



Entering 3rd Grade Suggested Reading List & Book Project

Summer reading is required for students entering 3rd grade at the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. The required summer reading assignment has two parts that students will earn a grade for when they return in the fall.

1. Read a minimum of 1,300 minutes from May 30 to August 24, 2026. Use the 3rd grade reading log to keep track of the minutes you read. Students may choose books from the suggested reading list attached **or** any other books of your choice **for this portion only**. At the end of the summer, parents and students are required to log their total summer reading minutes at <https://forms.office.com/r/x7JsMXrn3N> by Friday, August 28, 2026.

2. Read **one book** from **the suggested reading list below** and complete the 3rd Grade Book Project. Refer to the attached rubric to see how the project will be graded. The Book Project is due on Wednesday, August 26, 2026.

Suggested Reading List:

The following is a list of suggested books to choose from for the reading assignment and to count toward your reading minutes. This list is also located at www.mcamustangs.org

Books marked with an asterisk * have a Christian theme.

1. *Jigsaw Jones Mysteries* series by James Preller (280-570L) – 1998
2. *Imagination Station* series by Focus on the Family (380-390L) – 2011 *
3. *Magic Tree House* series by Mary Pope Osborne (310-580L) – 1992
4. *Pony Pals* series by Jeanne Betancourt (510-650L) – 1989
5. *The Campground Kids* series by C.R. Fulton (570L) – 2020
6. *Game Day* series by Patty Mills (830) - 2020
7. *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate (570L) – 2020
8. *Dog Diaries* series by Kate Klimo (570-770L) – 2013
9. *Cam Jensen* series by David A. Adler (560-620L) – 1980s-2000s
10. *Two Dogs in a Trench Coat* series by Julie Falatko (540-680L) – 2018
11. *Geronimo Stilton* series by Geronimo Stilton (Various Lexile levels, typically around 600-700L) – 2000s
12. *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate (570L) – 2012
13. *National Parks Mysteries* series by Aaron Johnson (620L) – 2011
14. *Night Fairy* by Laura Amy Schlitz (630L) – 2010
15. *Ryan Hart* series by Renee Watson (670L) - 2020
16. *I Survived* series by Lauren Tarshis (640-740L) – 2010s
17. *Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith (680L) – 1972
18. *Who Was...* series (biographies) (680-800L) – 2000-present
19. *American Girl* series by Various Authors (550-750L) – 1986-present

- 20. *The Secret of the Hidden Scrolls* series by M.J. Thomas (450-460L) – 2017 *
- 21. *Buttons for General Washington* by Connie and Peter Roop (460L) – 1986 *
- 22. *The Baxter Family Series* by Karen Kingsbury (420-460L) – 2020 *
- 23. *Humphrey Adventures* series by Betty G. Birney (580-730L) – 2011
- 24. *The Little House on the Prairie* series by Laura Ingalls Wilder (600L-700L) – 1932-1943
- 25. *The Dead Sea Squirrels* series by Mike Nawrocki (520-650L) – 2017-present *

Suggested New International Version Bible Reading:

Suggested NIV Bible verses to read and can be counted toward reading minutes.

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|---------------|----------------|
| Gen. 1:1-5 | John 3:16 |
| John 14:1-6 | Phil. 4:4-8 |
| Matt. 5:13-16 | Lam. 3:21-26 |
| Luke 2:8-14 | Psalm 119:9-16 |
| Psalm 1 | |
| Heb.11:1-6 | |

3rd Grade Summer Book Project

Choose 1 of the projects below:

Projects are due on or before Wednesday, August 26, 2026

1. Video Book Talk

After reading your required book, record your presentation. (You have up to 2 minutes). Send videos to your teacher's email the first week of school using YouTube or Dropbox. Contact the teacher for alternatives.

Include:

- Book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story.

2. Poster Project

After reading your required book, create a poster presentation.

Include:

- Book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story.

3. Shoebox Project

After reading your required book, create a shoebox display.

Include:

- Book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story.
- If you complete the shoebox or the poster, bring the completed project to school **by Wednesday, August 26**, and be ready to present it to the class. If you do the video, we will watch it in class.
- You will get to present the project to the class, sharing what you have created.
- You will be graded on the project using the attached rubric.

3rd Grade Summer Reading Project Rubric

| Project | 5 points | 3 points | 1 point |
|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Video Book Talk | Includes five parts: book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story | At least three parts are included. | Two or less parts are included. |
| Poster Project | Includes five parts: book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story | At least three parts are included. | Two or less parts are included. |
| Shoebox Project | Includes five parts: book title, author, setting, important character(s), and main idea of the story. | At least three parts are included. | Two or less parts are included. |
| Total minutes read for the summer | I met the goal and read 1300 or more minutes during the summer | I read 700-1299 minutes | I read less than 700 minutes |

Total points: _____/10