

June 2008

Dear Soon-to-be Fifth Graders:

Your soon-to-be Language Arts/Social Studies teacher has a message for you for this summer: READ! READ! READ! I hope that you will put aside time every day to read this summer.

Attached to this letter is a list of great authors that the recent fifth graders have liked. You will also receive a reading list from our CHA library. You are required to read two books of your choice AND The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare.

I love getting mail from students, so I would like to hear from you about your books! After you read each book, you are required to send me a postcard or letter about the book. Please send these postcards or letters to the school. (CHA 6 Community Rd., Marblehead, MA 01945) I can't wait to get all this mail!

Each postcard/letter should include the following information:

- Name and author of book
- Main character(s)
- Setting
- Problem faced by the main character(s)
- How the problem is resolved (fixed)
- Your opinion of the book – why you did or did not like it.

In addition to the postcards you will be using your creativity to produce your own “sample” of Matt’s cabin in Maine. It is up to you to decide what to do. It may be a detailed drawing, a diorama, an actual model or any other creative idea that you might have. Please bring these to class on the 2nd day of school in September.

I am really looking forward to seeing you in the fall, but let’s enjoy the summer first! Have a great one. READ!!

See you in September,

Mr. Lodgen

Summer Reading List for Soon-To-Be Fifth Graders

You are required to read three books. The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare must be one of these books. All the authors listed below have written some great books, but not every book by every author would be right for you. Look over the front and back cover, as well as the synopsis of the story on the inside of the book. You can also begin reading the book to see if you like the author's style. Have fun choosing a few that look interesting to you. There are also some books listed for you NOT to read. This is either because I want you to try something different or because you'll probably be reading it next year in school.

Awesome Authors

SORRY, no R.L.Stine, Captain Underpants, or Babysitter's Club books

Natalie Babbitt

Judy Blume

Betsy Byars

Matt Christopher

Andrew Clements

Sharon Creech

Roald Dahl

Dan Gutman

Margaret Peterson Haddix

Madeleine L'Engle

Brian Jacques

C.S. Lewis

Lois Lowry

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Scott O'dell

Katherine Paterson

Gary Paulsen

J.K. Rowling

Louis Sachar

Darren Shan

Lemony Snicket

Jerry Spinelli

Jane Yolan

Paul Zindel