

Ahoy Parents!

It's finally here.... Happy Summer Break!!

Included are the components of our BRAND new GMS Summer Reading Program. We hope the kids are as excited about it as we are! This summer, we invite them to travel around the world with books - the sky's the limit!

Did you know that an equivalent of one school month is lost during summer vacation, and an equivalent of TWO MONTHS of reading skills are lost over the summer?! Research shows that 2-3 hours per week during summer vacation is needed to prevent learning loss. Once school begins, if learning has been lost, it can take up to two months to get back on track. So, we decided to re-vamp our Summer Reading Program to be engaging and interactive. We hope you and your child will participate.

Here's what's included:

- **SUMMER READING PASSPORT** - This is the reading log. Kids will record the names of the books they read inside the passport, along with the name of the main character and a stamp (small picture or symbol) to represent their book. For younger grades, it's okay for the parents to help out with this part! Reading Goals for each grade are also included inside the passports.
 - RISING 1ST GRADERS - 10 books (5 of which must be read by the student, the other 5 by the parent)
 - RISING 2ND GRADERS - 20 books (10 of which must be read by the student)
 - RISING 3RD GRADERS - 20 books (10 of which must be read by the student)
 - RISING 4TH GRADERS - 20 books (10 of which must be read by the student)
- **MY FAVORITE BOOK POSTCARD** - This is the task. Each grade will draw a picture on the front of the postcard of their FAVORITE summer read, along with the title of their book. On the back, each grade has a different task to write a small sentence/paragraph about their book.
 - RISING 1ST GRADERS - Favorite Part
 - RISING 2ND GRADERS - Favorite Character and Why
 - RISING 3RD GRADERS - Summary
 - RISING 4TH GRADERS - Persuasive Paragraph (why you loved that book)

All students returning to school with their completed Summer Reading Passport will be invited to attend our Beginning of the Year Reading SAIL-ebriation! We will share our favorite books with each other and party away.

Follow our [GMS Summer Reading Program \(Elementary\) Facebook Page](#) to post what awesome books you have read over the summer! We want to hear about your recommendations and what your kids loved (or didn't love!) Let's make our school a school of readers who are excited about books!

We hope you have a fantastic summer of fun... and a little bit of reading!

Love,
GMS Elementary Teachers