

# WELCOME TO 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

## Divine Mercy Academy - September 2021

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Divine Mercy Academy's 5th Grade Homeroom! The 2021-2022 school year is going to be great. Attached is the summer reading assignment and a list of supplies needed when the students return to school in September.

### Summer Reading

Children entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade are moving from a "Learning to Read" stage to a "Reading to Learn" stage. To develop reading skills, children need to read many books that are "just right" for their abilities. Encourage a variety of genres (fiction, biographies, science, history, etc.) as well as magazines, newspapers, etc. All 5th-grade students are required to read 20-30 minutes per day, and to keep a log of what they've read. The reading log (attached) will count as the students' first reading grade in September.

Besides daily reading, the students are asked to read an age-appropriate book from the attached list. The 5th-grade students will be required to do a paper bag book report, which will be their first project grade in September and is due the first week of school. The instructions for the bag report are also attached to this letter.

Students are encouraged to continue practicing their skills in language arts and reading using the IXL learning platform. Categories include reading, writing, grammar and mechanics, and vocabulary. This will help each student to retain concepts learned in 4th grade.

We all need to work together to make this a fantastic year – teacher, students, and parents. Communication is key in a flourishing school/home relationship.

Thank you, and God Bless you.

## STUDENTS ENTERING 5<sup>th</sup> SUPPLIES LIST

Hopefully, this list will enable you to do your shopping ahead of time, and perhaps even find some of the items on sale. Please bring them to school on the first day.

### PLEASE LABEL ALL SUPPLIES AND UNIFORMS!

- 1 Pair of Headphones/Earbuds to be kept at and used in school. Please do not send expensive headphones; just something that can be used in class.
- 1 1" Binder *filled* with lined paper
- 1 set Binder Dividers (to separate subjects)
- 1 Poly (Plastic) 2-Pocket Folder to be used daily
- 1 Pencil Box (Aprox. 5" x 8" – **No Larger**)
- 8 Black Pens
- 8 Red Pens
- 12 #2 Pencils (**sharpened**)
- 1 **Sharpener** with a cover to catch pencil shavings
- 4 Highlighters (1 each of yellow, pink, blue and green)
- 1 Package of colored pencils
- 1 24 count crayons
- 1 Package washable markers
- 4 Black Sharpie Markers (2 fine point/2 ultra fine point)
- 1 Bottle of **Tacky** Glue
- 4 Glue Sticks
- 1 Index Card Box (to be kept at home with completed cards)
- 3 Packages ruled index cards (white or colored)

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For the classroom:

- 1 Bottle Hand Sanitizer
- 3 Large Boxes of Tissues
- 3 Containers of Cleaning Disinfectant Wipes
- 1 Roll of Paper Towels

Thank you for your cooperation. Have a nice summer!

## Education World - Fifth Grade Summer Reading List

### ***Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank**

Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has become a world classic -- a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit. In 1942, with the Nazis occupying Holland, 13-year-old Anne and her Jewish family went into hiding in the "secret annex" of an old office building; while living there, Anne recorded her experiences in a diary. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, her account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and a compelling self-portrait of an extraordinary young woman whose life was tragically cut short.

### ***Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary, Paul O. Zelinsky (illus.)**

When fourth-grader Leigh Botts asks Mr. Henshaw to write to him personally, he gets more than he bargained for. Mr. Henshaw's letters are full of questions, and Leigh is getting tired of answering them. But as he continues his correspondence with his favorite author, he not only gets plenty of tips on writing, but he also finds a wise and thoughtful friend to whom he can tell his troubles.

### ***Frindle* by Andrew Clements, Brian Selznick (illus.)**

When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

### ***In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord, Marc Simont (illus.)**

Shirley Temple Wong sails from China to America with a heart full of dreams. Her new home is Brooklyn, New York. America is indeed a land full of wonders, but Shirley doesn't know any English, so it's hard to make friends. Then a miracle -- baseball -- happens. It is 1947, and Jackie Robinson, star of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is everyone's hero. Jackie Robinson is proving that a black man, the grandson of a slave, can make a difference in America. And for Shirley as well, on the ball field and off, America becomes the land of opportunity.

### ***Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell**

In the Pacific, there is an island that looks like a big fish sunning itself in the sea. Around it, blue dolphins swim, otters play, and sea elephants and sea birds abound. Once, Indians also lived on the island. And when they left and sailed to the east, one young girl was left behind. This is the story of Karana, the Indian girl who lived alone for years on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. Year after year, she watched one season pass into another and waited for a ship to take her away. But while she waited, she kept herself alive by building a shelter, making weapons, finding food, and fighting her enemies, the wild dogs. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* is not only an unusual adventure of survival but also a tale of natural beauty and personal discovery.

### ***My Daniel* by Pam Conrad**

Wandering through the Natural History Museum with her grandchildren, Julia Creath feels the presence of her dead brother, Daniel. She remembers a time when fossil fever hit everyone, old and young -- a time when people would even kill for those old bones under the ground. Julia becomes the Nebraska farm girl she once was, as she weaves together the story of the great dinosaur rush -- an adventurous tale of love and treachery, but most of all the story of her own childhood, and of the older brother she loved more than anything. Daniel had a dream: to save their family farm by finding a dinosaur. It was a dream that Julia shared -- and that she alone would see come true.

### ***Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry**

Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen and her best friend Ellen Rosen often think about life before the war. But it's now 1943, and their life in Copenhagen is filled with school, food shortages, and the Nazi soldiers marching in their town. When the Nazis begin "relocating" the Jews of Denmark, Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be part of the family. And as Annemarie helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis and embarks on a dangerous mission, she learns how to be brave and courageous -- to save her best friend's life.

### ***The Warm Place* by Nancy Farmer**

When Ruva, a young giraffe, is captured and sent to a zoo in San Francisco, she calls upon two rats, a street-smart chameleon, a runaway boy, and all the magical powers of the animal world to return to "the warm place" that is home.

## ***Suggestions by Scholastic***

### **Maniac Magee**

by **Jerry Spinelli**

He wasn't born with the name Maniac Magee. He came into this world named Jeffrey Lionel Magee, but when his parents died and his life changed, so did his name. And Maniac Magee became a legend.

### **Westing Game, The**

by **Ellen Raskin**

When sixteen people are called together for the reading of wealthy Sam Westing's will, they are surprised to learn that the will is actually a contest in which they are all to participate.

### **Tuck Everlasting**

by **Natalie Babbitt**

Time drags by for Winnie Foster, an eleven-year-old girl who lives in a house bordering the woods owned by her family. Winnie spends her summer days under the watchful eye of her grandmother.

### **Revolutionary War on Wednesday**

Series: **Magic Tree House, The**, Book #22

by **Mary Pope Osborne** *Illustrated by* **Sal Murdocca**

When Jack and Annie go on their second mission to help save Camelot, the magic tree house takes them to a decisive moment in the Revolutionary War as George Washington is about to cross the Delaware River. Just when the siblings think their mission is accomplished, they are accused of spying for the enemy.

### **Double Team**

Series: **STAT**, Book #2

by **Amar'e Stoudemire** *Illustrated by* **Tim Jessell**

Eleven-year-old Amar'e Stoudemire starts competing in basketball tournaments with his two best friends, Deuce and Mike, and they are winning. After a few big wins, Amar'e starts getting attention from some of the older, more elite players in Lake Wales.

### **The Tale of Despereaux**

by **Kate DiCamillo** *Illustrated by* **Timothy Basil Ering**

Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light.

### **Call It Courage**

by **Armstrong Sperry** *Illustrated by* **Dom Lupo**

A legendary adventure story of how Mafatu, the son of the Great Chief of Hikueru, a Polynesian race who worships courage, conquers his fear of the sea and proves he isn't a coward.

Praise for Call It Courage" This author writes with imagination and integrity." — **New York Times**

### **The One and Only Ivan**

by **Katherine Applegate** *Illustrated by* **Patricia Castelao**

Inspired by the true story of a gorilla who spent 30 years alone in a cage at an indoor zoo in a mall, this beautiful book imagines what that gorilla might have felt and said about his life. Ivan does not dwell on his memories as does his friend Stella, an elderly elephant in the cage next door.

Paper Bag Book Report Rubric - This must be turned in with the project.

Student Name:	Grade
Book Title:	Points
Front Cover - Title / Author / Illustration / Caption / Your Name (2 pts each)	10
Right Side - Three main characters with descriptions.	10
Right Side - Setting - Time, Place, Context	10
Left Side - Problem - What is the problem and who does it affect.	10
Left Side - Resolution - How was the problem solved - <u>be specific</u> .	10
Back Side - Summary of the Book (3 Parts) - Beginning, Middle, End	10
Back Side - Item Descriptions - Description, Symbol for..., Why you included it.	10
Oral Presentation - You know your story and do not read the entire report. Stand up straight, eye contact, clear loud voice	15

Rubric - You handed in the rubric with your project.	5
Total Points Earned: .	/ 100

Students may TYPE their information and neatly cut their work down to fit the bag.  
Students MUST draw and color their own pictures. Neatness counts throughout.

# Paper bag book reports



Created by:  
Staci Stichel

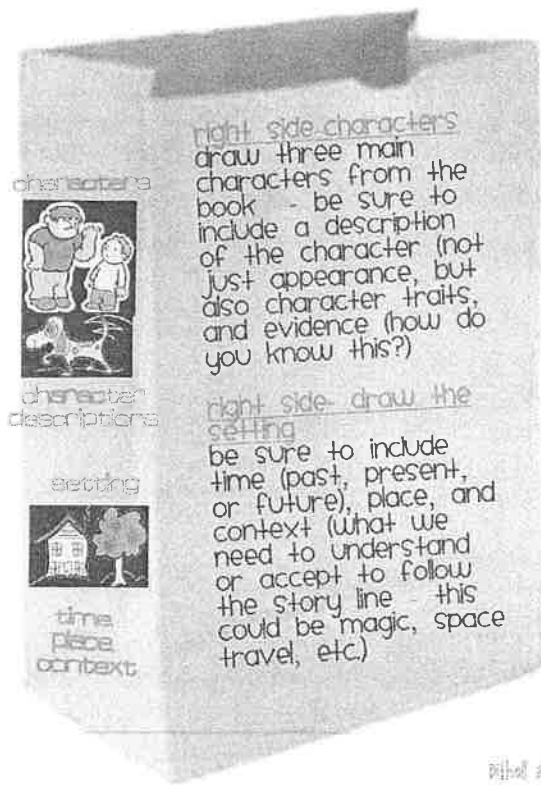
# Just a Note

This is a really fun way to assign a book report. The kids do the written portion of the report on the outside of the bag, and then place five items that represent something important in the story inside the bag. It's a good way to introduce symbolism. Students use large grocery store bags, so these do take up quite a bit of room. I grade them and send them home as soon as each student presents.

Shari



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left side  
problem &  
resolution

write a  
good  
paragraph  
explaining  
the main  
problem in  
the story  
and how  
this  
problem  
was  
resolved.  
remember,  
you are  
looking for  
the main  
problem -  
don't get  
bogged  
down in  
details.

back side - summary

summarize the main  
events in chronological  
order. stick to the  
main ideas and avoid  
getting side tracked by  
details. be sure to  
include beginning, middle  
and end.

back side  
item descriptions

describe the five items  
that you have placed  
inside the bag. explain  
what each item is, what  
it has to do with the  
story, and why you  
chose to put this item  
in the bag.

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inside the bag

place five items that  
represent an  
important event in  
the book. each item  
needs to be symbolic  
of an main character,  
setting, problem, or  
event in the story.  
describe these items  
and what they  
represent under the  
summary on the back  
of the bag.

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# My Reading Log



Date	Title of Book	Starting Page #	Ending Page #	Parent Signature

*You may attach lined paper to this when you run out of space.*