

Jump Start Into 4th Grade

Summer 2018

Dear Future Fourth Grade Parents,

Thank you for choosing The Galloway School. Here are some summer practices to keep your child's skills sharp. These are suggested activities, please be mindful it is not necessary to complete everything listed. Have a fun-filled and memorable summer. Please be sure to spend some time reading and practicing your ELA skills and remember to relax too!

Writing and Grammar Practice

The best way to keep your child's writing skills sharp is to have him/her keep a journal. In 4th grade we do A LOT of writing including persuasive writing. Your child may choose to write about things that he/she did this summer or any other topic that he/she finds interesting. If your child is having difficulty coming up with a topic for writing, lists of writing prompts to choose from are below. Remind your child to write in paragraph form with correct grammar, capitalization and punctuation.

Writing Prompts/Journal Topics

What is...

- What is something you do well?
- What is your favorite room in your home and why?
- What is a good neighbor?
- What is your favorite time of day?
- What is your idea of a dull evening?
- What is something you are optimistic about?
- What is something you are pessimistic about?
- What is your most indispensable possession and why?
- What is your favorite song and why?
- What is the best birthday present you could receive?
- What is something that makes you feel sad?
- What is your favorite book and why?
- What is something that really bugs you?
- What is the best advice you ever received?
- What is your favorite holiday? What makes this holiday special?

What if...

- What would happen if you could fly whenever you wanted? When would you use this ability?
- What would happen if there were no television? Why would this be good? bad?
- What would happen if everyone lived in space? What type of houses would they live in? What type of clothing would they wear? What type of food would they eat? How would they travel?
- What if all the streets were rivers? What would be different?

- Practice: IXL.com The IXL web practice service provides more than 6,000 skills across math, English language arts, science, and social studies for students in grades preK-12. Type in the letter/number combo and begin!
- **Conjunctions:**
 - Use coordinating conjunctions H.1
 - Identify coordinating conjunctions H.2
 - Use subordinating conjunctions H.3
 - Identify subordinating conjunctions H.4
- **Compound Sentences:**
 - Is it a complete sentence or a run-on? A.6
 - Is it a complete **sentence**, a fragment, or a run-on? A.7
 - **Compound** subjects and objects with "I" and "me" C.4

Reading Comprehension and Skills Practice

- Maintain reading stamina by reading for at least 30 minutes 3-4 times a week during the summer.
- Read "boldly" Pick a chapter to read "boldly" Use sticky notes to write down interesting information from the chapter. What stands out to you? What can you infer? Why is a section/paragraph important to the rest of the story? What does it make you think of? What are connections you can make? What is the author's purpose? Use your sticky notes to write a 2-3 paragraph summary on the chapter.
- **Determine Theme in Fiction Stories**
 - Determine the themes of short stories V.1
 - Determine the themes of myths, fables and folktales Z.2

Questions you can ask at home, focus on having your child retell the story in sequence using details and specific character names/main idea in Nonfiction.

Higher Order Thinking Questions **To Use After Reading**

- What reason is there for the character to...?
- What was the motive behind...?
- What do you suppose the character was thinking when...?
- Predict what the character will do next.
- Can you predict what the outcome would be if...?
- Why did the character feel...?
- Analyze how the character's feelings changed in the story.
- How would you feel if...?
- What is the relationship between these two characters?
- How would you compare these two characters?
- What was the turning point in this story?
- What would happen if...?
- What is a different way to solve the problem?
- How would you have solved the problem?