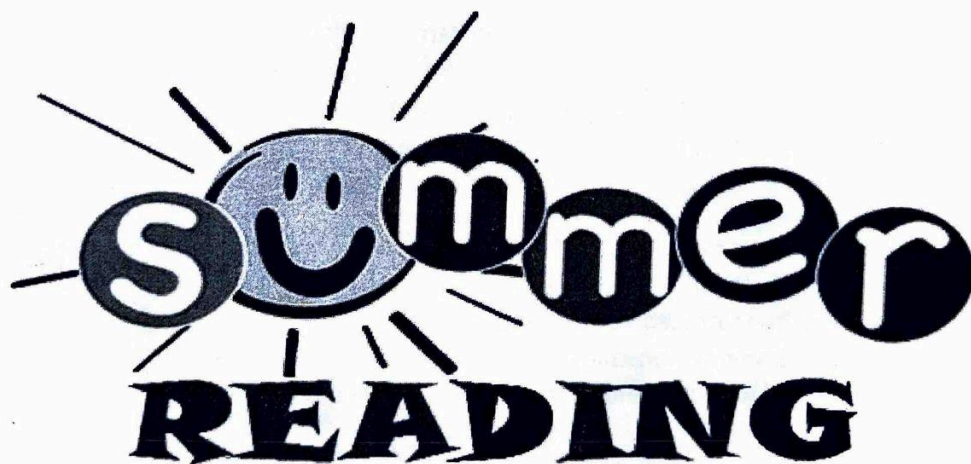


Holy Family School

Grade 4

2026



4th Grade Summer Reading Project

Welcome incoming fourth graders! This summer you will be completing a reading project. This project is due on the Friday of the first week we return back to school. You will be presenting this project in class, so be sure you are completing the reading and are prepared to share all the aspects included in the project with your classmates.

Directions for your project can be found in this packet. Be sure to read them carefully and complete all parts. You can choose one of the five books that are listed.

Here is a list of books to choose from:

1. Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing follows Peter Hatcher, a nine-year-old living in New York City who feels overlooked because of his mischievous toddler brother, Fudge.

The story is a collection of episodic challenges Peter faces while dealing with Fudge's chaotic behavior. Fudge is known for his temper tantrums, refusing to eat, and causing public scenes—like ruining Peter's school project or getting lost at the movies. Peter's parents often focus all their attention on managing Fudge, which leaves Peter feeling like a "nothing."

The conflict reaches a climax when Fudge gets into Peter's room and swallows Peter's pet turtle, Dribble. While his parents are frantic about Fudge's health, Peter is devastated by the loss of his pet and the lack of concern for his feelings. After Fudge recovers, Peter's parents finally acknowledge his maturity and patience by giving him a dog, whom Peter names Turtle, signaling a new sense of appreciation for his role in the family.

2. *Manatee Summer* by Evan Griffith

Peter and his best friend, Tommy, have a goal for their last summer before middle school: finish their Discovery Journal, a catalog of the wildlife around their Florida town. When they spot a manatee in a canal, Peter knows they've found something special—and when the manatee is injured by a boat, something to protect!

As Peter joins the fight to save Florida manatees, he also finds himself taking care of his ailing grandfather and facing an unwelcome surprise that jeopardizes his friendship with Tommy. Soon Peter is adrift, navigating shifting tides and realizing that he has as much to discover about himself as he does about the world around him

3. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard and Florence Atwater

This book is a lighthearted classic about Mr. Popper, a house painter in the small town of Stillwater who spends his winters dreaming of polar exploration.

His life changes forever when he receives a surprise package from an Antarctic explorer: a live penguin named Captain Cook. To keep Captain Cook happy and healthy, the Poppers eventually acquire a second penguin, Greta, and the two soon produce ten penguin chicks.

As the Poppers' house is transformed into a winter wonderland (complete with an ice rink in the basement) to accommodate the twelve birds, the family faces a financial crisis trying to feed them. To solve this, Mr. Popper trains the birds to perform an act, and "Popper's Performing Penguins" becomes a nationwide sensation on the vaudeville circuit.

The story concludes with Mr. Popper having to choose between fame and the well-being of his birds. He ultimately decides to join an expedition to the North Pole to establish a penguin colony, fulfilling his lifelong dream of being an explorer.

4. *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White

A classic that tells the story of a runt pig named Wilbur who is saved from slaughter first by a young girl named Fern Arable and later by a clever grey spider named Charlotte.

When Wilbur is moved to a new barn, he fears he will eventually be killed for food. Charlotte promises to save him and begins weaving praising words about Wilbur—such as "Some Pig," "Terrific," and "Radiant"—into her webs. These "miracles" convince the community that Wilbur is special, eventually earning him a prize at the county fair and guaranteeing his safety.

At the end of the summer, Charlotte passes away, but Wilbur carries her egg sac back to the farm. Most of her children fly away upon hatching, but three stay behind to remain Wilbur's friends, ensuring Charlotte's legacy of friendship and kindness lives on.

5. *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown follows Roz (Rozzum unit 7134), a robot who is shipwrecked on a remote, wild island after a cargo ship sinks. As the sole survivor, she must learn to adapt to the harsh environment and the island's animal inhabitants to survive.

Initially viewed as a "monster" by the local wildlife, Roz eventually wins their trust by saving an orphaned gosling, whom she names Brightbill. She takes on the role of his mother, learning about love, community, and the natural world in the process. With the help of the animals, Roz builds a home and becomes a vital part of the island's ecosystem.

The story takes a dramatic turn when the robot's creators, the RECOs, arrive to take her back to the factory. The island animals unite to defend Roz in a fierce battle, but Roz ultimately realizes that to keep the island and her friends safe from future searches, she must leave and confront her makers.

Pizza Box Book Report

• 1 pizza box has been given to each student. No extras are available.

Top of the Box: On the top of the box you will invent the name of your pizza place and be creative with a fun slogan for your business.

(Example: Pizza, each slice is better than the last!)

Then have fun designing the top with a colorful logo, lettering, illustration, etc.

Bottom of the Box: Make sure to put your name on the bottom of the box.

Left side of the Box: Neatly include the Title of the book.

Right side of the Box: Neatly include the Author of the book.

(Example: Written by: Andrew Clements)

- **Inside of the Box Top:** Include 10 vocabulary words that you noticed were important in the book as you read. These must be words that were found throughout the entire book. You must include an explanation of what each of these words mean. If the word has more than one meaning, use the meaning that best matches how it was used in the context of the book. Use the included Vocabulary recording sheet to help you keep track of your ten words as you read.

The Pizza: You will include 8 pizza slices in the form of a pizza that will be glued to the bottom of the inside of the pizza box. Each of the slices contain an important element from the book. Make sure to write neatly, and completely explain each element on the pizza slices. Below you will see each of the slices and their requirements:

Setting: On this slice you will explain where and when the story took place. If there was more than one main setting include that in your explanation.

Point of View: On this slice you will tell who is telling the story and give evidence from the book as support for the point of view.

- **First Person:** where one of the characters is telling the story and they use pronouns such as *I, we, me, or my.*
- **Second Person:** where the narrator is talking directly to the reader and they use pronouns such as *you & your.*
- **Third Person:** where a narrator, who is not part of the story, is telling the story and they use pronouns such as *he, she, they, or names of people.*



Pizza Box Book Report

Conflict: There are four types of conflict that can happen in a story. You will tell which type occurred in your book and provide one example from the book as evidence of that type of conflict.

Choose from one of the four types below:

- **Man vs. Self-** The character faces a struggle within himself/herself. They must face a fear or make a difficult decision.
- **Man vs. Man-** The character has a problem with another character.
- **Man vs. Nature-** The character faces a force of nature that is beyond their control such as land, animal, or weather.
- **Man vs. Society-** The character faces an unfairness in society. They struggle with the laws, beliefs, or values of a group.

Characters: On these two slices you will identify two main characters, the antagonist (the bad guy) and the protagonist (the good guy).

Theme: On this slice you will explain what a theme was from the book in a few sentences. The theme is the message or lesson that the author wants you to learn from the book. Explain how the author shows this theme in the book.

Examples of themes in literature include:

- Never give up
- Honesty, tell the truth even when it's difficult
- Appearances can sometimes be deceiving
- Hard work and patience pay off in the end
- Face your fears and have courage

Problem: On this slice you will identify the main problem that was in the book. Explain the problem in 3-5 detailed sentences.

Solution: On this slice you will tell how the main problem was solved. Use 3-5 detailed sentences to explain the solution.

Oral Presentation- Students will share their project by doing a short commercial for their pizza. This should be something fun that includes the name of their company and their pizza slogan. At the end of their brief commercial students will tell a summary of their book by briefly sharing about some of their slices of pizza inside their box.



Pizza Box Vocabulary Recording Sheet

Use this sheet as you read to help record your vocabulary words that will go on the top of the inside of your pizza box.

Vocabulary Words	Page #	Meaning of the words:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		



Setting

Where & When did the story take place?

Handwriting practice lines for the 'Setting' section, including a large circle for the question and several horizontal lines for writing.

Which type of conflict is there?

Evidence:

Conflict

Handwriting practice lines for the 'Conflict' section, including a large circle for the question and several horizontal lines for writing.

Problem

Handwriting practice area for the 'Problem' section, featuring a large inverted triangle with horizontal lines and several circles for letter placement.

Handwriting practice area for the 'Solution' section, featuring a large upright triangle with horizontal lines and several circles for letter placement.

Solution

Theme

What was the author's message to the reader?

Handwriting practice lines for the 'Theme' section, consisting of ten horizontal lines. There are three circles placed on the lines: one on the first line, one on the fourth line, and one on the seventh line.

Point of View

Who is telling the story?

Evidence:

Handwriting practice lines for the 'Point of View' section, consisting of ten horizontal lines. There are three circles placed on the lines: one on the second line, one on the fifth line, and one on the eighth line.

Vocabulary Word #1

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #2

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #3

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #4

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #5

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #6

Meaning:



• These should be on the inside top lid of your box.

Vocabulary Word #7

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #8

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #9

Meaning:



Vocabulary Word #10

Meaning:



Pizza Box Book Report

Name on the Bottom of the pizza box	_____ / 1
Front of the Box	
• Name of company included	_____ / 2
• A creative slogan is included	_____ / 2
• Neat, attractive, and colorful	_____ / 5
Left side of the Box	
• Title of the book is included	_____ / 5
Right side of the Box	
• Name of Author is neatly included	_____ / 5
Inside of the Box Top	
• 10 Vocabulary words are included from the book	_____ / 10
• Definitions for all 10 words are included	_____ / 10
Pizza Slices	
• Setting is clearly included	_____ / 5
• Point of View is included with evidence	_____ / 5
• Conflict is included with evidence	_____ / 5
• Character - Antagonist is included with description	_____ / 5
• Character - Protagonist is included with description	_____ / 5
• Theme is included with explanation	_____ / 5
• Problem is included in 3-5 descriptive sentences	_____ / 5
• Solution is included in 3-5 descriptive sentences	_____ / 5
Spelling is correct throughout the pizza box	_____ / 10
Handwriting is neat throughout the pizza box	_____ / 5
Commercial/ Oral Presentation	
• Clear speech, good posture, eye contact, enthusiastic, and good volume	_____ / 2
• Summary shows a good understanding of the book	_____ / 3



• Please note that a grade will be taken on this project and added to 1st quarter reading.

Total: _____ / 100

