

Summer Reading 2009*Readers Make Plans for their Reading*

Dear Parents:

This June, students will reflect on their growth as a reader and develop a personalized list of books that will help them to continue to grow as a reader during the summer. Students will create this list, with teacher guidance and input, by first answering questions about how they have changed and grown as a reader this year. Students will also set goals for how they want to improve as readers over the summer.

Answers from these questions will guide the development of their personal reading lists. Students will have a variety of books on their lists, ranging from just right books, to several different genres, to favorites read throughout the year. These lists will hold students responsible and accountable for their own reading this summer, as well as differentiate learning to meet the needs of all students. As these lists are self generated, students feel excited and empowered in making plans for their own reading development.

Finally, from the personalized reading lists, students may develop a reading project which would help them to pursue something they want to learn more about, something they are interested in and something they want to get better at. Reading consistently from the personalized summer reading lists will help students to maintain the progress they have made during the school year and will help them to continue to grow as readers throughout the summer. Research shows that when children don't read over the summer, their reading skills significantly decline.

We encourage you to use the Darien Public Library as a resource for books, as well as, for their own Summer Reading activities.

Enjoy a wonderful summer, full of reading!

Sincerely,
Natasha Torre-Heffron, Instructional Specialist
Marlene Ferguson, Reading Specialist