

April 7, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

Fourth graders will continue the independent reading program designed to encourage students to read more on their own.

Between now and June 4th, students will read the equivalent of **3** books (refer to the chart below). They will respond in writing to one question after reading each book (or its equivalent): if students read a 350-page book, for example, they must answer three different questions for that book. Each student will submit a total of **3** reading responses. In addition, each student will complete one book project. **All work will be included in the student's final reading grade for the quarter.**

Students who choose to read longer books should keep the following in mind:

150 pages	=	1 book
250 pages	=	2 books
350 pages	=	3 books
450 pages	=	4 books

After a student finishes reading a book, s/he will complete the Independent Reading Response worksheet to turn in to his or her teacher. **Please remember to always include a brief (1 or 2 sentences) summary of the book at the beginning of each response.**

Students may choose a project for one of the 3 books they have read this quarter from the list of possible projects provided in the first quarter (also available on the Wood Acres website). The projects may be turned in before the deadline of June 11, 2010.

We hope that our students will read many wonderful books by the end of the quarter. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ahearn	Mr. Kapusnick
Mr. Duque	Mrs. Briggs
Mrs. Gratton	

# Independent Reading Program

Fourth Grade, Quarter 4



150 pages = 1 book  
250 pages = 2 books  
350 pages = 3 books  
450 pages = 4 books

<b>Program Expectations</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
First Response	April 23, 2010
Second Response	May 14, 2010
Third Response	June 4, 2010
Book Project	June 11, 2010

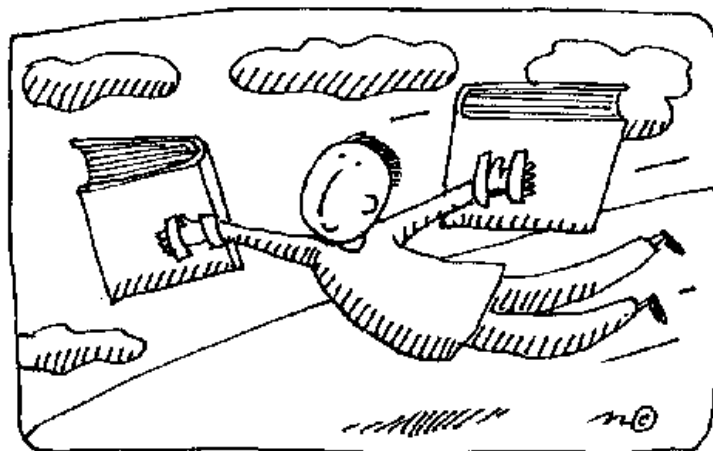
# Independent Reading Book Projects

Choose **one** project to turn in by the deadline, June 11, 2010.

Projects will be graded for thoroughness and attention to details from the book, as well as for creativity, effort, neatness, and correct language mechanics. Please choose a different project each quarter.

- Write a three paragraph summary of your book.
- Write a TV, radio, or movie script for your favorite part of the book.
- Write an advertisement for the book.
- Write a letter to your teacher about the book.
- Write a different ending for your book.
- Tell about the funniest part of your book, the most interesting or exciting part, or the part you liked best.
- Gather a collection of objects described in the book. Put them in a paper bag with an attached label explaining the importance of each object in the book.
- Pretend you are a reporter. Describe an important scene from the book for a TV or radio broadcast.
- Describe something you learned by reading the book.
- Give a sales talk to "sell" the book to your class.
- Create a mobile using a wire hanger. Include setting, character, and plot.
- Make a fancy folder. Decorate the front of a plain manila folder with a picture from your story. Inside the folder, draw pictures of three main characters. Write one paragraph to describe each character.
- Create a diorama of a scene from the book.

- Make a story quilt. Choose four symbols from the story. Write about why they are significant and what they mean to the story.
- Create a Puzzle Person. Directions attached.
- Complete a "Now That I'm Wiser" chart to show how a character in your story has grown. Chart and directions attached.
- Create a poster displaying the turning points in the plot of your story. Directions attached.
- Design a tie to suggest the character traits, likes, dislikes, fears, ambitions, friends, family, hobbies, or relationships of a character in your story. Directions attached.
- Describe the elements of the setting of your story and draw your favorite scene. Directions attached.
- Give a 5 minute Person-Pouch Performance in which you assume the identity of the person you read about. Directions attached.
- Create an acrostic paragraph to summarize some facts about your non-fiction topic. Directions attached.
- Record facts, statistics, and examples from your non-fiction book. Directions attached.
- Use your imagination. Check with your teacher to do or make something appropriate that is not included on this list.



# Fourth Grade

## Independent Reading Program

Choose one of the questions on the appropriate page (fiction or non-fiction). Write a detailed response for the book you read. You may write the answers directly on that paper, or you may use the computer and print your response. If you use the computer, please be sure to attach a copy of this page to show you checked your work. Your teacher will complete the last two columns to show whether your work met the standard. You may hand in your responses as you finish each book, but each of your responses must be submitted by its deadline. **No responses will be accepted after the deadline so you will have time to improve your response if necessary.**

Your teacher will check your Reading Response. Your grade will be "Meets Criteria" or "Not Yet." If your score is "Not Yet," you will be expected to improve your response until it does meet the criteria. Your independent reading responses should meet these criteria for success:

	Student Check ✓	Not Yet	Meets Criteria
1. I focused on answering the question I was asked. I answered all parts of the question. My readers will be able to understand my answer even if they have not read the book.			
2. I used <b>specific</b> details from the text to support my answer.			
3. I explained my thinking about how those examples supported my answer. My reader will be able to understand my thinking even if they have not read the book.			
4. I wrote in complete sentences (no fragments or run-ons). My ideas were organized.			
5. I used correct capitalization and punctuation.			
6. I proofread to be sure I spelled all grade level words correctly.			
7. I typed my response <b>OR</b> I proofread to be sure my writing was legible.			



