



Entering 4th Grade Suggested Reading List & Book Project

Summer reading is required for students entering 4th 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 1,500 minutes from May 30 to August 24, 2026. Use the 4th grade reading log to keep track of the minutes read. Students may choose books from the suggested book 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 4th 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. *The Magnificent Maya Tibbs* series by Crystal Allen (570L) - 2020
2. *Bear Grylls* series by Bear Grylls (620-670L) - 2012
3. *Nancy Drew Mysteries* by Carolyn Keene (640-800L) - 1930s onward
4. *Life According to Og the Frog* series by Betty Birney (660-670L) - 2011
5. *Mandie* series by Lois Leppard (660-830L) - 1996 *
6. *The Chronicles of Narnia* series by C.S. Lewis (Lexile: 700L-940L) - 1950-1956 *
7. *The One and Only Ruby* by Katherine Applegate (650L) - 2020
8. *Wonder* by RJ Palacio (790 L) - 2012
9. *Masterpiece* by Elise Broach (700L) - 2008
10. *Little Pilgrim's Progress* by Helen L. Taylor (Lexile: 700L) - 2002 *
11. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein (720L) - 2012
12. *Thank You, Jackie Robinson* by Barbara Cohen (730L) - 1990
13. *Dinosaur Boy* by Corey Putman Oakes (730L) - 2015

14. *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia (750L) – 2010
15. *Elvis and the Underdogs* by Jenny Lee (760L) – 2016
16. *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton (780L) – 1952
17. *Good morning, Mr. President* by Barbara Mitchell (780L) – 2004
18. *The Harlem Charade* by Natasha Tarpley (800L) – 2017
19. *Faith, Hope, and Ivy June* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (900L) – 2008
20. *Peter Pan and Wendy* by James Barrie (900L) – 1911
21. *Spacebound* series by J.R. Harbor (Lexile: 700L) – 2021
22. *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett (Lexile: 800L) – 1911
23. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl (Lexile: 810L) – 1964
24. *Lucky Luke's Adventures* by Kevin Lovegreen (Lexile: 750L) – 2016
25. *The Green Ember* series by S.D. Smith (Lexile: 750L-880L) – 2014-2018*

Suggested New International Version Bible Reading:

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

NIV Adventure Bible by Lawrence O. Richards You Version app – (students may access devotionals and Bible stories for kids.)

Parable of the Sower and four types of soil – Matt 13: 3-8, 18-23; Mark 4: 3-8, 14-20; Luke 8: 5-8, 11-15

Matthew 14:13-21: Jesus feeding the 5000 John 5: Jesus' Miracles for the World

Matthew 14: 22-33: Jesus walking on the water John 11: Jesus' Power over Death

Matthew 25: 14-30: Parable of the Talents Act 2: The Coming of the Holy Spirit

John 3: God's Love for the World Psalms 1 & 4: The Way of the Righteous and Trusting in God

4th Grade Summer Book Project

1. Choose a container to create your project: cereal box, wooden treasure box, bag, etc.
2. Decorate the container to show the book title, author, setting, character(s), and major theme(s) from the book.
3. Write (by hand or type) five main events from the book. Write the events in the order that they happened in the book. Put this into the container.
4. Write (by hand or type) a five-word glossary of unfamiliar words from the book. Include the definitions of these words. Put this into the container.
5. Find five objects that have a connection to the story and put them into the container.
6. Bring the completed project to school during the first week and be ready to present it to the class.
7. Present the project to the class, sharing what you have created. You will be graded on the project using the attached rubric.

Name _____ Date _____

Book Title: _____

4th Grade Summer Reading Project Rubric

Criteria	3 points	2 points	1 point
Container outside	Includes five parts: book title, author, setting, character(s), and major theme(s). Creativity is present.	At least three parts are included. Some creativity is present.	Two or less parts are included. Creativity is missing.
5 items inside	All five items are included in the container and relate to the story.	At least three items are included in the container. They somewhat relate to the story.	Two or less items are included. The items may not relate to the story.
5 main events	Five main events from the story are written or typed out. It is clear that the events happened in the book.	At least three main story events are written or typed out. Events are mostly clear and related to the book.	Two or less story events are written or typed out. Events are somewhat unclear.
5 words defined	Five unfamiliar words from the story are written or typed out and defined in a glossary format.	At least three unfamiliar words are written or typed out and defined.	Two or less unfamiliar words are written or typed out and defined.
Total minutes read for the summer	I met the goal and read 1500 minutes during the summer	I read 750-1499 minutes	I read less than 750 minutes

Comments:

Grade: ____points out of 15 possible points

***Updated April 2026**