



Dear Incoming 4th and 5th Graders,

I'm so excited to be your teacher next year! This letter explains the summer work you have for this coming summer. The basic idea is to read, read and read some more :) And then for math, we will be using the diagnostic math website IXL. Below is the general breakdown. Then continue reading for more details.

Math:

- Multiplication fact practice
- IXL: Summer Boost Program (and suggested skills for returning 5th grade students)
- Optional: IXL bingo card

Reading:

- Read at least 5 chapter books at your level
- Keep reading log of books completed
- Optional: reading bingo card

### MATH SUMMER WORK

Below I have outlined the recommended math work for this summer. The goal of these activities is to have fun and review the concepts you learned in 3rd or 4th grade.

A goal is that you try to come into 4th grade with your multiplications facts (up to  $12 \times 12$ ) memorized. It is a requirement for 5th graders. Nothing beats good ol' fashioned flashcards for quick recall. Similarly, there are tons of multiplication apps and games online to help you practice. There is a list printed on the bottom of the math section of the class website here:

<https://kittredge5thgrade.weebly.com/math.html>

I'd also like you to spend some time doing IXL to sharpen your math skills. IXL offers a special "Summer Boost Skill Plan". In it you'll find a 4-week plan to practice skills each weekday. The schedule is for 20 days, so it is up to you how you would like to plan out your summer work. You can stretch it out throughout the summer, or wait til the last month before school starts. Please plan a schedule with your parents on how will you complete this work, depending on your summer plans, travel and activities. Additionally, returning 5th grade students should work on their "recommended skills" in IXL as discussed in class.

If you forgot your IXL username or password or have any problems logging in, please email me at [katiebrad@gmail.com](mailto:katiebrad@gmail.com).

## SUMMER READING 2024

Now onto READING! Summertime is a wonderful time for relaxing, exploring and reading. I'd like all incoming 4th and 5th graders to continue their practice of reading throughout the summer. Not only will this give you a pleasurable pastime, it will also keep your reading skills sharp. Please try to develop an easy summer reading program. It could be as simple as a quiet time set aside most days of the week for reading.

Each student should read at least 5 chapter books this summer. At the end of this letter you will find links to book lists that can be used for ideas and guidance. Students should keep track of the books that they read on the attached Book Log. This sheet should be turned in to me when school starts in the fall. Students should be prepared to discuss/write about two chosen summer reading books on the first day of school.

I ask that you NOT read any of the following titles, as they may be part of our coursework throughout the year:

- *By the Great Horn Spoon*
- *Home of the Brave*
- *Wild Robot*
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins*
- *Esperanza Rising*

To bring some fun and variety to the summer reading, there is a bingo card at the end of this letter that you should consider trying out. The card is to challenge you to read in different places as well as different types of books. The goal is to hit as many bingo spaces as possible, and also to have fun and try something unique. Simply mark off the spaces as you complete them, have a parent sign them, then bring the card to school on the first day.

Here are some book lists to help guide picking books:

<https://www.common SenseMedia.org/lists/best-books-for-fifth-graders>

<https://www.common SenseMedia.org/lists/best-books-for-fourth-graders>

<https://www.goodreads.com/genres/5th-grade-historical-fiction>

<https://www.ala.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/newbery-medals-honors-1922-present.pdf>

To review, I ask that on the first day of school, students bring in the summer reading grid, the bingo cards if completed, and a copy of their two favorite summer reading books.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, please get in touch if you're having a hard time finding books you like. I'm always more than happy to help with personal book recommendations.

I can be reached at [katiebrad@gmail.com](mailto:katiebrad@gmail.com). Wishing you all a happy and safe summer.

Looking forward to seeing you in the fall!

-Katie












FOURTH/FIFTH GRADE SUMMER READING LOG (Books I Read)

Title of Book	Author	Rating (1-10)	Describe it in 2-3 words



# Summer Reading Bingo

Read out loud to an adult	Read in a comfy spot 	Read a play out loud with a group of friends	Read a book that a friend recommends	Reread a favorite book 
 Read a biography	Read a story you wrote yourself	Tell a joke you read in a book 	Read in a pillow fort	Read a magazine article
Read a book by your favorite author	Read to a stuffed animal (or a real one!) 	<b>FREE SPACE</b>	Read the directions for a game	 Read outside
Try a book you think you won't like (you don't have to finish it!)	Tell an adult three facts you read in a book	Write a review of a book you've read	Read with a flashlight 	Read a book you got at the library
 Read one book in a series	Read out loud to a little kid	Read a short story 	Retell a story you read in your own words	Read in bed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Have an adult sign each box you complete over the summer.

Blackout Board: \_\_\_\_\_

One Line Complete: \_\_\_\_\_

# BINGO

Earn a gold medal by achieving a SmartScore of 100 on a skill.	Create a math word problem for a friend or family member to solve.	Write a short poem about summer. OR Practice a figurative language skill.	Practice a "Try something new" skill on your IXL Recommendations wall. Skill code: _____	Play a learning game on IXL or ABCya.com.
Work on at least 2 skills a week for 1 month.	Practice a skill at next year's grade level. Skill code: _____	Teach a friend or family member how to do a skill that you've mastered.	Practice IXL on 25 different days this summer.	Read a book, and share a summary of the plot with your family.
Work on IXL for 10-15 minutes 5 days in a row. Dates: _____	Check the grammar of a news article or social media post. OR Practice a grammar skill.	 <b>IT'S SUMMER!</b> <b>FREE SPACE</b>	Learn about an event that happened in the year you were born. OR Practice a U.S. history skill.	Earn a red ribbon by achieving a SmartScore of 70 on a skill. Skill code: _____
Beat your average questions answered 3 weeks in a row. Dates: _____	Answer 100 questions on IXL.	Earn a blue ribbon by achieving a SmartScore of 80 on a skill.	Research your favorite animal, and share fun facts with a friend. OR Practice a biology skill.	Practice IXL for 5 days in a row in July.
Earn 3 IXL certificates.	Practice a "Go for gold" skill from your IXL Recommendations wall.	Practice IXL for 5 days in a row in August.	Earn a green ribbon by achieving a SmartScore of 90 on a skill.	Conduct a science experiment, and share the results with your family.