strange landscapes.

Avi *Poppy*

Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Oax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas. (For advanced readers)

Bauer, Marion Dane. *The Blue Ghost*

Nine-year-old Liz is helping her grandmother prepare to sell the old family cabin. She is awakened at night by a strange blue light and a voice calling her name. In the corner of her room, a ghostly woman dressed in old-fashioned clothes beckons to her and then disappears through the wall. Later, Liz hears voices and a baby's cry coming from behind the spot where the blue ghost vanished. She follows the sound and finds herself in the same cabin but long ago when it was first built.

Blume, Judy *Freckle Juice*

Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's special freckle recipe for fifty cents. He carefully begins to mix the strange combination of ingredients and immediately runs into some unforeseen problems.

Bowen, Fred *On the Line* (or any AllStar Sports Story book by Fred Bowen)

Worried that his inability to make free throws is making his junior high basketball team lose games, Marcus learns an unconventional underhand shooting method from a friendly custodian but is not sure he wants to use it.

Bulla, Clyde Robert *The Chalk Box Kid*

Nine-year-old Gregory's new house does not have room for a garden, but he creates a surprising and very different garden as a mural on an abandoned factory wall which the classmates at his new school come to see.

Byars, Betsy *Tornado*

As they wait out a tornado in their storm cellar, a family listens to their farmhand tell stories about the dog that was blown into his life by another tornado when he was a boy.

Ann Cameron *Gloria's Way*

Gloria is best friends with Julian and his little brother Huey, and she has as much to say as they do. There's the parrot that ruins the Valentine for her mother; Huey's dog, who needs to be cured of his squirrel obsession; and what happens when classmate Latisha tricks Gloria, Julian, and Huey-but they don't know until it's too late!

Carris, Joan *Welcome to the Bed and Biscuit*

Mini-pig Ernest, mynah bird Gabby, and Milly the cat help Grampa Bender in his day-to-day chores at the Bed and Biscuit, a friendly animal shelter. When Grampa begins spending all of his time with a sick Scottie pup, the other animals, particularly Milly, feel jealous. When she vanishes, it's up to Ernest and Gabby to find their friend and convince her that even though there's a new member of the family, Grampa doesn't love her any less.

Christopher, Matt *The Hit-Away Kid* (or any Matt Christopher book)

Barry McGee, hit-away batter for the Peach Street Mudders, enjoys winning so much that he has a tendency to bend the rules; then the dirty tactics of the pitcher on a rival team give him a new perspective on sports ethics. (For advanced readers)

Cleary, Beverly *Henry Huggins*

Henry wants some excitement in his life. Excitement arrives in the form of a skinny stray dog that befriends Henry at the drugstore. Boy and pooch bond instantly when Henry offers his ice cream cone to the dog, who downs it in one gulp. Henry calls his four-legged pal Ribsby, for obvious reasons, and with more than a little effort and confusion, brings the lovable pet home to his family's house on Klickitat Street. (For advanced readers)

Clements, Andrew *Jake Drake, Bully Buster*

When Jake was three years old at Miss Lulu's Dainty Diaper Day Care Center, what did he know about bullies? Nothing! But he learned fast! Why? Because Jake is kind of smart, and he's not a tattletale, and he doesn't have a big brother to protect him.

Cummings, Troy *Notebook of Doom #1: Rise of the Balloon Goons (A Branches Book)*

Alexander has just moved to a new town where he is about to uncover all sorts of monsters! He finds an old notebook with the word "DOOM" inscribed on the front cover. The Notebook of Doom, which Alexander now holds, contains top secret information about monsters! In this first book, Alexander goes up against spooky balloon goons--unique and twisted arm-waving balloon guys! This book is full of humor, engaging black-and-white illustrations, and of course . . . monsters!

DiCamillo, Kate *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*

Mercy is a fat little pig and a beloved member of the Watson family. When Mr. and Mrs. Watson sing her a happy morning song, she feels as warm inside as buttered toast. But when the lights go off, Mercy is so scared she gets in bed with the Watsons. The bed breaks under the weight, which leads to a series of hysterical events.

DiCamillo, Kate *Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventure*

It begins, as the best superhero stories do, with a tragic accident that has unexpected consequences. The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book *Terrible Things Can Happen to You!*, is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry — and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart.

Estes, Eleanor *Hundred Dresses*

None of her classmates pay much attention to Wanda Petronski, a Polish-American girl, until she announces she has 100 dresses in her closet. Everyone laughs and teases her so much that she stops coming to school. Then, her classmates discover she really does have 100 dresses and discover something about teasing and themselves.

Gidwitz, Adam *Creature of the Pines (The Unicorn Rescue Society)*

Are you ready to protect the creatures of myth and legend? Then you belong in The Unicorn Rescue Society. HURRY—THE CREATURES NEED YOU!

Elliot Eisner isn't exactly thrilled with the first day at his new school. His class is going on a field trip to a creepy forest called the Pine Barrens. The trip is being led by Professor Fauna, the weirdest teacher Elliot has ever met. And the only kid who will talk to Elliot, Uchenna Devereaux, isn't afraid of danger. She likes danger.

Green, Poppy *A New Friend (The Adventures of Sophie Mouse)*

Springtime has arrived at Silverlake Forest! Sophie Mouse can't wait to go back to school after the long winter break. Even better, there's a new student in class—Sophie loves meeting new animals! But the class gasps when Owen enters: he's a snake! No one is brave enough to sit near him, or play with Owen at recess, or even talk to him. Can Sophie help her friends understand that Owen's not scary after all?

Hale, Shannon *The Princess in Black*

Who says princesses don't wear black? When trouble raises its blue monster head, Princess Magnolia ditches her flouncy dresses and becomes the Princess in Black!

Princess Magnolia is having hot chocolate and scones with Duchess Wigtower when . . . *Brring! Brring!* The monster alarm! A big blue monster is threatening the goats! Stopping monsters is no job for dainty Princess Magnolia. But luckily Princess Magnolia has a secret —she's also the Princess in Black, and stopping monsters is the perfect job for *her!*

Hanlon, Abby *Dory Fantasmagory*

As the youngest in her family, Dory really wants attention, and more than anything she wants her brother and sister to play with her. But she's too much of a baby for them. Her siblings may roll their eyes at her childish games, but Dory has lots of things to do: outsmarting the monsters all over the house, escaping from prison (aka time-out), and exacting revenge on her sister's favorite doll. And when they really need her, daring Dory will prove her bravery, and finally get exactly what she has been looking for.

Harper, Charise *Just Grace*

Misnamed by her teacher, seven-year-old Grace prides herself on being empathetic, but when she tries to help a neighbor feel better, her good intentions backfire.

Henkes, Kevin *The Year of Billy Miller*

When Billy Miller has a mishap at the statue of the Jolly Green Giant at the end of summer vacation, he ends up with a big lump on his head. What a way to start second grade, with a lump on your head! As the year goes by, though, Billy figures out how to navigate elementary school, how to appreciate his little sister, and how to be a more grown up and responsible member of the family .

Howe, Deborah and James *Bunnacula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery*

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire. (For advanced readers)

Kelly, Katy *Lucy Rose, Here's the Thing about Me*

Eight-year-old Lucy Rose keeps a diary of her first year in Washington, D.C., her home since her parent's separation, where she spends time with her grandparents, makes new friends, and longs to convince her teacher to let her take care of the class pet during a holiday.

Kerrin, Jessica Scott *Martin Bridge Ready for Takeoff!*

Meet Martin Bridge -- a boy whose well-meant plans sometimes go awry. In three illustrated stories, Martin encounters two bus drivers with very different ways of relating, makes a tough decision about a friend's pet and takes on an extremely competitive model rocket project.

Le Guin, Ursula K. *Catwings*

Four young cats with wings leave the city slums in search of a safe place to live, finally meeting two children with kind hands.

Maclachlan, Patricia *Arthur, For the Very First Time*

Arthur spends a summer with his unconventional aunt and uncle and begins to look at life, his family, and himself differently.

MacDonald, Megan *Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid*

James ("Stink") Moody is the shortest kid in his second-grade class. Is he shrinking? Judy is his bossy older sister, but he learns to handle her. For Presidents' Day, Stink's hero is not big tall Lincoln but another James, James Madison, the shortest president ever.

McKay, Hilary *Lulu And The Duck In The Park*

Everyone knows that no pets are allowed in school, but an egg is not a pet is it? See what happens when Lulu brings an egg to school.

Park, Barbara *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business*

It's poeey on B-A-B-I-E-S until Junie B. finds out that her new dumb old baby brother is a big fat deal. Her two bestest friends are giving her everything they own just to see him. And guess what else? Maybe she can bring him to school on Pet Day.

Peterson, John *The Littles*

The Littles, a family of six-inch high people who live in the walls of an old house, begin to worry when the new residents bring a cat.

Potter, Ellen *Big Foot and Little Foot*

Hugo is a young Sasquatch who longs for adventure. Boone is young boy who longs to see a Sasquatch. When their worlds collide, they become the unlikeliest pair of best friends.

At the Academy for Curious Squidges, Hugo learns all manner of Sneaking—after all, the most important part of being a Sasquatch is staying hidden from humans. But Hugo dreams of roaming free in the Big Wide World rather than staying cooped up in caves. When he has an unexpected run-in with a young human boy, Hugo seizes the opportunity for a grand adventure.

Rodowsky, Colby F. *Not My Dog*

Eight-year-old Ellie wants a puppy. So, she is not happy when her parents tell her they are adopting a full-grown dog belonging to a distant relative. But, gradually the brown, skinny-tailed dog with sticking-up ears wins her over. (For advanced readers)

Roy, Ron *A to Z Mysteries*

Not only does Dink Duncan like to read mystery books, he also likes to solve crimes in real life. Along with his two best friends, Josh and Ruth Rose, Dink unravels mysteries in his hometown of Green Lawn, Connecticut-and sometimes far away from home, too, at places like a dude ranch in Montana and a castle in Maine. Follow the clues along with Dink and his friends on each of their adventures!

Schlitz, Laura Amy *The Night Fairy*

Flory loses her wings after a bat attack and struggles to adapt to life as a day fairy.

Scieszka, Jon *Knights of the Kitchen Table*

When Joe gets a magic book from his uncle, he and his friends find themselves transported to King Arthur's court.

Sobol, Donald J. *Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective*

Ten-year-old Leroy Brown, son of the police chief of Idaville, opens a detective agency and before the summer is over solves nine baffling cases, the solutions to which are found in the back of the book.

Spinelli, Jerry *The Library Card*

The lives of four young people in different circumstances are changed by their encounters with books.

Spinelli, Jerry *Third Grade Angels*

"First grade babies! / Second grade cats! / Third grade angels! / Fourth grade rats!," Given a challenge by their teacher, Suds and his third grade classmates are now out to prove who is the top angel in the class.

Stilton, Geronimo (any in this series)

Geronimo Stilton, editor-in-chief of The Rodent's Gazette, and his sister Thea are involved in one adventure after another. They are "whisker-licking-good stories," as the author calls them.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler *The Boxcar Children*

Four resourceful, independent orphans find inventive ways to stick together through all kinds of exciting mysteries and adventures, including living in a boxcar! (For advanced readers)

Non-fiction Books

Edwards, Roberta *Who Was King Tut?*

Ms. Edwards explains the life and times of this ancient Egyptian ruler, covering the story of the tomb's discovery, as well as myths and so-called mummy curses.

Gare, Thompson *Who Was Helen Keller?*

At age two, Helen Keller became deaf and blind. She lived in a world of silence and darkness and she spent the rest of her life struggling to break through it. But with the help of teacher Annie Sullivan, Helen learned to read, write, and do many amazing things.

Herman, Gail *Who Was Jackie Robinson?*

As a kid, Jackie Robinson loved sports. He was a natural at football, basketball, and, of course, baseball. But beyond athletic skill, it was his strength of character that secured his place in sports history. In 1947 Jackie joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, breaking the long-time color barrier in major league baseball.

Jenkins, Steve *Actual Size*

Mr. Jenkins shows 18 animals and insects—or a part of their body—in actual size.

Jerome, Kate Boehm *Who Was Amelia Earhart?*

In 1932, she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. In 1935, she also became the first woman to fly across the Pacific. From her early years to her mysterious 1937 disappearance while attempting a flight around the world

Seymour Simon *Giant Snakes*

Mr. Simon describes the physical characteristics and habits of snakes.

Time For Kids *Sharks or Spiders*

Learn interesting facts about these animals.

Osborne, Mary Pope or Will *Magic Tree House Fact Tracker*

- *Pandas and Other Endangered Species*
- *Dog Heroes*
- *Space*
- *Mummies and Pyramids*
- *Titanic*
- *Dolphins and Sharks*
- *Ancient Rome and Pompeii*
- *Twisters and Other Terrible Storms*
- *Sabretooths and Ice Age*
- *American Revolution*
- *Polar Bears and the Arctic*
- *Knights and Castles*
- *Snakes and other Reptiles*
- *Leprechauns and Other Irish Folklore*
- *Pilgrims*
- *Sea Monsters*



Fiction Book Report

Name _____

Date _____

Book Title

Author

“Setting” is the place and time in which the events of the story occur. Describe **where** and **when** this story takes place.

“Characters” are the people in a story **who** do things, or have things happen to them. The characters don’t have to be human! Animals that are an important part of a story are also “characters”. Describe your favorite character. Tell why you like this character.

Describe a scene from the story where a character is being proactive and explain why the character is being proactive. Someone who is proactive takes responsibility for their own actions. They think before they act. They do not blame others for their wrong actions or feelings. They do the right thing even when no one is looking.



Non-fiction Book Report

Name _____

Date _____

Book Title

Author

List 3 Things You Discovered When Reading This Book
Use Complete Sentences

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

**List 2 Things You Found Interesting About the Topic
Use Complete Sentences**

1 _____

2 _____

List 1 Question You Still Have About the Topic

1 _____

Would you recommend this book to a friend? _____ Why or why not?

Draw a picture about this topic (use a separate paper). Write a caption for the picture.