

May 2010

Dear Third Grade Parents,

Welcome to Third Grade! We are looking forward to a great 2010-2011 school year with your child. It is important to keep your child stimulated with books over the summer. Encourage your child to read books of his or her choice simply for the joy of reading. The following books are age appropriate, fun, and most of the books support the third grade curriculum.

There are many **simple activities** you can do with your child while reading a book. Ask basic questions about characters, setting, plot, problems, solutions, and endings. Stop after each paragraph or page and ask your child to summarize the information. Illustrate each chapter of a book. Take turns reading to your child or having him read to you. Write a new sequel to a story. These are just some suggested ideas. Enjoy reading!

Adler, David A. A Picture Book of Lewis and Clark. This book is an illustrated introduction to the lives of William Clark and Merriwether Lewis. They led an exploratory expedition from St. Louis to the Pacific in the early nineteenth century.

Atwater, Richard. Mr. Popper's Penguins. Penguins in the bathtub and the refrigerator? What's going on at Mr. Popper's house? The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortune of Mr. Popper. Newberry Honor Book.

Cleary, Beverly. Ramona's World. Enjoy the adventures of nine year old Ramona as she experiences the ups and downs of fourth grade, tries to be a good role model for her new baby sister, and delights in her new best friend.

Cole, Joanna. Ms. Frizzle's Adventures: Medieval Castle. When Ms. Frizzle and her student Arnold follow an underground passage beneath a castle shop, and find themselves in a 12th century English castle under siege, they learn a great deal about castles and the Middle Ages.

Erdrich, Lise. Sacagawea. A biography of the Shoshone girl, Sacagawea, from age eleven when she was kidnapped by the Hitdatsa to the end of her journey with Lewis and Clark, including speculation about her later life.

Farris, Christine. My Brother, Martin: A Sister Remembers Growing up with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The reader views the early life of Martin Luther King, Jr. as seen through the eyes of his older sister.

MacLachlan, Patricia. Sarah, Plain and Tall. What kind of woman will answer the ad that Anna and Caleb's father places for a wife and a mother? Will she be kind and loving? Will she make their father happy? And once she arrives at their prairie home, will she want to stay? Will Sarah change their lonely lives forever?

McDonald, Megan. Judy Moody Predicts the Future. After Judy gets a mood ring, she tries to convince herself and her third-grade classmates that she can predict the future.

Smith, David. If the World Were a Village. This book gives diverse information about the population of the world as if it was a village of 100 people.

Wallace, Bill. No Dogs Allowed. After her beloved horse Dandy dies, Kristine is convinced she never wants another pet.

Ward, Helen. Unwitting Wisdom: An Anthology of Aesop's Fables. In this beautifully illustrated anthology, twelve of Aesop's fables are uniquely retold, complete with the essential morals.

Suggested Authors:

Andrew Clements, Judy Blume, Beverly Cleary, Sharon Creech, Roald Dahl, Patricia MacLachlan, Jack Prelutsky, and Louis Sachar.

We hope you find this list helpful!

Ms. Gray and Ms. Ammeen

