

ECCA 5/6th Grade Language Arts Summer Literacy Expectations

"A child who reads and writes will be an adult who thinks." unknown

Summer is a time for less structure and to relax with family and friends. We hope you fit reading and writing into your summer in a natural, fun way. Incoming **5/6th-graders** are expected to actively read and write and **keep track** of summer literacy. Your **Summer Literacy Record** will be your first Language Arts grade.

We encourage you to read a mix of genres for a variety of reasons: learn something new, escape into a new book, plan a trip, discover activities around town, research new movies, etc. Choose what interests you: great classics, funny "beach reads", interesting news articles, the latest dystopian thriller, compelling historical fiction, poetry, or picture books read to siblings/younger friends. Reread old favorites! All reading "counts".

Write for real-world reasons: send letters or emails, create favorite recipes, keep a journal of your favorite summer moments, create travel logs, use a writing journal, plan a summer business, etc. All writing "counts".

The best way to prepare for 5/6th-grade is to read often **for pleasure**. Just like skiing, lacrosse, or piano playing muscles need to be practiced, so do reading and writing "muscles". Research shows:

-  Students who read over the summer gain reading skills, while those who don't often slide backward, **losing up to two months of what they learned** while in school.
-  Kids read more (and ultimately learn more) when they have a **choice** of reading material.
-  Reading for pleasure is linked to **higher intellectual progress** in vocabulary, spelling **and** mathematics (almost four times more than having a parent with a college degree).
-  The greatest **predictor of academic success** on standardized tests of reading AND science AND math ability is the amount of time spent **reading for pleasure**.

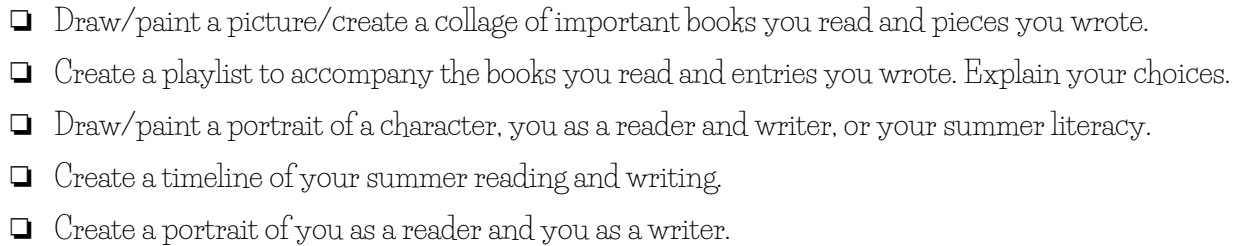
Options Include: (Be creative. Feel free to contact me at tanya.kessenich@eagleschools.net anytime!)

-  Keep a **Summer LA Notebook** with sections for collecting cool new words, writing about your life, and responding to your reading.
-  Try [100 Days of Summer Writing Prompts](#)
-  **Traditional Literacy Log** Keep track of your reading (genre, rating, etc.) AND writing. Make a copy of the below log (File, Make a Copy, Rename) or create your own. [Blank Summer Literacy Log](#)



-  Find a fun published journal for writing activities.
-  **Email** Mrs. Kess (tanya.kessenich@eagleschools.net) updates about your summer reading and writing or **send Mrs. Kess postcards** of your reading and writing (PO Box 1535, Edwards, CO 81632)
-  Start or join a **Book Club**. Keep a log of books read, when you met, what you discussed, etc.
-  Take "**Shelfies**" of you reading AND writing in locations through the summer. Print and display.
-  **Write Letters** Start an email or letter exchange with a friend, grandparent, relative, etc. Write back and forth and save your exchange (or print) to share. Write about books read, your adventures, etc.
-  Try [100 Days of Summer Writing Prompts](#)
-  Open a **family** [Goodreads.com](#) account (as per Federal Law, you must be 13 for your own account). Please have parental permission and follow all site rules and regulations)
-  Join a **Summer Literacy Program: Bookworm** Contact Bookworm for details, [Newsela '19 Summer Reading Challenge](#), [Eagle Valley Library District Summer Reading](#), [Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Literacy Scrapbook/Journal or Artistic or Musical Interpretation



- ❑ Describe your Summer Reading/Writing Life: summer book/text choices, which genres you choose most and why, which genres were missing, how many books you read, your stamina, etc., summer writing: what, why, for whom. How do you feel about your summer literacy? What are you proud of? Could you read or write more?
- ❑ Describe yourself in detail as a Reader and Writer. Be specific. What you read, why? What you write, why?
- ❑ Describe how you have changed and grown as a reader or writer. Describe specific goals you have for the upcoming school year and what you will do to meet your goals.

A collage of 20 book covers from various publishers, including Scholastic, Penguin, and others. The covers feature diverse characters and themes, such as '24 Hours in a Mine', 'Mason Butte', 'Coyote Sunrise', 'The Traitor's Game', 'Red Queen', 'The Night Diary', and 'George'.

[illegible]

5th Grade Social Studies Historical Fiction: Colonial America & Revolutionary War



5th Grade Social Studies Historical Fiction: New Nation and Civil War



6th G Social Studies Historical Fiction: Mexico, Central & South America, Caribbean



6G SS Historical Fiction: Ancient Europe (Greece, Rome, Middle Ages, Renaissance)



6th G Social Studies Historical Fiction: Modern Europe, WWI, Great Depression, WWII



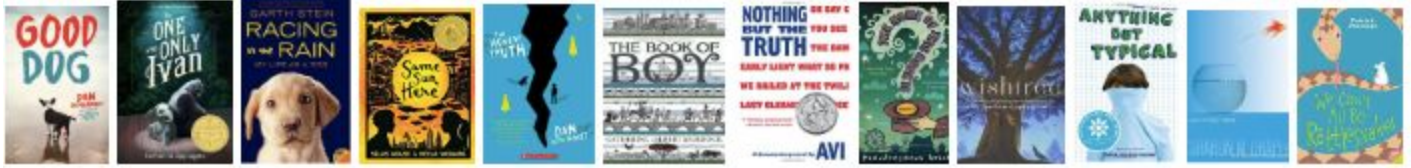
Growing up is hard! Inspiring Empowered Kids Dealing with Real World Problems



Short, but Thought-provoking



Atypical Narrators or Structure



Novels to make you think, feel, laugh, and cry



Stories about the consequences of our actions



Novels-in-Verse (in poetry)



Powerful Poetry



Need a laugh?



Magic, Action-Packed Adventure and Unique Fantasy



Heart-stopping Dystopian and Sci-Fi



Classics worth rereading (or for the first time)



Notable Nonfiction for Middle School



Sports Fiction



Young Adult for Mature Readers



See Mrs. Kess' Goodreads Account for updates.

[Goodreads Friend Invite](#)

[Mrs. Kess Goodreads Update](#)