

NOTTINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2025 SUMMER READING PROJECT

(FOR STUDENTS ENTERING FOURTH GRADE)

THEME: DIVERSITY AND TOLERANCE

BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	SUMMARY	LEVEL
<p><i>A Day's Work</i></p> 	Bunting, Eve	*Fiction* When Francisco, a young Mexican American boy, tries to help his grandfather find work, he discovers that even though the old man cannot speak English, he has something even more valuable to teach Francisco.	350L
<p><i>Stellaluna</i></p> 	Cannon, Janell	*Fiction* This award-winning picture book, a clever, original variation on the theme of the ugly duckling, follows the adventures of a lost baby fruit bat and her efforts to fit in.	550L
<p><i>The Can Man</i></p> 	Williams, Laura E.	*Fiction* Tim's birthday is just a week away, and more than anything he wants a skateboard. But money is tight, and Tim knows his family cannot afford to buy him a board. As Tim ponders how he might earn money for a skateboard, he hears the Can Man down the street collecting empty soft drink cans.	AD630
<p><i>All the Colors of the Earth</i></p> 	Hamanaka, Sheila	*Non-Fiction* Inspired by her own two children's multi-ethnic heritage, Ms. Hamanaka uses soaring text and beautiful art to celebrate the glorious diversity of children laughing, loving and glowing with life.	AD540L
<p><i>Thank you, Mr. Falker</i></p> 	Polacco, Patricia	*Non-fiction* The autobiographical story of Little Trisha, whose struggle with dyslexia is transformed by a wonderful teacher. "A personal story with engaging results."—SLJ	AD650L

<p><i>One and Only Ivan</i></p> 	<p>Applegate, Katherine</p>	<p><i>*Fiction*</i> The true story of Ivan the gorilla, who lived in a shopping mall for 27 years— told from Ivan's uncanny point of view. "Important."—Horn Book</p>	<p>570L</p>
<p><i>Because of Winn Dixie</i></p> 	<p>DiCamillo, Kate</p>	<p><i>*Fiction*</i> Opal spends her first summer in a new town with a sweet, stray dog and a lot of difficult memories. "Funny, poignant, and utterly genuine."— Publishers Weekly</p>	<p>610L</p>
<p><i>Who was Jackie Robinson?</i></p> 	<p>Herman, Gail</p>	<p><i>*Non-fiction*</i> This book is an inspiring sports biography of Jackie Robinson, who was not only a natural at football, basketball, and baseball, but was also the first black player to break the color barrier in major league baseball.</p>	<p>670L</p>
<p><i>Who was Harriet Tubman?</i></p> 	<p>Zeldis McDonough, Yona</p>	<p><i>*Non-fiction*</i> Born a slave in Maryland, Harriet Tubman knew first-hand what it meant to be someone's property; she was whipped by owners and almost killed by an overseer. It was from other field hands that she first heard about the Underground Railroad, which she traveled by herself north to Philadelphia.</p>	<p>650L</p>
<p><i>Wonder</i></p> 	<p>Palacio, R.J.</p>	<p><i>*Fiction*</i> August Pullman is not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. Sure, he's a huge Star Wars fan, he loves his dog, and he's got a pretty good sense of humor. But August was born with a craniofacial abnormality, a genetic defect that caused his facial features to be severely deformed. His life has never been "normal."</p>	<p>790L</p>
<p><i>Rules</i></p> 	<p>Lord, Cynthia</p>	<p><i>*Fiction*</i> This 2007 Newbery Honor Book is a humorous and heartwarming debut about feeling different and finding acceptance.</p>	<p>780L</p>

<p><i>Esperanza Rising</i></p> 	<p>Munoz Ryan, Pam</p>	<p><i>*Fiction*</i> Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico — she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers.</p>	<p>750L</p>
<p><i>If You Traveled the Underground Railroad</i></p> 	<p>Levine, Ellen</p>	<p><i>*Non-fiction*</i> The vast and complex network known as the Underground Railroad helped thousands of slaves reach freedom. Told in a vivid question-and-answer format, the text provides true-life stories of slaves who faced an enormous number of dangers.</p>	<p>720L</p>
<p><i>If Your Name Was Changed at Ellis Island</i></p> 	<p>Levine, Ellen</p>	<p><i>*Non-fiction*</i> Packed with quotes from and photos of the children and adults who passed through Ellis Island. "One of the best general historical accounts for younger readers."—Booklist</p>	<p>720L</p>

Project due to classroom teacher by September 30, 2025.

Fourth Grade Summer Reading

You will be choosing one fiction book and one nonfiction book from the list of books for your grade level. You will then choose one fiction story project to create out of the three choices given for one of the fiction books. For your nonfiction book you will write a summary of the book you have chosen for your nonfiction book.

Choose One Fiction Project to Complete

Choice One:

Advertisement Poster

Creating an Advertisement is a way of telling a story. After you read your book, you will create an advertisement on poster board. Make sure you include a picture, description of the book including setting, characters, and plot, paragraph on the reasons for advertising the book for someone else to read.

Choice Two:

Book Jacket

Creating a book jacket is a way of telling a story. After you read your book, you will illustrate the front cover of your book. Then you will write a brief summary on the back cover of the book. The summary should include a description of the book including setting, characters, and plot.

Choice Three:

Artifact

You will be bringing in an artifact that is related to a scene or a part of book. You will write a paragraph describing how the artifact relates to the story.

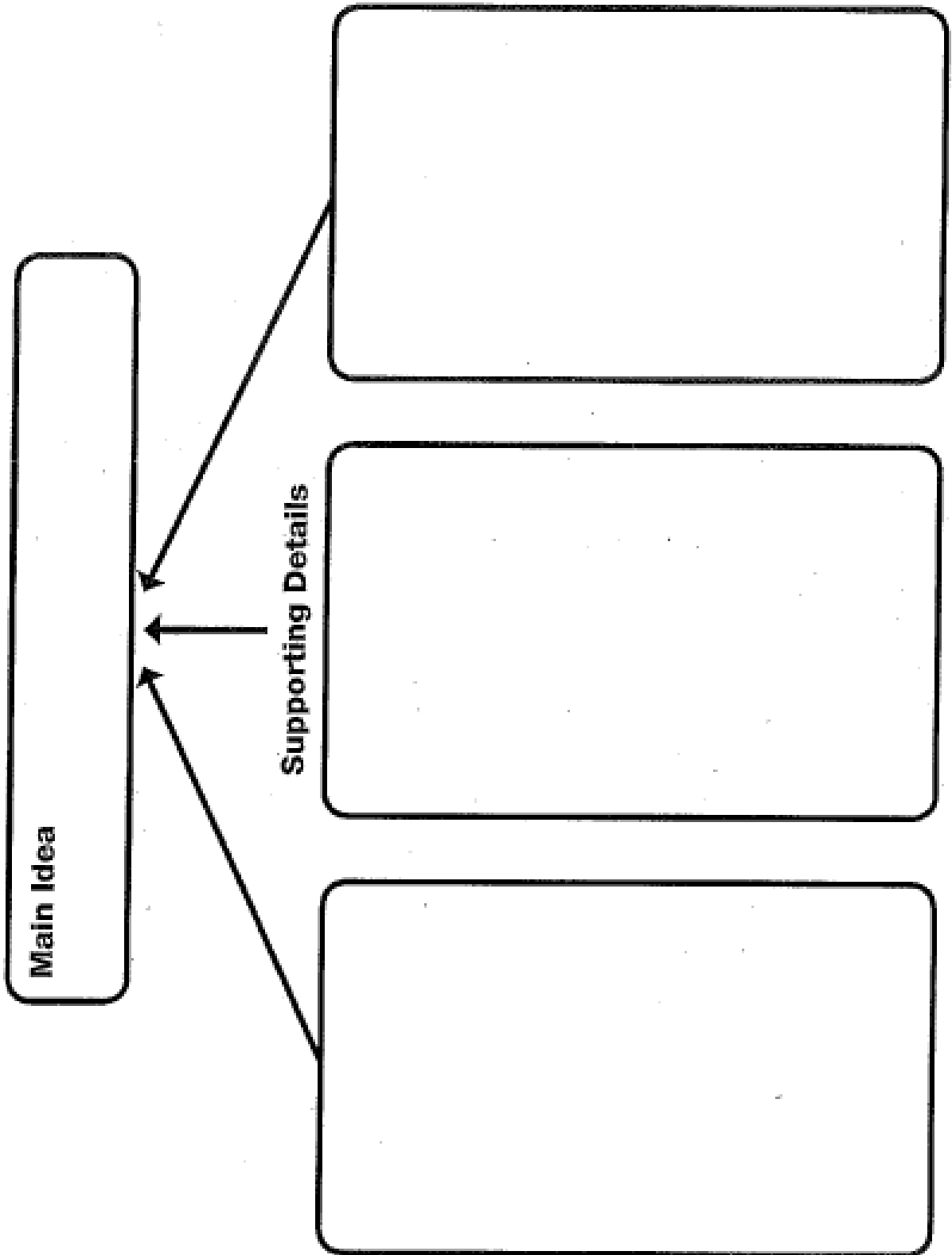
Nonfiction Project to Complete

For the nonfiction project, you will need to write a summary of the nonfiction book you have chosen to read off of the booklist. Your summary must be 2-3 paragraphs long. Your summary needs to include the key ideas and supporting details for each section of your non-fiction book. We have included a graphic organizer to help you organize your thoughts prior to writing. You may need multiple copies of the graphic organizer, which can be found on the next page. Please be sure to pay careful attention to your spelling and punctuation!

Summer Reading Non-Fiction Rubric

	Needs Improvement	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Conventions: Grammar and spelling	Sentences are poorly written with numerous spelling and grammatical errors. (1 point)	Sentences are written relatively well with some spelling and grammatical errors. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written and there are few spelling and grammatical errors. (3 points)	Sentences are written well and there are little or no spelling or grammatical errors. ' (4 points)
Language and Vocabulary:	Ideas are conveyed in a vague, unclear or confusing manner. (1 point)	Ideas are unevenly conveyed, using overly simplistic language, lacks domain-specific vocabulary. (2 points)	Ideas are adequately conveyed, using both precise and more general language; may include domain-specific vocabulary. (3 points)	Ideas are clearly and effectively conveyed, using precise language and/or domain-specific vocabulary. (4 points)
Craftsmanship: Sentences are neatly written.	Sentences are not legible (1 point)	Sentences are legible, but poorly written (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written (3 points)	Sentences are perfectly written (4points)
Focus: Follows directions, works hard on project, and is completed on time.	The project is not complete and the student did not follow directions. (1 point)	The project is complete, but more effort could have been put forth on the project. (2 points)	It is evident that sufficient time and effort was put into creating the project (3 points)	It is evident that much time and effort was put into creating the project to make it outstanding. (4 points)
Total Points				/16

Main Idea



Summer Reading Poster Advertisement

Creating a poster advertisement is a way to advertise the literary elements of a story, such as the characters, setting and plot. After you read your book, you will create a poster advertisement. Your advertisement will combine a picture and a description of the book. The description needs to include a setting, characters, and a paragraph detailing the reasons for advertising the book for others to read.

Summer Reading Poster Advertisement rubric

	Needs Improvement	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Conventions: grammar and spelling	Sentences are poorly written with numerous spelling and grammatical errors. (1 point)	Sentences are written relatively well with some spelling and grammatical errors. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written, there are few spelling and grammatical errors. (3 points)	Sentences are written well and there are little or no spelling or grammatical errors. (4 points)
Content (All categories are filled out completely and accurately: picture, Description of the book including setting, characters, and plot, paragraph on the reasons for advertising the book for someone else to read)	Includes 0 out of the 3 areas are completed. (1 point)	Includes 1 out of 3 areas are completely filled out. (2 points)	Includes 2 out of 3 areas are filled out completely and accurately. (3 points)	Includes 3 or more areas are filled out completely and accurately. (4 points)
Craftsmanship- Sentences neatly written and is drawn well.	Sentences are poorly written or the scene is not drawn well and is sloppy. (1 point)	Sentences are not neatly written, but the scene is drawn relatively well. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written, but picture could be drawn neater or scene not accurate. (3 points)	Sentences are neatly written and picture is neat shows specific scene. (4points)
Focus- follows directions, works hard on project, and completes on time.	The project is not complete and the student did not follow directions. (1 point)	The project was completely finished, but could have spent more time on completing. (2 points)	Worked hard to complete the project, but could have spent more time to make the project outstanding. (3 points)	It is evident a lot of time was spent completing the project. Worked hard on the project. (4 points)
Total Points				/16

Summer Reading Book Jacket

Creating a book jacket is a way of telling a story. After you read your book, you will illustrate the front cover of your book. Then you will write a brief summary on the back cover of the book. The summary should include a description of the book. The components of a summary are setting, characters, and plot (the events that make-up a story.)

Summer Reading Book Jacket Rubric

	Needs Improvement	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Conventions: grammar and spelling	Sentences are poorly written with numerous spelling and grammatical errors. (1 point)	Sentences are written relatively well with some spelling and grammatical errors. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written, there are few spelling and grammatical errors. (3 points)	Sentences are written well and there are little or no spelling or grammatical errors. (4 points)
Content: All categories are filled out completely and accurately: illustration/ picture setting characters plot	1 out of the 4 areas is complete and accurate. (1 point)	2 out of 4 areas are complete and accurate. (2 points)	3 out of 4 area are complete and accurate. (3 points)	All 4 areas are complete and accurate. (4 points)
Craftsmanship: Sentences and illustration are neatly written and drawn.	Sentences are poorly written or the illustration is not drawn well and is sloppy. (1 point)	Sentences are not neatly written, but the illustration is drawn relatively well. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written, but the illustration could be drawn neater or not accurate. (3 points)	Sentences and illustration are neatly written and drawn. (4points)
Focus: Follows directions, works hard on project, and is completed on time.	The project is not complete and the student did not follow directions. (1 point)	The project is complete, but more effort could have been put forth on the project. (2 points)	It is evident that sufficient time and effort was put into creating the project. (3 points)	It is evident that much time and effort was put into the project to make it outstanding. (4 points)
Total Points				/16

Summer Reading Artifact

You will bring an artifact that is related to a scene or a part of the book. You will also write a paragraph describing how the artifact relates to the story.

Summer Reading Artifact Rubric

	Needs Improvement	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced
Conventions: grammar and spelling	Sentences are poorly written with numerous spelling and grammatical errors. (1 point)	Sentences are written relatively well with some spelling and grammatical en-ors. (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written and there are few spelling and grammatical errors. (3 points)	Sentences are written well and there are little or no spelling or grammatical errors. (4 points)
Content (All categories are filled out completely and accurately: You will be bringing in an artifact that is related to a scene or a part of book. You will write a paragraph describing how the artifact relates to the story.	Includes 1 out of the 4 areas completed. (1 point)	Includes 2 out of 4 areas completely filled out. (2 points)	Includes 3 out of 4 areas filled out completely and accurately. (3 points)	Includes 4 or more areas filled out completely and accurately. (4 points)
Craftsmanship- Sentences neatly written	Sentences are not legible (1 point)	Sentences are legible, but poorly written (2 points)	Sentences are neatly written (3 points)	Sentences are perfectly written (4points)
Focus- follows directions, works hard on project, and completed on time.	The project is not complete and the student did not follow directions. (1 point)	The project is complete, but more effort could have been put forth on the project. (2 points)	It is evident that sufficient time and effort was put into creating the project (3 points)	It is evident that much time and effort was put into creating the project to make it outstanding, (4 points)
Total Points				/16