

Returning Students

If you've taken this class before, you know you're encouraged to read. A few suggestions will be listed below, but students may choose whatever book interests them the most. They will present their book via a summer project (instructions listed below). We're studying China next year. Here are a few book options related to China. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Rob (904-434-5093)

Historical Fiction

Dragon's Gate by Laurence Yep

- > Follows a teenage boy from China who travels to America during the construction of the transcontinental railroad.
- > Rich historical details and engaging adventure.

Dragonwings by Laurence Yep

- > A classic novel about a Chinese immigrant family in the early 1900s.
- > Winner of a Newbery Honor.

Contemporary Stories

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

- > Inspired by Chinese folklore and fairy tales.
- > Follows a girl named Minli on a magical journey.

Starry River of the Sky by Grace Lin

- > Companion novel to *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*.
- > Draws heavily on Chinese myths and legends.

Realistic Fiction

The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin

- > A Chinese American girl's story about family, friendship, and identity.
- > Accessible and relatable for sixth graders.

New Students: What Do I Need to Do?

Over the summer, you will:

1. **Read at least one full-length novel**
2. Choose a book that=
Is appropriate for your reading level.
 - Is a real novel (not a comic, short story collection, or excerpt)
 - Pushes you to grow as a reader.
 - **Interests you!** (This is most important.)
3. Take notes while reading by:
 - Keeping a reading journal, or using sticky notes to mark important or interesting moments

Need Help Choosing a Book?

Ask your parents, librarian, or teacher to help you select a book that:

1. Isn't too easy
2. Isn't too hard
3. Keeps you excited to read

Summer Reading Project (Due First Week of School)

Choose **one creative way** to present your book:

1. Comic Book

Create a comic retelling of your book's plot using drawings and captions. Must include the key characters, setting, and story events.

2. Diorama

Build a 3D scene from your book using a shoebox and creative materials. Pick your favorite or most important moment.

3. Book Report

Write a report summarizing:

- The **setting**
- **Main characters**
- **Plot**
- Your **opinion** or reflection
- 5-paragraph essay

4. Movie Scene

Film a reenactment of your favorite scene with friends or family. Use props, costumes, or music to make it fun and creative. (1:30) minimum

5. Your Idea!

Got something else in mind? Go for it! Be original, be creative, and have fun sharing what you read.