

# LINDEN Public Schools

2 East Gibbons Street, Linden, NJ 07036



Danny A. Robertozzi, Ed.D  
Superintendent

Gregory R. Martucci  
Board President

Jennifer Smith  
Director of Elementary Language Arts,  
Federal Programs, and Early Childhood  
jmsmith@lindenps.org  
(908)486-2800 Ext. 802

June, 2019

Students entering grades 3-5  
for 2019-2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Summer is a great time to read, especially for children. With no school and no homework, there are usually plenty of extra hours to fill. Encourage your child to fill those hours with reading.

Research shows that students experience learning and reading loss when they are not taking part in active education. Participating in a summer reading activity is an excellent way to prevent such reading loss.

To support our belief in reading, the Linden Public Schools will require a summer reading assignment. This year, the assignment will be a **"Book Log"**. Your child is required to read consistently during the summer and record their reading on a district book log, listing the title and author of each book that they read. Your child's independent reading level will be provided and a **suggested** book list for each grade level is enclosed. Please feel free to review books that are above and below your child's grade level so that they are aligned with their reading level. **Your child may select books that are not on this list to complete the summer reading assignment.**

As an alternative to a project, the students will be asked to bring their reading log to school by **Friday, September 13, 2019**. They will select their favorite book from the log and participate in a **"Group Book Talk"** to be scheduled by the classroom teacher. The expectations for the book talk are enclosed with this correspondence. Completing the **"Group Book Talk"** with their peers in class will hopefully motivate your child to find additional authors or books to read in the future. A description of a **"Book Talk"** is also enclosed for your information along with a checklist for preparation.

Parents are encouraged to help their child select books that are appropriate to their reading ability and interests. For example, some genres include fiction, non-fiction, e-books, graphic novels, etc. Please use the Linden Public Library on East Henry Street to assist with book selection.

We hope that your child will look forward to reading this summer and take this opportunity to participate in many rewarding literacy activities.

If you have any questions or if you have difficulty obtaining a book, you may contact me at my office at (908) 486-2800 ext. 8027.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith  
Director of Elementary Language Arts,  
Federal Programs, and Early Childhood

Enclosures

# Quick Start Summer Reading Checklist

## June/July/August

- Student and parent will choose books to read for the summer according to reading level (you may or may not use the suggested book list).
- Student will read daily and record number of minutes spent reading.
- OPTIONAL: Students should complete the enclosed recipe card (grades 2 – 5) or comic strip/fact sheet (1<sup>st</sup> grade – may be written or drawn) to help organize thoughts for the book talk.

## September

- Student will bring Reading Log back to school on **Friday, September 13, 2019.**
- BOOK TALK: Student will work at school in a small group to share one favorite book read over the summer.
- OPTIONAL: Student will present their book to the class.

# The Ingredients for a Book Talk



## Recipe for Fiction

**Begin with  
The Book**

- Title
- Author
- Genre

+

**Add the Hook**

Discuss the most exciting part of the book.

+

**Sprinkle with  
Dash of ...**

- Plot
- Characters
- Setting
- Conflict
- Reasons to Read It

## Recipe for Non-Fiction

**Begin with  
The Book**

- Title
- Author
- Genre

+

**Add...**

- The Main Idea
- Facts and Details

+

**Garnish with...**

- 1 or 2 new vocabulary words

# Recipe Card for Book Talk Notes (Fiction)



Title:

---

Genre:

---

Author:

---

Introduce the Book (Characters and Setting)

---

Tell what happens in the book, but don't give away the ending (Plot, Conflict, Most Exciting Part)

---

Give reasons why your friends should read this book

---

# Recipe Card for Book Talk Notes (Non-Fiction)



Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Genre: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Introduce the Book (Topic)

Talk about the book and what you learned (Main Idea, Facts and Details)

Share 1 or 2 new vocabulary words and their meaning



**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
Linden, New Jersey

# Summer Reading List 2019



**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 2**



<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Adler	<u>Mo Jackson Series</u>
Adler	<u>Young Cam Jansen Series</u>
Allard	<u>Miss Nelson Series</u>
Bourgeois	<u>Franklin (Turtle) Series</u>
Erickson	<u>Hank the Cowdog Series</u>
Hoffmann	<u>Amazing Grace Series</u>
Kann	<u>Pinkalicious Series</u>
Klein	<u>Ready Freddy! Series</u>
Lobel	<u>Frog And Toad Series</u>
Manushkin	<u>Kay Woo series</u>
Minarik	<u>Little Bear Series</u>
National Geographics	<u>National Geographic Kids Books</u>
Nolen	<u>Bradford Street Buddies</u>
Numeroff	<u>If You Give..... Series</u>
O'Connor	<u>Fancy Nancy Series</u>



**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 2 (cont.)**



Parish	<u>Amelia Bedelia Series</u>
Park	<u>Junie B. Jones Series</u>
Rylant	<u>Henry and Mudge Series</u>
Sharmat	<u>Nate The Great Series</u>



**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 3**

<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Adler	<u>Cam Jansen Series</u>
Adler	<u>Picture Book Biography of... Series</u>
Barnes	<u>Ruby Booker Series</u>
Brown	<u>Flat Stanley Series</u>
Brown	<u>Lola Levine Series</u>
Cameron	<u>Stories Julian Tells Series</u>
Chang	<u>Anna Wang Series</u>
Cleary	<u>Ramona The Pest</u>
Cleary	<u>Runaway Ralph</u>
Hoffmann	<u>Amazing Grace Series</u>
Howe	<u>Bunnicula Series</u>
Jones	<u>The Adventures of Bailey School Kids Series</u>
Kline	<u>Horrible Harry Series</u>
Look	<u>Ruby Lu Series</u>
McDonald	<u>Judy Moody Series</u>



**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 3 (cont.)**

Recorvits

Yoon Series

Roy

A-Z Mysteries Series

Salisbury

Calvin Coconut Series

Warner

EllRay Jakes Series

Watt

Scaredy Squirrel Series

**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 4**



<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Black	<u>Spiderwick Chronicles Series</u>
Blume	<u>Superfudge</u>
Blume	<u>Tales Of A 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Nothing</u>
Chang	<u>Anna Wang Series</u>
Christopher	<u>Matt Christopher Sports Series</u>
Cleary	<u>Muggie Maggie</u>
Cleary	<u>Ramona Quimby Age 8</u>
Dahl	<u>James and the Giant Peach</u>
Danziger	<u>Amber Brown Goes Fourth Series</u>
Draper	<u>Clubhouse Mysteries</u>
Duffey	<u>Hey, New Kid!</u>
English	<u>The Carver Chronicles</u>
Gutman	<u>The Genius Series</u>
Hunter	<u>The Quest Begins: Seekers #1</u>
Look	<u>Alvin Ho Series</u>

**LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**Entering Grade 4 (cont.)**



Markle	<u>Great White Sharks</u>
Naylor	<u>Shiloh</u>
Nichols	<u>Animal Masterminds</u>
Pierce	<u>Big Nate Series</u>
Sachar	<u>Marvin Redpost Series</u>
Sachar	<u>Wayside School Series</u>
Salisbury	<u>Calvin Coconut Series</u>
Scieszka	<u>Time Warp Trio Series</u>
Smith	<u>No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series</u>
Snicket	<u>A Series Of Unfortunate Events Series</u>
Sobel	<u>Encyclopedia Brown Series</u>
Stanley	<u>Leonardo Da Vinci</u>
Van Allsburg	<u>Jumanji</u>
Various Authors	<u>American Girl Series</u>
Warner	<u>EllRay Jakes Series</u>
Winkler	<u>Hank Zipzer Series</u>
Zukerman/Daly	<u>2030: A Day in the Life of Tomorrow's Kids</u>

LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Suggested Summer Reading List  
Entering Grade 5



<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Armstrong	<u>Souder</u>
Babbitt	<u>Tuck Everlasting</u>
Blume	<u>Fudge-A-Mania</u>
Cleary	<u>Dear Mr. Henshaw</u>
Clements	<u>No Talking</u>
Creech	<u>Love That Dog/Cat</u>
Dahl	<u>The Twits</u>
Danziger	<u>The Cat Ate My Gymsuit</u>
DeClements	<u>Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade</u>
Fritz	<u>What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?</u>
Kehret	<u>Earthquake Terror</u>
Lowry	<u>Anastasia Krupnik Series</u>
Rockwell	<u>How To Eat Fried Worms</u>
Rodgers	<u>Freaky Friday</u>



LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Suggested Summer Reading List  
Entering Grade 5 (cont.)

<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
Simon	<u>Volcanoes</u>
Tarshis	<u>I Survived... Series</u>
Various authors	<u>Who Was... Series</u>
Various authors	<u>Dear America Series</u>
Various authors	<u>Royal Diary Series</u>
Warner	<u>Boxcar Children Series</u>



## Lexile Chart

In order to help students and parents select the “just right” book for their child to enjoy their summer reading, we have provided you with reading level information below.

Grade Equivalent Level	Guided Reading	DRA	Lexile
Grade 2	K, L, M	20, 24, 28	230 – 580
Grade 3	N, O, P	30, 34, 38	360 – 720
Grade 4	Q, R, S	40	480 – 830
Grade 5	T, U, V	50	620 – 950





Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre: \_\_\_\_\_  
.....

## **Book Talk Checklist**

**Y/N**

Did I hook the audience?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I tell what happens in the book  
without saying too much?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I tell something about the main  
character/idea?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I provide adequate amount of  
details?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I mention any new vocabulary?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I mention title/author?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I have a copy of the book to  
share?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I speak 3-4 minutes?

\_\_\_\_\_

Did I use expression, a strong voice,  
and eye contact?

