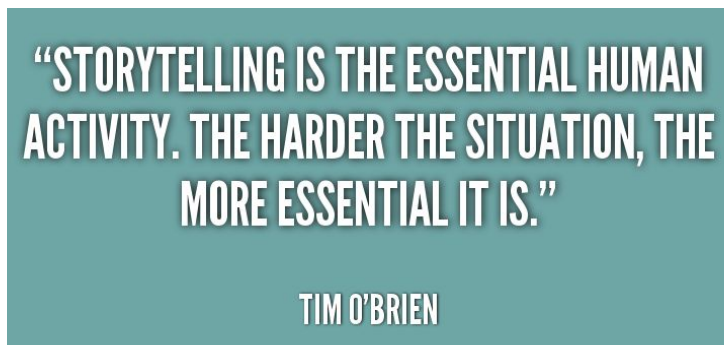


ECCA 5/6th-Grade Language Arts Summer Literacy

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



Dear Incoming 5/6th-grade Families,

In this unprecedented time in our collective experience, our stories have never been more important.

After a spring full of changes in schooling and a difficult period of social isolation, summer arrives with an opportunity for less structure and much-needed time to step away from devices and screens.

This summer try to fit reading and writing into your summer in a natural, fun way. Incoming **5/6th-graders** are expected to actively read and write throughout the summer and to **keep track** of summer literacy in any way that fits you and your family.

Your **Summer Literacy Record** will be your first Language Arts grade of the new school year.

Read a mix of genres for a variety of real-world reasons: to learn a new skill, escape into a new world, plan a local trip, research your passion, etc. Choose any reading that interests you. Listen to audiobooks, read with family and friends, reread old favorites. Any reading "counts".

Write for real-world reasons: send letters or emails, keep a journal of your favorite summer moments, start a gratitude journal, use a writing workbook, plan a summer business, etc. Any writing "counts".

The best way to prepare for 5/6th-grade **in all subjects** is to read often **for pleasure**. Just like we need to exercise skiing, lacrosse, or dance muscles, we also need to exercise our reading and writing "muscles". We know:

-  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**.

2020 5/6th-grade Summer Literacy Record Requirements

- ☐ Read and write often over the summer.
- ☐ On average read 20 min. each day and write 3-4 times a week.
- ☐ Keep a record of what you read and write in a notebook (or any way that you think fits your lifestyle).
- ☐ Turn in your Summer Literacy Record (include reading & writing) the first week of school.

Options include but are not limited to:

- ✍️ Keep a **Summer LA Notebook** with sections for writing about your life, writing about your reading, and collecting cool new words,
- ✍️ **Email** tanya.kessenich@eagleschools.net or **send Mrs. Kess postcard** updates about your summer reading and writing (PO Box 1535, Edwards, CO 81632) once a week.
- ✍️ Take “**Shelfies**” (pictures of you) reading **AND** writing throughout the summer. Print and give each picture an informative caption (reading Harry Potter by the river).
- ✍️ Write a written reflection essay (3 paragraphs)
 - ☐ Describe your Summer Reading (what you read, why, how reading went for you, etc.)
 - ☐ Describe your Summer Writing (what you wrote, why, how writing went for you, etc.)
 - ☐ Describe specific reading and writing goals you have for the upcoming school year
- ✍️ Be creative. **Students** may email tanya.kessenich@eagleschools.net anytime!)

Fun Writing Prompts

- ✍️ Try [100 Days of Summer Writing Prompts](#)
- ✍️ [100 Not-Boring Writing Prompts for Middle-Schoolers](#)
- ✍️ [100 Creative Writing Prompts for Grades 4-8 - Free PowerPoint](#)
- ✍️ Or find a fun published journal for writing activities. [Rip the Page!: Adventures in Creative Writing \(8601400141243\): Benke, Karen: Books](#) or [Spilling Ink Young Writers Handbook](#)

Fun Reading Suggestions

- 📖 Start or join a **Book Club**.
 - 📖 Join a **Summer Literacy Program** [Eagle Valley Library District Summer Programs](#) or [Scholastic Summer Read-A-Palooza](#)
 - 📖 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)
 - 📖 See [Mrs. Kess Goodreads](#) Shelf for updates. [Goodreads Friend Invite](#)
-