

Hello, Families of Future St. Monica Catholic School 3rd Graders!

In order to avoid what we call the "summer slide," we are assigning some summer reading to our students. Below, you'll find a list of recommended book titles, their authors, and the AR Book Level (grade.month). Some are chapter books, and some are not. Your child may read with you, to you, or on their own. Students will be expected to read at least two books and complete the end products listed on the next page: one in June, one in July. If students would like to read additional books on this list, that would be fantastic!

Title	Author	AR/ATOS Book Level
<u>Meet the Boxcar Children</u>	Warner, Gertrude Chandler	2.3
<u>Sideways Stories from Sideways School</u>	Sachar, Louis	3.3
<u>Freckle Juice</u>	Blume, Judy	3.1
<u>Watch Out for Chicken Feet in Your Soup</u>	de Paola, Tomie	1.3
<u>Martin's Big Words</u>	Rappaport, Doreen	3.4
<u>The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash</u>	Noble, Trinka Hakes	2.2
<u>The Magic Tree House: Vacation Under the Volcano</u>	Osborne, Mary Pope	3.3
<u>Follow the Drinking Gourd</u>	Winter, Jeanette	4.3
<u>Young Cam Jansen and the 100th Day of School Mystery</u>	Alder, David A.	2.9
<u>Phoebe and Her Unicorn</u>	Simpson, Dana	3.4

End Products:

These end products will be due the first week of school and will each count as an ELA grade.

- 1) **Plot Summary:** Students will use the "Plot – Beginning, Middle, and End" page to summarize one of the stories that they choose to read. They should complete all parts of this page, including the title of the book, the setting and characters, and the most important events that occur in the story to give the clearest description possible.

- 2) **Scene in a Box:** Students will create a scene in a box** by choosing their favorite scene/setting from their second story that they would like to recreate. The point of this project is to bring the images they see in their head while reading into a real life scene! This helps with visualizing and creating imagery while reading. It also helps with making connections to the story. I've attached a couple of pages with student samples to give more of an idea as to what the final product should look like. In addition to creating the scene, students will use the "Scene Description" page to tell about the scene they've recreated. (**If time does not allow for your child to create a 3D diorama in a box of their scene, they may draw a picture of it instead. They will still receive a passing grade on the project. However, because designing and building their scene in a 3D diorama will take some ingenuity and higher order thinking on their part, students who do the 3D scene in a box will receive a higher grade.)

To clarify: students will read one book and complete the plot summary. Then, they'll choose a second book and choose a scene to recreate for their Scene in a Box. (Two separate books, two separate projects: one project per book.)

I can't wait to see what the students create! (And which books they choose to enjoy this summer – some of these are favorites of mine!)

Have a wonderful summer, Dragons, and see you in the fall!

Mrs. Hajek
3rd Grade Teacher
St. Monica Catholic School

Plot – Beginning, Middle, End

Name: _____ # _____

Plot – the **events**, or *what happens*, in a story. We can **organize** the events by thinking about what happens in the beginning, the middle, and the end of the story.

Notice how each section of the story has something to do with the **problem**. It is what grabs the reader's interest and *makes the reader want to keep reading!*

Beginning – a **problem** is introduced, that needs to be solved.

Middle – the characters try to solve the **problem**.

End – the **problem** is solved.

Story Title: _____

Setting & Characters: _____

Directions: Describe what happens in each section of the story. Be specific enough so that your plot summary makes sense to someone who has not read this story.

Beginning: _____

Middle: _____

End: _____

Scene Description

Title of Scene: _____

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Title of book _____

Name of Author _____