

Peachtree Academy

SUMMER Reading and Writing 2018

Summer Reading projects are due on Friday, August 3rd, 2018

Writing focus - Please bring in a letter to a favorite person with a properly addressed envelope that also includes a return address. It would be great if they could tell about what they did this summer. Please place a stamp on the envelope.

Grow your brain summer series!

We have been doing some great research on the importance of children learning how they can grow their brain! Using the analogy of sports and the growth that is realized from practicing your skills, we are striving to teach our students to do the same thing with their brain. They can build the plasticity of their brain through regular reading, math exercises and exposure to activities that make their brain grow. Here is just some of the great information that we have discovered:

- At first, the new skill might feel stiff and awkward. But as we practice, it gets smoother and feels more natural and comfortable. What practice is actually doing is helping the brain optimize for this set of coordinated activities, through a process called **myelination**.

Fact: When you learn a brand new skill your brain gets larger in size ^[1]

- Myelin is a whit stuff(matter), a fatty tissue that fills the 50% of the brains. Myelination increases the speed and strength of the nerve impulses by forcing the electrical charge to jump across the myelin sheath to the next open spot on the axon(a part of neuron, a long “cable” that reaches out and interacts with other neurons' dendrites.
- Making sure that your child has a good diet, exercise, and limited or NO time using technology or watching TV. The high level stimulation

What is wrong with children in today's world?

Today's children are being deprived of the fundamentals of a healthy childhood, such as:

- Emotionally available parents
- Clearly defined limits and guidance
- Responsibilities
- Balanced nutrition and adequate sleep
- Movement and outdoors
- Creative play, social interaction, opportunities for unstructured times and boredom

Instead, children are being served with:

- [Digitally distracted parents](#)
- Indulgent parents who let kids ["Rule the world"](#)
- Sense of [entitlement](#) rather than responsibility
- Inadequate sleep and unbalanced nutrition
- Sedentary indoor lifestyle
- [Endless stimulation](#), technological babysitters, instant gratification, and absence of dull moments
- Could anyone imagine that it is possible to raise a healthy generation in such an unhealthy environment? Of course not! There are no shortcuts to parenting, and we can't trick human nature. As we see, the outcomes are devastating. Our children pay for the loss of well-balanced childhood with their emotional well-being.

How to fix it?

- If we want our children to grow into happy and healthy individuals, we have to wake up and go back to the basics. It is still possible! I know this because hundreds of my clients see positive changes in their kids' emotional state within weeks (and in some cases, even days) of implementing these recommendations:

1. Set limits and remember that you are your child's PARENT, not a friend. Offer kids well-balanced lifestyle filled with what kids NEED, not just what they WANT. Don't be

afraid to say “No!” to your kids if what they want is not what they need.

- Provide nutritious food and limits snacks.
- Spend one hour a day in green space: biking, hiking, fishing, watching birds/insects
- Have a daily technology-free family dinner.
- Play one board game a day. ([List of family games](#))
- [Involve your child in one chore](#) a day (folding laundry, tidying up toys, hanging clothes, unpacking groceries, setting the table etc)
- Implement consistent sleep routine to ensure that your child gets lots of sleep in a technology-free bedroom

2. Teach responsibility and independence. Don't over-protect them from small failures. It trains them the skills needed to overcome greater life's challenges:

- Don't pack your child's backpack, don't carry her backpack, don't bring to school his forgotten lunch box/agenda, and don't peel a banana for a 5-year-old child. Teach them the skills rather than do it for them.

3. Teach delayed gratification and provide opportunities for “boredom” as boredom is the time when creativity awakens:

- Don't feel responsible for being your child's entertainment crew.
- Do not use technology as a cure for boredom.
- Avoid using technology during meals, in cars, restaurants, malls. Use these moments as opportunities to train their brains to function under “boredom”
- Help them create a “boredom first aid kit” with activity ideas for “I am bored” times.

4. Be emotionally available to connect with kids and teach them self-regulation and social skills:

- Turn off your phones until kids are in bed to avoid digital distraction.
- Become your child's emotional coach. Teach them to recognize and deal with frustration and anger.
- Teach greeting, turn taking, sharing, empathy, table manners, conversation skills,
- Connect emotionally – Smile, hug, kiss, tickle, read, dance, jump, or crawl with your child.
- We must make changes in our kids' lives before this entire generation of children

will be medicated! It is not too late yet, but soon it will be... -Victoria Prooday

***This story was written by [Victoria Prooday](#), a registered Occupational Therapist, Psychotherapist, founder and clinical director of a multidisciplinary clinic for children and parents. If you would like to participate in a parent's group to focus on these issues, please email JaNice Van Ness at janice@peachtreeacademy.com.*

For Rising Kindergarten Students

Each child is required to choose one of the books from this list and draw a picture about the story. Please send the book along with the picture on the first day of school.

Suggested Titles:

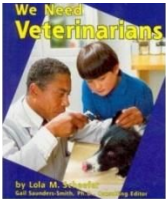
1. The Night Before Kindergarten by Natasha Wing
2. The Kissing hand by Audrey Penn (Any book by this author)
3. My Five Senses & Feelings by Alike
4. Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein
5. A Bad case of The stripes by David Shannon
6. The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle (
7. Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert (Any book by this author)
8. Corduroy by Don Freeman Julius (Any book in this series)
9. Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin
10. Miss Spider's Tea Party (Any book in this series) by David Kirk
11. Make Way for Ducklings by Robert McCloskey
12. Good Night, Gorilla & 10 Minutes till Bedtime by Peggy Rathman
13. No, David! by David Shannon (Any book by this author)
14. Llama Llama Misses Mama by Anna Dewdney (Any book in this series)
15. Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel by Virginia Lee Burton
16. Clifford (Any book in this series) by Norman Bridwell
17. Arthur by Marc Brown (Any book in this series)
18. The Little Engine that Could by Watty Piper Ramona
19. Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems
20. Anything Dr. Seuss, of course!

For Rising 1st Grade Students

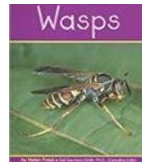
Book Report – Story Mobile

Each upcoming first grader is to pick one book from the following list and complete the assigned Story Mobile book report. **Students may choose a book from the list below or a different non-fiction book that is on their level.**

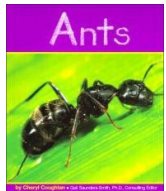
In addition to the Book Report, students are to read *The Giving Tree*. There will be activities and assignments designed around this book the first week of school.



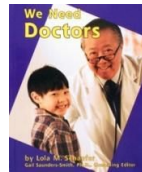
We need Veterinarians
by Lola M. Schaefer



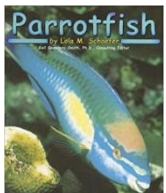
Wasps
by Helen Frost



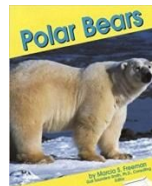
Ants
by Cheryl Coughlan



We Need Doctors
by Lola M. Schaefer



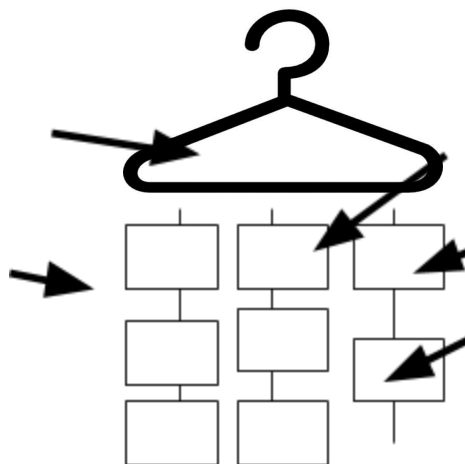
Parrotfish
by Lola Mm. Schaefer



Polar Bears
by Marcia S. Freeman

You are to create a Story Mobile using a book from the above list.

- Title, author, picture of the cover, students name
- 3 facts you learned from the story on front and a picture on the back.



- 3 vocabulary words from the book and their definitions.
- Did you like the book, yes or no? Why?
- Would you recommend this book to others? Why?

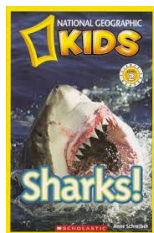
For Rising 2nd Grade Students

All 2nd grade students are required to read **A to Z Mysteries The Absent Author**. We will discuss and complete activities with this book the first week of school.

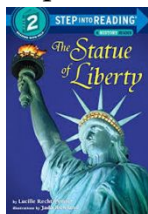
All upcoming 2nd graders need to **choose ONE NON-FICTION BOOK** to read and complete the **Mobile** project.

NON-FICTION Book List-EXAMPLES

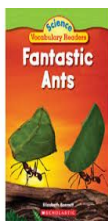
National Geographic Reader Series



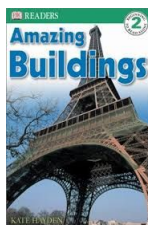
Step into Reading Nonfiction Series



Scholastic Science Vocabulary Readers Series



DK Readers Nonfiction Series



FICTION Book

A to Z Mysteries Series (Roy)
Magic Tree House Series (Osborne)
Frog and Toad Series (Lobel)
The Boxcar Children Series (Warner)
Cam Jansen Series (Adler)
Judy Moody and Stink Series (McDonald)
Nate the Great Series (Sharmat)
Amber Brown Series (Danzinger)
Magic School Bus (Chapter books and Picture Books)

2nd Grade Mobile Project

Choose and read a **nonfiction book** on your level Make a list of 5 facts you learned from the book. Use this information to create a mobile. Below is a list of materials you will need and the instruction for creating a mobile book report.

Materials

- o Plastic or metal clothes hanger or other material
- o 7 strings of yarn of different lengths
- o Hole punch
- o Sturdy paper squares/circle/ rectangles (whatever shape you'd like, think about your topic) at least 4"x4"

Instructions:

1. For card number 1, write the title of the book on one side of the card and the author's name on the other side. Be creative with your title.
2. For cards numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, write one fact that you learned from the book on one side of the card and draw an illustration of it on the other side of the card. These can be in the form of a statement or a question. They must be complete sentences and they may not all start the same way (I learned..., Did you know...) Shake up your writing! No typing, in your own writing and words!!
3. For card number 7, write your name on one side of the card and write a sentence or two telling about what you thought of the book on the back of the card. Be sure your name stands out!
4. Use a hole punch to punch one hole at the top of each card
5. Tie one side of each string of yarn to the bottom of the hanger, spacing them evenly.
6. Take one card and tie it to the bottom end of one string. Continue with the rest of the cards and strings.
7. Decorate your "hanger" to match the topic of your book. Be creative.



Mobile Grading Rubric

	Value	
Card 1- The title of the book is on one side of the card and the author's name on the other side. Decorate your "hanger" to match the topic of your book. Be creative.	10 pts	
Cards 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 have one fact from the book , handwritten by student, on one side of the card. Facts are written as a complete statement or a question with correct punctuation. Sentences are varied. (I learned..., Did you know)	50 pts	
Cards 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 An illustration of the fact is drawn and colored on the back side of the card	20 pts	
Card 7-Your name is on one side of the card and on the back of the card is one or two complete sentences telling what you thought of the book.	10 pts	
The "hanger" has been decorated to match the topic of the book.	10 pts	

For Rising 3rd Grade Students

All 3rd grade students are required to read Charlotte's Web.

We will discuss and do some activities with this book the first week of school.

Students also need to choose one non-fiction book and complete the t-shirt project below. Below is a list of some suggested book series or you may choose another non-fiction book on your AR level. You may choose a book on a person, animal, event, or place. Choose something that is interesting to you. Be prepared to take an AR test on your book.

Non-fiction "Magic Treehouse" companions

"Who Was", "Who Is", "What Is", "Who Was" series

National Geographic books



For Rising 4th Grade Students

**** Required Novel: Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor****

Fourth grade summer reading entails two reading tasks. The first task is to read the required novel for their grade. This novel will be discussed in length and detail during the first month of school. The second task is to select ONE nonfiction book and follow the attached instructions for completing the “Soda Bottle Book Report”. A list of recommended nonfiction books is below.

Any book from the Who Is.. series

Finding Wonders: Three Girls Who Changed Science by Jeannine Atkins

On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein by Jennifer Berne and Vladimir Radunsky

Man Fish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau by Jennifer Berne and Eric Puybaret

The Watcher: Jane Goodall’s Life with Chimps by Jeanette Winter

Energy Island by Allan Drummond

Island: A Story of the Galapagos by Jason Chin

Redwoods by Jason Chin

Hippos are Huge by Jonathan London and Matthew Trueman

The Tree Lady by Joseph Hopkins and Jill McElmurry

Solving the Puzzle Under the Sea by Robert Burleigh and Raul Colon

Mary Walker Wears the Pants by Cheryl Harness and Carlo Molinari

Soda Bottle Book Report

Students will be expected to complete a book report for a nonfiction book of their choosing. They will be depicting their character, event, or concept using a 2-liter bottle. Along with the 2 liter bottle, students will write information about their book on index cards, notebook paper, or printer paper (it may be typed), which will be placed on 1/2 sheet of poster board. The following information should be placed on each index card:

Component 1: Title of book and author

Component 2: A 5-7 sentence summary of the book.

Component 3: 2-3 Interesting facts learned in the book

Component 4: Your favorite part of the book

Component 5: Tell whether or not you would recommend the book and explain why or why not.

Example
Poster board will be behind bottle



Tip: Leave space on one side of your poster to sit your soda bottle project.

Tip: You may decorate your poster board and use it as a background for your bottle!



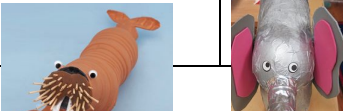


Suggested Materials

2-liter bottle
felt, construction paper, cloth (clothes)
Styrofoam ball (face)
paint & paintbrushes
glue
yarn or cotton balls (hair)
clay/play dough (nose, ears, etc.)
wiggly eyes

These are just suggestions. Be creative and use what works best for you!

Soda Bottle Grading Rubric

Criteria	4 (Excellent)	3(Good)	2(Needs Work)	1 (Not Evident)
Poster Components	Poster displays title and author in large, legible print that is easy for readers to identify.	Poster displays title and author , but it not neatly presented	Poster displays title and author, but it is not easily identified by the reader.	There is no title or author.
Poster Components	A summary containing 5-7 sentences is displayed. The summary contains important dates and details relevant to the book, person, event, concept.	A 5-7 sentence summary is displayed, but it does not contain dates or important information relevant to the book, person, event, or concept.	A summary is displayed, but it does not contain 5-7 sentences.	No summary is present.
Poster Components	2-3 interesting facts are Example Poster board will be behind bottle	2-3 interesting facts are	Interesting facts are	There are no
 <p style="text-align: center;">Title and Author</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interesting Facts Recommend</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tip: Leave space on one side of your poster to sit your soda bottle project.</p>			<p style="font-size: 1.2em;">Tip: You may decorate your poster board and use it as a background for your bottle!</p>	
			<p style="font-weight: bold;">Suggested Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-liter bottle felt, construction paper, cloth (clothes) Styrofoam ball (face) paint & paintbrushes glue yarn or cotton balls (hair) clay/play dough (nose, ears, etc.) wiggly eyes 	
			<p style="font-weight: bold;">These are just suggestions. Be creative and use what works best for you!</p>	

		book.		
Poster Components	The student's favorite part of the book is described in detail with an explanation of why it is his/her favorite part. The student has also indicated whether they would recommend the book and why.	The student's favorite part of the book is described, but there is no explanation as to why it is their favorite part. The student has also indicated whether they would recommend the book and why.	The student's favorite part of the book lacks details and is unclear. Or he student has not indicated whether they would recommend the book and why.	There is no favorite part of the book or explanation listed. No book recommendation is present.
Poster Components	All written work is free of grammatical and spelling errors.	The written pieces have 1-2 grammatical or spelling errors.	There are 3-4 grammatical or spelling errors.	There are 5 or more grammatical or spelling errors.
Soda Bottle Design	Soda bottle accurately represents the person/animal, event, or concept that is covered in the book.	Soda bottle represents the person/animal, concept, or event, but does not reflect time period or key characteristics are missing.	Student has created a soda bottle, but it is unclear as to what the bottle represents.	Student did not create a soda bottle representation of their book.

For Rising 5th Grade Students

Required Novel: *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Fifth Grade Academy summer reading consists of two reading tasks. The first task is to read the required novel. This novel will be discussed in length during the first month of school.

The second task is to select one nonfiction book and follow the attached instructions for completing the "Brochure" project. Please read a nonfiction book pertaining to:

*Wright brothers, George Washington Carver, Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt. The *Who is....* series is a great place to start.

Famous American Brochure Directions Template

1. Open up Microsoft Publisher. Click on "brochure."
2. Choose one of the preset templates.
3. Click "create."

4. Be creative.
5. Have fun.

(If you don't have access to Publisher, then try Word, (3 column table) then poster board, and lastly, paper.)

Be sure to include the following information:

- * By: Your Name
- * Class: Your teacher (Mr. Howard)
- * Name of Famous American
- * Picture of Famous American
- * Birthdate and Place of Birth
- * Family (parents, siblings, notable relatives)
- * Hobbies/interests
- * What their childhood was like
- * Map showing where they are from
- ** Character Traits
- ** Their contributions to their country and/or the world

Student examples are shown below.

Early Life

- + Billie was born on November 22, 1943
- + Parents names are William and Betty Moffitt. Her younger brothers name was Randy
- + She loved tennis for a hobby
- + Her childhood was great because her parents encouraged both her and her brother to always do their best
- + Two famous quotes that Billie once wrote "Champions keep playing until they get it right," and "A champion is afraid of losing. Everyone else is afraid of winning"

This is where Billie was born (Long Beach California)

Famous American

By: Clare Nicholas

Mrs. Capotosta

Helpful Websites

- Wikipedia
- Brainy Quote
- Biography.com
- ESPN.com
- www.tennisfame.com

Billie Jean King

Accomplishments in life

- Billie Jean King won 39 grand slam titles, 20 Wimbledon titles, 13 U.S.A. titles, 4 French titles, and 2 Australian titles



- These are two quotes that Billie Jean said "Champions keep playing until they get it right," and "A champion is afraid of losing. Everyone else is afraid of winning."

Goals and Inspirations

- Billie wanted for women to be treated the same as men so they could do other things too. She also wanted to be a professional tennis player.
- Billie was influenced by her dad and her coach, Alice Marble.
- Obstacles that Billie had to overcome was that she was a woman, and women didn't get to do as many things as men in tennis.



This is Billie's dad on the far left



This is Billie's coach, Alice Marble

LATER IN LIFE

- Billie went to Long Beach Polytechnic High School. She also went to California State University, Los Angeles. At college she got an honorary degree from Boston University
- She married Larry King from



Clara Barton's early life.

- Clara was born on December 25, 1821.
- She was born in Oxford, Massachusetts.
- Her parents were Stephen and Sarah Barton.
- She had four siblings.
- She liked talking to her father's stories and riding horses.
- When she was younger she was sent to boarding school but was soon withdrawn, she also helped her brother when he fell off the roof of a barn then he made a full recovery.



You can use wikipedia.org to find almost anything about her. Another one is library.thinkquest.org to learn about her childhood. To learn about the Red Cross you might want to use redcross.org. Always remember if you are going to research about her you want to use websites that end in .org, .gov, .edu, and .mil.

Websites



By: Megan Simpson

Mrs. Capotosta Class

Historical American

Clara Barton



Clara Barton

By: Renee Swanson

Clara's Last years.

- Clara won the "International Red Cross Medal" and the "Iron Cross of Imperial Russia"
- Clara died on April 12, 1912

Her Career

Clara Barton had a long career for all around the world, which helped her be able to pass.

Clara was the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

For education Clara went to Clinton Liberal Institute and got a degree in education.

