

Activity List

These activities are intended to help your child to talk about and to better understand what was read, and to help him/her make connections between the book and his/her life. After reading each book, try one or more of the activities listed below (or one that you have created).

- Decide with your child where the book takes place. Investigate with maps, encyclopedias, the internet, etc., the particular location where the book is set.
- Check out a video that is similar to the book in theme, setting, characters, story, etc. Then talk with your child about the similarities and differences between the book and the video.
- Have your child create an illustration (e.g., finger-paint, watercolor, drawing) of a scene or scenes from the book.
- Connect a meal or craft to one that occurs in the book (that is, get help from your child in cooking a dish that is mentioned in the book or in creating a craft that is similar to an action in the book).
- Visit the library to learn more about the author or subject matter of the book.
- Take a field trip. Go to a place that is related to ideas presented in the book (e.g., go to the zoo if your book is about animals).
- Connect the book to something *you* are reading (a book, magazine article, newspaper article, etc.).

Record List

In the spaces provided, write (or have your child write) your child's first and last name. Then, record the names of the six (6) books that were read. Give this list to your child's first grade teacher.

Child's First and Last Name:

Books Read This Summer:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." Francis Bacon

**Cobb County
Elementary Schools**

S.U.R.F.



**Summer
Reading
is Fun!!!**

**Entering
First Grade
Students**

S.U.R.F. Into School This Fall



"Few children learn to love books by themselves. Someone has to lure them into the wonderful world of the written word." Orville Prescott

There is one issue upon which we can all agree: Our desire is for Cobb County's children to read well. The best way for students to become effective readers is simply to read. Research tells us that as students read more, they improve their comprehension and grammar skills, their vocabularies expand, and they grow increasingly more motivated to read. Furthermore, there is a relationship between the amount of reading students do at home and school and their standardized test scores (Braunger & Lewis, 1998). In short, children become better readers by reading.

The aim of S.U.R.F. (SUMmer Reading is Fun) is to help us all take one step closer to developing our students into even better and more highly motivated readers. In encouraging your child to read this summer, choose six (6) books from the book list provided (or similar books if these cannot be located) and have your child read the books (or read them with or to him/her) as many times as possible. After each book has been read, try one or more of the activities provided (or one you create). Then record the six (6) books that were read on the back panel and give the brochure to your child's first grade teacher the day he/she returns to school from the summer holiday.

BOOK LIST

Below is a list of 32 books appropriate for your child's age. After previewing for appropriateness, choose six (6) of the following (or similar books if these cannot be located) to have your child read (or to read with or to your child):

Aardema, V. *Borregueta and the Coyote.*

Andersen, H. *Thumbelina.*

Asch, F. *Happy Birthday, Moon.*

Barrett, J. *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs.*

Brett, J. *Mitten: A Ukranian Folktale.*

Cannon, J. *Stellaluna.*

Carson, J. *You Hold Me and I'll Hold You.*

Cristaldi, K. *Baseball Ballerina.*

Daly, N. *Papa's Lucky Shadow.*

DePaola, T. *The Legend of the Bluebonnet.*

Eastman, P. *Big Dog...Little Dog.*

Gag, W. *Millions of Cats.*

Guarino, D. *Is Your Mama a Llama?*

Henkes, K. *Chrysanthemum.*

Henkes, K. *Julius the Baby of the World.*

Hoff, S. *Danny and the Dinosaur.*



"A good book is the best of friends, the same today and forever." Martin Farquhar Tupper

Hutchins, P. *The Doorbell Rang.*

Isadora, R. *Over the Green Hills.*

Kellogg, S. *Paul Bunyan.*

Meddaugh, S. *Martha Speaks.*

Minarik, E. *Kiss for Little Bear.*

Minarik, E. *No Fighting, No Biting.*

Numeroff, L. *If You Give a Moose a Muffin.*

Polacco, P. *Rechenka's Eggs.*

Ringgold, F. *Tar Beach.*

Rylant, C. *Henry and Mudge.*

Tarkov, E. *Frog Prince.*

Waber, B. *Ira Sleeps Over.*

Wiesner, D. *Tuesday.*

Williams, V. *Something Special for Me.*

Wood, A. *King Bidgood's in the Bathtub.*

Wood, A. *Napping House.*

After multiple readings of each book, attempt one or more of the suggested activities listed on the following page, or create your own activity to try. Next, record in the spaces provided the name of each book read this summer and give the brochure to your child's first grade teacher upon returning from the summer holiday.

Where Can These Books Be Found? Try...

Cobb Public Libraries Barnes and Noble
Borders Amazon.com