



NHCS Summer Reading: Rising 3rd Grade

At NHCS, we believe that consistent reading is vital to developing critical thinking skills and a lifelong love for learning. This summer, students are **required to select one book from the left-hand column**—which they may read independently, read aloud with an adult, or listen to as an audiobook—and pair it with **one project from the right-hand column**. Your completed project must be turned in on the **first day of school**, where it will be recorded as your first Language Arts grade of the first term.

- Bulla, Clyde Robert. A Lion to Guard Us
- Cleary, Beverly. Henry Huggins (Series); Ramona Quimby (Series); and Ralph S. Mouse (Series)
- Dekker, Ted. The Dream Traveler's Quest (Series)
- DiCamillo, Kate. Mercy Watson (Series)
- Draper, Sharon M. The Clubhouse Mysteries (Series)
- Elliott, Rebecca. The Owl Diaries (Series)
- English, Karen. The Carver Chronicles (Series)
- Fritz, Jean. Leonardo's Horse
- Hering, Marianne, The Imagination Station (Series)
- Lin, Grace. The Year of the Dog (Series)
- MacDonald, Betty. Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle (Series)
- Mowat, Farley. Owls in the Family
- Nawrocki, Mike. The Dead Sea Squirrels (Series)
- Norton, Mary. The Borrowers (Series)
- Osborne, Mary Pope. The Magic Tree House (Series)
- Peterson, John. The Littles (Series)
- Roy, Ron. A to Z Mysteries (Series)
- Smith, Alexander McCall. Akimbo (Series)
- Sobol, Donald. Encyclopedia Brown (Series)
- Steig, William. Abel's Island
- Warner, Gertrude. The Boxcar Children (Series)
- Various Authors. Great Illustrated Classics (Series)
- Various Authors. Who Was? (Series)

Option 1: Alternate Book Jacket

Fold a sheet of paper in half like a book cover to design a completely original jacket.

- Front Cover: Create a new title and an entirely original cover illustration (do not copy the book's real cover).
- Inside Left: Write a 4 sentence summary meant to hook a potential reader and make them want to buy the book.
- Inside Right / Back: Write 4 sentences describing the main character of the book (their actions, thoughts, choices, and character traits). Write one sentence explaining the moral or biblical lesson the book teaches.

Option 2: The Graphic Novel Page

Pick your favorite or the most impactful chapter from the book and turn it into a single-page comic strip.

- Format: Draw a comic grid of 6 to 8 panels on a single blank page.
- Content: Use captions for the action and speech bubbles for the character dialogue to retell the key events of that single chapter. Every panel must be fully colored.
- Back: On the back of the paper, write a paragraph (5 sentences) describing why you choose the chapter for the graphic novel.

Option 3: Interview with a Character

Write a script for a brief question and answer session with the main character, taking place after the book's final events.

- Format: Write 3 thoughtful, probing questions from an interviewer's perspective.
- Execution: Write 3 realistic, in-character responses that show an understanding of how that character grew and changed throughout the story.