

Summer Reading Assignment 4th Grade

Welcome to 4th Grade! Below you will find this summer's reading assignment. If you have any questions, you can reach me at molly.schettewi@stjes.org. Happy reading!

All 4th Graders will read: Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt.

Choose **ONE** of the following projects to complete about Fish in a Tree:

- Make a shadow box or diorama displaying your favorite scene.
- Create a timeline of the major events of your book. Use drawings to show events along the timeline. Label each event.
- Create a comic book that tells about your favorite part of the book. The comic strip should have a minimum of eight scenes or sections. Include comic style illustrations in color and include dialogue bubbles.
- Make a 3-5 minute video recording with a reenactment of one of your favorite events from the story. You may use friends and family members as actors and actresses. Be prepared to share your video with the class when we present our projects.

Choose **ONE** of the following assignments to complete about Fish in a Tree:

- Write a new ending for Fish in a Tree. This new ending should be at least one page long (it can be typed but the font should be no bigger than 18 in either Calibri or Times New Roman).
- Write a continuation of Fish in a Tree by creating chapter 52. What happens in the new "next" chapter? This should be at least one page in length (it can be typed but the font should be no bigger than 18 in either Calibri or Times New Roman).
- Write a song that tells about Fish in a Tree. You may sing your song with or without music. Be prepared to perform your song to the class or have someone video your performance and we can play the video for the class.
- Write a poem about one of the characters and how they demonstrate our Traits of Success (Organization, Attentiveness, Courage, Faith, Persistence,

Positive Attitude, Flexibility, Generosity, and Responsibility). Be sure that it is at least 10 lines long.

Choose **TWO** of the following writing prompts to write a paragraph about Fish in a Tree:

1. Ally and Ally's mom both loved the book Alice in Wonderland. What are some of the books that you love and why?
2. Grandpa and Dad would ask Travis and Ally if they were having a silver dollar day or a wooden nickel day. What is the difference between these types of days? Describe a silver dollar day for you. Describe a wooden nickel day for you.
3. Travis told Ally to not have low expectations of herself. Give an example of some high expectations you can have of yourself.
4. Ally likes math and art in school. How are you and Ally alike? How are you different from Ally? What subjects do you like in school? What subjects do you dislike? Why?
5. When thinking about what to bring to school that represents her, Ally considers a bag of nothing or a bag of dirt. What would you choose to represent you? How does it represent you?
6. Keisha stood up for Albert when Shay made fun of his clothes. Have you ever stood up for a friend or classmate before? Describe the situation.
7. Ally shares a story about Shay holding a grudge. Do you do this or are you able to forgive and forget? Describe a situation.
8. What does Ally say is the difference between an older brother and a big brother? If you have older siblings, do you consider them older brothers/sisters or big brothers/sister?

4th Grade Reading List

- 1. Alexander, Lloyd** **Time Cat**
Gareth's definitely no ordinary cat. For one thing, he can talk. For another, he's got the power to travel through time. And the instant he tells this to Jason, the two of them are in ancient Egypt, on the first of nine amazing adventures that Jason will never forget.
- 2. Avi** **Poppy**
At the very edge of Dimwood Forest stood an old charred oak where, silhouetted by the moon, a great horned owl sat waiting. The owl's name was Mr. Ocax, and he looked like death himself. With his piercing gaze, he surveyed the lands he called his own, watching for the creatures he considered his subjects. Not one of them ever dared to cross his path. . .until the terrible night when two little mice went dancing in the moonlight.
- 3. Barber, Tiki and Ronde** **Go Long!**
Tiki and Ronde were the stars of their Pee Wee football team, the Cave Springs Vikings. But middle school is much bigger than elementary school and it's a whole different game—on and off the field. When Coach Spangler takes a job coaching for the high school team and Tiki's old science teacher Mr. Wheeler is tapped for the middle school coaching job, the beginning of the school year and the football season is off to a bumpy start. But through working together, the boys discover that the whole team is bigger than any of its parts.
- 4. Blume, Judy** **Double Fudge**
Fudge is back and he's discovered money in a big way. He's making his own "Fudge Bucks," dressing as a miser for Halloween and thumbing through catalogs before bed, choosing birthday and Christmas presents years in advance - much to the embarrassment of his family, especially older brother Peter, who's just starting 7th grade. But things begin to change when the Hatchers discover their long-lost relatives, The Howie Hatchers of Honolulu, Hawaii - not exactly your everyday family. With new cousins, Flora and Fauna, and 4-year-old Farley Drexel - yes, that's right, another Farley Drexel! - the stage is set for a wild and wacky beginning to a new school year.
- 5. Clements, Andrew** **Frindle**
Is Nick Allen a troublemaker? He really just likes to liven things up at school -- and he's always had plenty of great ideas. When Nick learns some interesting information about how words are created, suddenly he's got the inspiration for his best plan ever...the frindle. Who says a pen has to be called a pen? Why not call it a frindle? Things begin innocently enough as Nick gets his friends to use the new word. Then other people in town start saying frindle. Soon the school is in an uproar, and Nick has become a local hero. His teacher wants Nick to put an end to all this nonsense, but the funny thing is frindle doesn't belong to Nick anymore. The new word is spreading across the country, and there's nothing Nick can do to stop it.
- 6. Coville, Jerry** **Aliens Ate My Homework**
INVASION EVER! "I cannot tell a lie," says Rod Allbright. And it's the truth. Ask him a question and he's bound to give you an honest answer. Which is why, when his teacher asks what happened to last night's math assignment, Rod has to give the only answer he can: "Aliens ate my homework, Miss Maloney!"

Of course, no one believes Rod this time, so they don't bother to ask him why the aliens are here. It's just as well, since he is sworn to silence about their secret mission and the fact that he has been drafted to help them!

7. Craft, Jerry **New Kid**

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few students of color in his entire grade.

As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

https://www.amazon.com/New-Kid-Jerry-Craft-ebook/dp/B078R4MWFY/ref=sr_1_1?crd=3VJI108LHIOPM&dchild=1&keywords=new+kid+jerry+craft&qid=1623776595&sprefix=new+kid%2Caps%2C178&sr=8-1

8. Creech, Sharon **Ruby Holler**

"You are now entering Ruby Holler, the one and only Ruby Holler! Your lives are never going to be the same—"

"Trouble twins" Dallas and Florida are orphans who have given up believing there is such a thing as a loving home. Tiller and Sairy are an eccentric older couple who live in the beautiful, mysterious Ruby Holler, but they're restless for one more big adventure. When they invite the twins to join them on their journeys, they first must all stay together in the Holler, and the magic of the place takes over. Two pairs of lives grow closer and are changed forever.

9. Dahl, Roald **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**

When Willy Wonka's hallowed chocolate factory holds a worldwide contest awarding tours to the lucky, five children emerge as winners, including a glutton, a gum-chewing nitwit, a spoiled brat, and a TV addict. Only Charlie Bucket, the story's earnest hero, stands to win the exotic riches of Wonka's empire—if he avoids the pitfalls of his fellow contestants and stays true to his heart.

10. Dahl, Roald **James and the Giant Peach**

When James, a boy stuck living with his cantankerous aunts, is given magic crystals by a sympathetic wizard, he accidentally drops them at the foot of the peach tree outside his house, causing one of the fruits to grow the size of a house. Inside he finds oversized insects who promise him deliverance from his aunts, and soon the giant peach is rolling downhill, bound for the Atlantic Ocean and beyond on a magnificent adventure that will take James and his new friends far indeed.

11. Dahl, Roald **Matilda**

Matilda is a brilliant and sensitive child, but her parents think of her only as a nuisance. When one day she is attacked by her odious headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, Matilda suddenly discovers she has a remarkable power with which to avenge herself!

12. DiCamillo, Kate **Because of Winn Dixie**

Ten years ago, this unforgettable novel about a lonely girl whose life is transformed by her friendship with a scruffy dog was awarded a Newbery Honor. Since then, it's become a runaway bestseller in more than twenty-five countries and has been turned into a major motion picture. Now readers can experience Kate DiCamillo's debut novel in a collectible signature edition that celebrates her ten years as a beloved storyteller.

13. Hurwitz, Johanna **Baseball Fever**

Ezra Feldman, almost ten, likes baseball more than anything else in the world. But his father cannot understand why his son would rather rot his brains watching men swinging big wooden sticks than read a book or play chess. Can an unwanted car trip, a grumpy old professor, and a surprising chess victory help father and son find a little common ground—and convince Ezra's dad that cheering for the national pastime isn't completely off base? Ezra Feldman, almost ten, likes baseball more than anything else in the world. But his father cannot understand why his son would rather rot his brains watching men swinging big wooden sticks than read a book or play chess. Can an unwanted car trip, a grumpy old professor, and a surprising chess victory help father and son find a little common ground—and convince Ezra's dad that cheering for the national pastime isn't completely off base

14. Lai, Thanhha **Inside Out and Back Again**

Hà has only ever known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, and the warmth of her friends close by. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Hà and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope—toward America.

https://www.amazon.com/Inside-Out-Back-Again-Thanhha-ebook/dp/B0045U9WRS/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=inside+out+and+back+again&qid=1623779314&sr=8-1

15. Lord, Cynthia **Rules**

Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public" -- in order to head off David's embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a surprising, new sort-of friend, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?

https://www.amazon.com/Rules-Scholastic-Gold-Cynthia-Lord-ebook/dp/B00E9BJ8I6/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1ZD1FTC3A6JT2&dchild=1&keywords=rules+by+cynthia+lord&qid=1623777035&srefix=rules+by%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-1

16. Lowry, Lois **All About Sam**

Everyone knows Sam Krupnik. He's Anastasia's pesty but lovable younger brother. This is Sam's big chance to tell things exactly the way he sees them. He has his own ideas about haircuts, nursery school, getting shots, and not eating broccoli. Sam thinks a lot about being bigger and stronger, about secret codes and show-and-tell. Make way for your little brother, Anastasia. Here for the first time is Sam Krupnik's life story. What a life!

17. McDonald, Betty **Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle**

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle lives in an upside-down house and smells like cookies. She was even married to a pirate once. Most of all, she knows everything about children. She can cure them of any ailment. Patsy hates baths. Hubert never puts anything away. Allen eats v-e-r-y slowly. Mrs Piggle-Wiggle has a

treatment for all of them. The incomparable Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle loves children good or bad and never scolds but has positive cures for Answer-Backers, Never-Want-to-Go-to-Bedders, and other boys and girls with strange habits.

18. McSwigan, Marie **Snow Treasure**

In the bleak winter of 1940, Nazi troops parachuted into Peter Lindstrom's tiny Norwegian village and held it captive. Nobody thought the Nazis could be defeated—until Uncle Victor told Peter how the children could fool the enemy. It was a dangerous plan. They had to slip past Nazi guards with nine million dollars in gold hidden on their sleds. It meant risking their country's treasure—and their lives. This classic story of how a group of children outwitted the Nazis and sent the treasure to America has captivated generations of readers.

19. Medina, Meg **Merci Suarez Changes Gears**

Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just *how* different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. They don't have a big house or a fancy boat, and they have to do extra community service to make up for their free tuition. So when bossy Edna Santos sets her sights on the new boy who happens to be Merci's school-assigned Sunshine Buddy, Merci becomes the target of Edna's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately — forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over nothing. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school. In a coming-of-age tale full of humor and wisdom, award-winning author Meg Medina gets to the heart of the confusion and constant change that defines middle school — and the steadfast connection that defines family.

https://www.amazon.com/Merci-Suarez-Changes-Gears-Medina-ebook/dp/B07D3N3CX9/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1EQPEMYTNG3AJ&dchild=1&keywords=merci+suarez+changes+gears&qid=1623776884&sprefix=merc%2Caps%2C171&sr=8-1

20. Mull, Brandon Mull **Beyonders: A World Without Heroes**

Jason Walker has often wished his life could be a bit less predictable—until a routine day at the zoo ends with Jason suddenly transporting from the hippo tank to a place unlike anything he's ever seen. In the past, the people of Lyrian welcomed visitors from the Beyond, but attitudes have changed since the wizard emperor Maldor rose to power. The brave resisters who opposed the emperor have been bought off or broken, leaving a realm where fear and suspicion prevail.

In his search for a way home, Jason meets Rachel, who was also mysteriously drawn to Lyrian from our world. With the help of a few scattered rebels, Jason and Rachel become entangled in a quest to piece together the word of power that can destroy the emperor and learn that their best hope to find a way home will be to save this world without heroes.

21. Naylor, Phyllis **The Grand Escape**

If only Marco hadn't read a newspaper article about a ranch and become determined to see one. If only Polo hadn't found himself longing for the mother he barely remembered as a soft-warm-wiggle-purr-milk-tongue. Then the two tabbies might have been content to remain pampered house cats forever. But when their owners leave a door open, Marco and Polo can't resist the temptation to escape to the outside world.

Their search for food and a dry place to sleep leads them to Texas Jake and the cats of the Club of Mysteries. Life on the streets is a lot easier with friends, but Marco and Polo have to prove

themselves before they can become members of the club. And that means facing the huge mastiff Bertram the Bad, a pack of savage river rats, and a barren landscape that may be the ranch of Marco's dreams -- even if it seems more like a nightmare. Home is starting to look better and better...

22. Naylor, Phyllis **The Boys Start the War**

Just when the Hatford brothers were expecting three boys to move into the house across the river where their best friends used to live, the Malloy girls arrive instead. Wally and his brothers decide to make Caroline and her sisters so miserable that they'll want to go back to Ohio.

23. Naylor, Phyllis **Beetles, Lightly Toasted**

Fifth-grader Andy Moller will do anything to win the Roger B. Sudermann essay contest so that he can win fifty dollars and get his picture in the local newspaper. His cousin and rival, Jack, feels exactly the same way. But how can Andy be inventive and imaginative in an essay contest on conservation?

Bugs and beetles, that's how. Leave it to Andy to think of people eating insects as a way of conserving their food budgets. Before long he's preparing toasted beetles in brownies, mealworm-filled egg salad sandwiches, and batter-fried earthworms for his friends and family. They don't know what they're in for, and neither does Andy. Will he win the contest and lose his friends and family?

24. Norton, Mary **The Borrowers**

The Borrowers--the Clock family: Homily, Pod, and their fourteen-year-old daughter, Arrietty, to be precise--are tiny people who live underneath the kitchen floor of an old English country manor. All their minuscule home furnishings, from postage stamp paintings to champagne cork chairs, are "borrowed" from the "human beans" who tromp around loudly above them. All is well until Pod is spotted upstairs by a human boy! Can the Clocks stay nested safely in their beloved hidden home, or will they be forced to flee?

25. Paulsen, Gary **The Boy Who Owned School**

Jacob Freisten's goal in life is to go about unnoticed. He's perfect at gliding past the jocks' lockers and sneaking into his English class. That was, until now. If Jacob wants to pass English, he must work for extra credit on the stage crew of the school production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

Jacob, who is usually in a fog anyway, has the job of running the fog machine. The problem is that Maria Tresser, the girl of his dreams, is cast as the Wicked Witch. Jacob's already made a fool of himself in front of Maria. How can he face her again?

26. Rockwell, Thomas **How to Eat Fried Worms**

Because of a bet, Billy is in the uncomfortable position of having to eat fifteen worms in fifteen days. The worms are supplied by his opponent, whose motto is "The bigger and juicier, the better!" At first Billy's problem is whether or not he can swallow the worm placed before him, even with a choice of condiments from peanut butter to horseradish. But later it looks as if Billy will win, and the challenge becomes getting to the worm to eat it. Billy's family, after checking with the doctor, takes everything in stride. They even help Billy through his gastronomic ordeal, which twists and turns with each new day, leaving the outcome of the bet continually in doubt.

27. Sachar, Louis **Sideways Stories from Wayside School**

There was a terrible mistake-Wayside School was built with one classroom on top of another, thirty stories high! (The builder said he was sorry.) Maybe that's why all kinds of funny things happened at Wayside-especially on the thirteenth floor.

28. Smith, Robert **Chocolate Fever**

Henry Green is a boy who loves chocolate. He likes it bitter, sweet, dark, light, and daily; for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks; in cakes, candy bars, milk, and every other form you can possibly imagine. Henry probably loves chocolate more than any boy in the history of the world. One day-it starts off like any other day, Henry finds that strange things are happening to him. First he makes medical history with the only case of Chocolate Fever ever. Then he finds himself caught up in a wild and hilarious chase, climaxed by a very unusual hijacking!

29. Reynolds, Jason **As Brave As You**

Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia—in the COUNTRY! The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Thunderstruck, Genie peppers Grandpop with questions about how he hides it so well (besides wearing way cool Ray-Bans).

How does he match his clothes? Know where to walk? Cook with a gas stove? Pour a glass of sweet tea without spilling it? Genie thinks Grandpop must be the bravest guy he's ever known, but he starts to notice that his grandfather never leaves the house—as in NEVER. And when he finds the secret room that Grandpop is always disappearing into—a room so full of songbirds and plants that it's almost as if it's been pulled inside-out—he begins to wonder if his grandfather is really so brave after all.

Then Ernie lets him down in the bravery department. It's his fourteenth birthday, and, Grandpop says to become a man, you have to learn how to shoot a gun. Genie thinks that is AWESOME until he realizes Ernie has no interest in learning how to shoot. None. Nada. Dumbfounded by Ernie's reluctance, Genie is left to wonder—is bravery and becoming a man only about proving something, or is it just as important to own up to what you won't do?

https://www.amazon.com/As-Brave-You-Jason-Reynolds-ebook/dp/B01675AG2I/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=as+brave+as+you&qid=1623776749&sr=8-1

30. Ryan, Pam Munoz **Esperanza Rising**

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. She'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home filled with servants, and Mama, Papa, and Abuelita to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard work, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When Mama gets sick and a strike for better working conditions threatens to uproot their new life, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances—because Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.

31. Ryan, Pam Munoz **The Dreamer**

From the time he is a young boy, Neftalí hears the call of a mysterious voice. Even when the neighborhood children taunt him, and when his harsh, authoritarian father ridicules him, and when

he doubts himself, Neftali knows he cannot ignore the call. He listens and follows as it leads him under the canopy of the lush rain forest, into the fearsome sea, and through the persistent Chilean rain on an inspiring voyage of self-discovery that will transform his life and, ultimately, the world.

https://www.amazon.com/Dreamer-Pam-Munoz-Ryan/dp/0439269989/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=the+dreamer+by+pam&qid=1623779195&sr=8-1

32. Spinelli, Jerry **Fourth Grade Rats**

Fourth graders are tough. They aren't afraid of spiders. They say no to their moms. They push first graders off the swings. And they never, ever cry. Suds knows that now that he's in fourth grade, he's supposed to be a rat. But whenever he tries to act like one, something goes wrong. Can Suds's friend Joey teach him to toughen up...or will Suds remain a fourth grade wimp?

33. The Great Wall of Lucy Wu by Wendy Wan-Long Shang

A humorous and heartwarming debut about split cultural identities, and all the ways life fails to go according to plan for sixth-grader Lucy Wu.

Lucy Wu, aspiring basketball star and interior designer, is on the verge of having the best year of her life. She's ready to rule the school as a sixth grader, go out for captain of the school basketball team, and take over the bedroom she has always shared with her sister. In an instant, though, her plans are shattered when she finds out that Yi Po, her beloved grandmother's sister, is coming to visit for several months – and is staying in Lucy's room. Lucy's vision of a perfect year begins to crumble, and in its place come an unwelcome roommate, foiled birthday plans, a bully who tries to scare Lucy off the basketball team, and Chinese school with the annoying know-it-all Talent Chang. Lucy's year is ruined – or is it? A wonderfully funny, warm, and heartfelt tale about the ways life often reveals silver linings in the most unexpected of clouds.

https://www.amazon.com/Great-Wall-Lucy-Wu/dp/0545162165/ref=sr_1_1?crd=359ADMVF5HRSL&dchild=1&keywords=the+great+wall+of+lucy+wu&qid=1623776515&sprefix=the+great+wall+of+luc%2Caps%2C155&sr=8-1

34. White, EB **Charlotte's Web**

Charlotte's Web is the story of a little girl named Fern who loved a little pig named Wilbur—and of Wilbur's dear friend Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful large grey spider who lived with Wilbur in the barn.

With the help of Templeton, the rat who never did anything for anybody unless there was something in it for him, and by a wonderfully clever plan of her own, Charlotte saved the life of Wilbur, who by this time had grown up to quite a pig.

35. Wilder, Laura **Little House in the Big Woods**

Laura Ingalls's story begins in 1871 in a little log cabin on the edge of the Big Woods of Wisconsin. Four-year-old Laura lives in the little house with her Pa, her Ma, her sisters Mary and Carrie, and their trusty dog, Jack. Pioneer life is sometimes hard, since the family must grow or catch all their own food as they get ready for the cold winter. But it is also exciting as Laura and her folks celebrate Christmas with homemade toys and treats, do the spring planting, bring in the harvest,

and make their first trip into town. And every night they are safe and warm in their little house, with the happy sound of Pa's fiddle sending Laura and her sisters off to sleep. And so begins Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved story of a pioneer girl and her family.

36. Williams, Garcia

One Crazy Summer

This moving, funny novel won the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction and the Coretta Scott King Award and was a National Book Award Finalist. Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern's story continues in *P.S. Be Eleven* and *Gone Crazy in Alabama*.

In *One Crazy Summer*, eleven-year-old Delphine is like a mother to her two younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern. She's had to be, ever since their mother, Cecile, left them seven years ago for a radical new life in California. But when the sisters arrive from Brooklyn to spend the summer with their mother, Cecile is nothing like they imagined.

While the girls hope to go to Disneyland and meet Tinker Bell, their mother sends them to a day camp run by the Black Panthers. Unexpectedly, Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern learn much about their family, their country, and themselves during one truly crazy summer.

https://www.amazon.com/Summer-Notable-Childrens-Books-Readers-ebook/dp/B00338QF4Q/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=one+crazy+summer&qid=1623776963&sr=8-1