

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This summer, your child will be participating in a fun summer reading adventure! All students at Carlstadt Public School will be reading various genres of books with one common theme, Build a Better World! Your child should select a book from their grade level list. Students should select books based upon interest with keeping their reading level in mind. The books on the lists are highly engaging and recommended by kid readers from all over the country!

We are fortunate to be able to collaborate with the William E. Dermody Public Library in Carlstadt. The children's librarian, Erin Hughes, will be planning activities your child can participate in throughout the summer. Please visit the library for more information.

Upon our return to school in September, students will engage in book talks in their classes to discuss what they have read and how this theme relates to their lives. Also, as your children are reading this summer, snap a picture or tweet a favorite part from the book using the hashtag **#Carlstadtreads**. Follow that hashtag to find tweets from other students, teachers, and staff!

Our goal at Carlstadt Public School is to foster a love of reading and create lifelong readers. Our hope is that this summer reading project will help your child reach these goals! I am excited to hear all of the adventures your children take this summer through reading!

Sincerely,
Allison Evans
Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Summer Reading Instructions:

You are required to read least **two** books (one fiction/one non-fiction) from the reading list this summer. Remember to pick books that are good for your reading level. As you are reading, you need to fill in the graphic organizer (see attached sheets). Please feel free to read as many books as you would like, but you must read **two** to meet the requirements.

Have a wonderful summer!!

Summer Reading 2017

Carlstadt Public School

Students entering 4th Grade

| Book Title | Author | Genre | Reading Level |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Helen Keller | Margaret Davidson | Biography | M |
| The Lady in the Box | Ann McGovern | Fiction | M |
| Louis Braille -The Boy Who Invented Books for the Blind | Margaret Davidson | Non-Fiction | N |
| The Hundred Dresses | Eleanor Estes | Fiction | P |
| Who Was Rosa Parks? | Yona Zeldis McDonough | Biography | P |
| The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam | Huynh Quang Nhuong | Autobiography | P |
| Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship | Isabella Hatkoff and Craig WI | Non-Fiction | R |
| Who Was Jane Goodall? | Roberta Edwards | Biography | R |
| Loser | Jerry Spinelli | Fiction | U |

Main Idea

Name: _____ Date: _____

The main idea of a story is what the whole story is about. When writing about the main idea remember to include the most important parts of the story.

My book title: _____

The main idea of the book: _____

Details

The details are the smaller pieces of information that go with the main idea. List three details that support your main idea.

1

2

3

I can read informational texts.

Non-Fiction

Title: _____

Three Facts

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

By (name): _____

Illustration

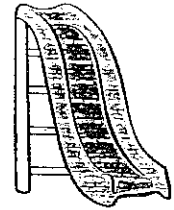
Caption: _____

1 Key Idea

The Most Interesting
Thing I Learned

My opinion about this topic:

Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to two months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide or, even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

1. Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child.
2. Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who only reads 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of 6th grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priority you may need to set up an incentive program.
3. Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
4. Read for difference purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways or incorporating reading into everyday activities.
5. Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples To Apples improves vocabulary.
6. If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address reading. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate summer growth.