

**Middle Township
Elementary School #2**

**Summer Reading
List & Assignment**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Summer can be a season full of good times and fun memories, but did you know that kids may experience learning losses when they don't read during the summer? Research indicates students who do not read over the course of the summer run the risk of losing ground in their reading achievement. Studies show that children who read books over the summer do better on reading tests in the fall than those who do not read over the summer. Students are encouraged to enjoy **quality literature** and to continue developing their independent reading skills.

Motivating your child to read doesn't have to be costly, and can even be free if you visit your local library. It is important for your child to have the opportunity to choose his/her own reading materials. A child will be much more motivated to read if the material is something he/she is interested in. Children, who read throughout the summer gain skills, can start the new school year with a better understanding of language and the world around them, and discover the joy of reading. The more they like to read, the more they will read. It's not hard to help your children keep their interest in reading and learning.

Middle Township's Summer Reading Program increases opportunities for discussion about literature and can provide a meaningful experience for your child when reading a book of his own choosing. Enclosed is a list of books your child can choose from for their summer reading assignment. These books are available at the Cape May County Library, book stores, and online at sites like Amazon.com and Scholastic.com.

Have a great summer, and happy reading!

Assignment

Students select a book from the Middle Township Elementary #2's grade specific book list. All students will have the freedom to choose their book from the booklist for summer reading with parental approval.

Assessment

Students will be responsible for creating a character trading card based on the character in their summer reading book and be able to present the card to the class in September. After the classroom presentations, all trading cards will be displayed in the halls of Elementary #2. Creating a Character Trading Card will assess students; comprehension of the story and their analytical skills in character development. The assignment will be due the first day of school in September. The assignment will count as a project grade for the subject of reading for the first marking period.

Directions for Students

1. Read any book on the book list.
2. Complete the Trading Card based on a character from the story you read.
3. Print the character's name and story title neatly on the front of the card.
4. Draw a picture of the character and color it with crayons, colored pencil or marker.
5. Answer the question on the bottom of the card using complete sentences.
6. Answer the 2 question on the back of the car in complete sentences using details from the story.
7. Color the border around the front and back of the trading card.
8. Cut the front and back out and glue them together.
9. You will present this card to your class in September.

Character Trading Card

Front

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| Character's Name- |
| Story Title- |
| Draw a picture of the character- |
| Where does the story take place? |

Back of Trading Card

What is the character's problem in the story?

What do you like most about this character?

Middle Township Elementary School #2

Summer Reading

Incoming Third Graders

| Titles | Author | Description |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Humphrey Series | Betty Birney | Humphrey is the pet hamster of Mrs. Brisbane's third grade class. There are a variety of adventures in this series told by none other than Humphrey himself. |
| Fly Guy Series | Todd Arnold | Fly Guy is looking for something to eat. A boy is looking for something to catch. Boy and fly collide, and a friendship begins. The boy's parents are sure that flies cannot be pets because they are pests. But this is not just any fly. This fly is so smart. He knows the boy's name: Buzz! Buzz convinces his parents that he fly can be his pet, and by the third chapter they are off to the amazing pet show. |
| Marvin Redpost Series | Louis Scachar | Marvin Redpost is a third grader who in each book of the series is involved in mishaps and misunderstanding – picked on by the school bully, babysits his teacher's dog only for it to die, thinks he's been kidnapped and is the King of Shampoo, to meeting the President of the United States. |
| Picture Biography Series | David Adler | Choose from a variety of picture biographies: Lewis and Clark, Anne Frank, Able Lincoln, Sitting Bull, Sojourner Truth, Louis Braille, and many more. |
| Jake Drake Series | Andrew Clements | When Jake was three years old at Miss Lulu's Dainty Diaper Day Care Center, what did he know about bullies? Nothing. But he learned fast! Why? Because Jake was kind of smart and not a tattletale, and he had no big brother to protect him. He was a perfect bully magnet. |
| Bink and Gollie Series | Kate Di Camillo | Whether exploring the wonders of the state fair, attempting to set a world record, or just relaxing with some pancakes and peanut butter, Bink and Gollie are irresistibly witty, imaginative, and adventurous?--? Just the sort of friends young readers love. |
| My Weird School Series | Dan Gutman | Meet a teacher who eats bonbons, a principal who kisses pigs, a librarian who thinks she's George Washington, and an art teacher who dresses up in pot holders! |
| Dragon Series | Dav Pilkey | Dragon is looking for a friend, but all the animals are preoccupied so he sits down beneath a tree, only to be bopped on the head by an apple. It just so happens that as Dragon picks up the apple a snake happens by and decides to play a trick on our buddy. The snake makes the apple seem like its talking and from there on out the Amelia-Bedelia type fun begins as Dragon takes Apple home and eventually to the doctor. |
| Nate the Great Series | Marjorie Sharmat | Nate the Great is a boy detective who is on a VERY big case. We follow Nate as he unveils clue after hilarious clue until he reaches a rather unusual conclusion. |
| Buddy the First Seeing Eye Dog | Eva Moore | This tells the true story of Buddy and does a great job of explaining to children what seeing eye dogs do, and why they're so special and |

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| | | important. |
| Summer Reading is Killing Me or other title from the Time Warp Trio Series | John Sceizka | The Time Warp Trio is back. This time, the mayhem begins when Fred puts their school's summer reading list in The Book, the mysterious tomb that has magically transported the boys to the past and the future in previous escapades. This causes Fred, Sam, and Joe to encounter the Hoboken Chicken, George and Martha, Peter Rabbit, Curious George, Frog and Toad, and a host of other children's book characters. It seems that the bad characters? The Twits, Long John Silver, the Wild Things, etc., all led by a maniacal Teddy Bear? Have decided to do away with the good ones. |
| Fish Face | Patricia Reilly Giff | Emily Arrow may be a poor reader, but she's terrific in math and is also the fastest runner in her class. In October school gets even better when a newcomer from Florida, Dawn Tiffanie Bosco, joins the class and sits next to her. When Emily sees that Dawn's a better reader and a faster runner, she tries to accept it with grace. Emily is still sure it will be fun to have a new friends to show her "fish Face" to and share secrets with. But then Emily discovers something awful—Dawn's a thief! And to make matters worse, no one will believe Emily |
| The Year of Billy Miller | Kevin Henkes | When Billy Miller has a mishap at the statue of the Jolly Green Giant at the end of summer vacation, he ends up with a big lump on his head. What a way to start second grade, with a lump on your head! As the year goes by, though, Billy figures out how to navigate elementary school, how to appreciate his little sister, and how to be a more grown up and responsible member of the family and a help to his busy working mom and stay-at-home dad. |
| The Sophie Mouse Series | Poppy Green | Join Sophie Mouse and her forest friends in Silverlake Forest as they make a new friend, look for special emerald berries, learn to swim at Forget-Me-Not Lake, build a fort at Butterfly Brook, and more! With easy-to-read language and illustrations on almost every page, this Adventures of Sophie Mouse collection—which includes <i>A New Friend</i> , <i>The Emerald Berries</i> , <i>Forget-Me-Not Lake</i> , and <i>Looking for Winston</i> —is perfect for beginning readers. |
| Captain Awesome Series | Stan Kirby | Imaginative second grader Eugene McGillicudy loves comic books and superheroes so much that he invents his very own superhero alter ego named...CAPTAIN AWESOME! MI-TEE! Along with best friend Charlie Thomas Jones (aka Nacho Cheese Man) and sidekick Turbo the hamster, Captain Awesome and his super powered squad protect the town of Sunnyview--as well as the universe--from a comical crowd of "bad guys" like Queen Stinkypants, Dr. Spinach, Mr. Drools and Baron and Baroness von Booger. |
| The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids Series | Debbie Dadey | In each story, the Bailey School kids encounter a relatively innocuous character (such as a school teacher, custodian, etc.) who may or may not be a mythical being (e.g. a vampire , ghost , dragon , etc.). The reader is left guessing whether the innocuous character is the said mythical being or not. |
| Galaxies | Howard Trammel | Introduces galaxies, describing how they are formed, their different types, the structure and age of the Milky Way, and the role of the Hubble Space |

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| | | Telescope in mapping the universe. |
| Boy Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs | Kathleen Kudlinski | Examines what is known about dinosaur bones, behavior, and other characteristics and how different the facts often are from what scientists, from ancient China to the recent past, believed to be true. |
| Fly Guy Presents Sharks or any Fly Guy Presents Series | Tedd Arnold | Award-winning author/illustrator Tedd Arnold brings nonfiction to life with the help of his very popular main character, Fly Guy! This engaging nonfiction series combines the kid-friendly humor of Fly Guy with the high-interest topic of sharks, firefighters, dinosaurs, and space! Fly Guy and Buzz introduce young readers to these non-fiction topics with straightforward fun facts, humorous asides, and full-bleed photographs throughout. |

Middle Township Elementary School #2

Summer Reading

Incoming Fourth Graders

| Titles | Author | Description |
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| No Flying in the House | Betty Brock | Annabel Tippens seems like an ordinary girl but she's actually quite unusual. Instead of parents she has Gloria, a tiny white dog who talks. Annabel never wondered why her life is different until one day a cat named Belinda tells her the truth – she's not just a little girl but half fairy. Now that she knows the truth, will her whole life have to change? |
| Socks | Beverly Cleary | Socks is a young tabby cat with four white paws, and he happily lives with a young married couple, Marilyn and Bill Bricker. The center of the Bricker household, Socks rules it affectionately, but firmly. |
| Go Fish | Mary Stoltz | After spending a day fishing in the Gulf of Mexico with Grandfather, eight year old Thomas has a quiet evening on the porch hearing more about his African heritage. |
| Elvis and the Underdogs Series | Jenny Lee | Benji Wendell Barnsworth is a small ten-year-old boy with a big personality. Born premature, Benji is sickly, accident-prone, and at the hospital so often he even has his own punch card. So when Benji wakes up one day from a particularly bad spell, his doctors take the radical step of suggesting he get a therapy dog. But when a massive crate arrives and Benji's house, out walks a two-hundred-pound Newfoundland who can talk! And boy, is he bossy. |
| Little Dog Lost | Marion Dane Bauer | A dog without a boy, a boy without a dog, and an elderly gentleman without a sense of belonging follow their star-crossed paths and find that love, compassion, and charity can cure loneliness and restore the balance to their lives. |
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| Flora and Ulysses | Kate DiCamillo | The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book <i>Terrible Things Can Happen to You!</i> , is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry --- and that flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart. |
| The Genius Files Series | Dan Gutman | The secret government program has labeled twins, Poke and Pepsi McDonald, as "genius" material. Despite their parents carelessly throwing away their enrollment papers, Coke and Pepsi are practically forced to join. Being attacked by "bowler dudes" and a vindictive health teacher, the twins narrowly escape situations with their life. Thankfully, they have Bones and Mya to look after them along the way. On their cross country RV tour to their aunt's wedding, they encounter many quirks and tourist traps in the American landscape. |

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| Clementine Series | Sara Pennypacker | <p>Clementine is having not so good of a week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Monday she's sent to the principal's office for cutting off Margaret's hair. • Tuesday, Margaret's mother is mad at her. • Wednesday, she's sent to the principal again. • Thursday, Margaret stops speaking to her. • Friday starts with yucky eggs and gets worse. • And by Saturday, even her mother is mad at her. <p>Okay, fine. Clementine is having a DISASTROUS week.</p> |
| Chocolate Fever | Robert Kimmel Smith | <p>Henry Green is a boy who loves chocolate. He likes it bitter, sweet, dark, light and daily; for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks; in cakes, candy bars, milk, and every other form you can possibly imagine. Henry probably loves chocolate more than any boy in the history of the world. One day-it starts off like any other day – Henry finds that strange things are happening to him. First, he makes medical history with the only case of Chocolate Fever ever. Then he finds himself caught up in a wild and hilarious chase, climaxed by a very unusual hijacking!</p> |
| Alvin Ho Series | Lenore Look | <p>Alvin, an Asian American second grader, is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. He's so afraid of school that, while he's there, he never, ever, says a word. But at home he's a very loud superhero named Firecracker Man, a brother to Calvin and Anibelly, and a gentleman-in-training, so he can be just like his dad.</p> |
| Poppy | Avi | <p>At the very edge of Dimwood Forest stood an old charred oak where, silhouetted by the moon, a great horned owl sat waiting. The owl's name was Mr. Ocax, and he looked like death himself. With his piercing gaze, he surveyed the lands he called his own, watching for the creatures he considered his subjects. Not one of them ever dared to cross his path...until the terrible night when two little mice went dancing in the moonlight.</p> |
| The Lemonade War Series | Jacqueline Davies | <p>Fourth-grader Evan Treski is people-smart. He's good at talking with people, even grownups. His younger sister, Jessie, on the other hand, is math-smart, but not especially good with people. So when the siblings' lemonade stand war begins, there really is no telling who will win – or even if their fight will ever end.</p> |
| I Survived Series | Lauren Tarshis | <p>Each book in my series tells a terrifying and thrilling story from history, through the eyes of a boy who lived to tell the tale.</p> |
| Beasts of Olympus Series | Lucy Coats | <p>In this funny series -the Beasts of Olympus series, readers get an alternate perspective on classic Greek myths as Demon tends to the Cretan Bull, Hydra, and other creatures that have suffered at the hands of gods and heroes—especially Heracles (“Nice people did NOT go around pulling skins off poor innocent lions”). Bean's dynamic cartoons amp up the comedy and drama, while a glossary and pronunciation guide round out a story that, underneath its fun, offers food for thought on everything from absentee parenting to the mistreatment of animals (even immortal ones).</p> |

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| Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark | Alvin Schwartz | This popular book on American folklore is filled with tales of eerie horror and dark revenge that will make you jump with fright. There is a story here for everyone -- skeletons with torn and tangled flesh who roam the earth; a ghost who takes revenge on her murderer; and a haunted house where every night a bloody head falls down the chimney. |
| Who Would Win? Series | Jerry Pallotta | Who Would Win? 10 Book Set Includes: Who Would Win? Hornet Vs. Wasp, Who Would Win? Wolverine Vs. Tasmanian Devil, Who Would Win? Whale Vs. Giant Squid, Who Would Win? Tarantula Vs. Scorpion, Who Would Win? Komodo Dragon Vs. King Cobra, Who Would Win? Lion Vs. Tiger, Who Would Win? Killer Whale Vs. Great White, Who Would Win? Hammerhead Vs. Bullshark Who Would Win? Polar Vs Grizzly Who Would Win? TRex Vs Raptor |
| Who Was Series | Various authors | Grosset & Dunlap's <i>Who Was?</i> series is the leading biography series for young readers, with over 50 titles featuring famous thinkers, politicians, and history-makers published to date. The eclectic collection includes everyone from George Washington to Walt Disney to Dolly Parton. With their quirky cover art, interior illustrations, and novel-like prose, the <i>Who Was...?</i> books make learning about important figures exciting and accessible for middle-grade readers |
| Volcano: The Eruption and Healing of Mount St. Helens | Patricia Lauber | An account of how and why Mount St. Helens erupted in May 1980 and the destruction it caused, and a discussion of the return of life to that area. |
| Coral Reef | Jason Chin | During an ordinary visit to the library, a girl pulls a not-so-ordinary book from the shelves. As she turns the pages in this book about coral reefs, the city around her slips away and she finds herself surrounded by the coral cities of the sea and the mysterious plants and animals that live, hunt, and hide there. |
| Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again | Juliana Hatkoff | When Winter, an Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, was just three months old, she was rescued from a crab trap off the coast of Florida, and her tail was seriously damaged. She was rushed to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. It wasn't clear that she would survive, but to everyone's amazement, she did. Winter is a story that promises to inspire and delight. |

Middle Township Elementary School #2

Summer Reading

Incoming Fifth Graders

| Titles | Author | Description |
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| All Capone Does My Shirts Series | Gennifer Choldenko | Twelve-year-old Moose moves to Alcatraz in 1935 so his father can work as a prison guard and his younger, autistic sister, Natalie, can attend a special school in San Francisco. It is a time when the federal prison is home to notorious criminals like gangster Al Capone. Depressed about having to leave his friends and winning baseball team behind, Moose finds little to be happy about on Alcatraz. He never sees his dad, who is always working; and Natalie's condition – her tantrums and constant needs – demand all his mother's attention. Things look up for Moose when he befriends the irresistible Piper, the warden's daughter, who has a knack for getting Moose into embarrassing but harmless trouble. Helped by Piper, Moose eventually comes to terms with his new situation. |
| The One and Only Ivan | Katherine Applegate | Having spent 27 years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes. |
| Wonder | RJ Palacio | August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5 th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid – but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. |
| Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library | Chris Grabenstein | The world's most famous game maker, Luigi Lemoncello, has just designed a brand-new, state-of-the-art library in his hometown, and he's invited 12 lucky seventh graders to stay the night just before its grand opening. Avid gamer Kyle Keeley jumps at the chance to meet his idol and see a real live library. After the previous library's demolition, this is the first library this small town has had in 12 years. Kyle is elated when his essay is chosen, and he gets to be among the first to wander the halls of one of the most interactive libraries ever. Kyle and the other contestants have 24 hours to find a secret exit out of the building and win a spectacular prize, and when the doors shut, the games really begin. |
| 43 Old Cemetery Road Series | Kate Klise | Ignatius B. Grumpy moves into a Victorian mansion at 43 Old Cemetery Road hoping to find some peace and quiet so he can crack a wicked case of writer's block. But 43 Old Cemetery Road is already occupied by eleven-year-old Seymour, his cat Shawdow, and an irritable ghost named Olive. It's hard to say who is more outraged. But a grumpy old ghost just might inspire this grumpy old man – and |

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| | | the abandoned kid? Well, let's just say his last name's Hope. |
| Crispin Series | Avi | The story of a young boy of fourteenth century England. He is a nameless, fatherless boy who becomes a fugitive when he is falsely accused of a crime on the very day his mother dies. Inadvertently becoming the servant of a strange entertainer named Bear, he slowly learns the truth of his world and himself. Forced to make some interesting choices at the climax of the novel, the nameless boy surprises the reader by becoming Crispin – but not in the way that might be expected. |
| Shadow Children Series | Margaret Peterson Haddix | Born third at a time when having more than two children per family is illegal and subject to seizure and punishment by the Population Police, Lucke has spent all of his 12 years in hiding. His parents disobeyed once by having him and are determined not to do anything unlawful again. At first the woods around his family's far are thick enough to conceal him when he plays and works outdoors but when the government develops some of that land for housing, his world narrows to just the attic. To what extent is he willing to defy the government in order to have a life worth living? |
| The BFG | Ronald Dahl | Captured by a giant! The BFG is no ordinary bone-crunching giant. He is far too nice and jumbly. It's lucky for Sophie that he is. Had she been carried off in the middle of the night by the Bloodbottler, or any of the other giants – rather than the BFG – she would have soon become breakfast. When Sophie hears that the giants are blush-bunking off to England to swollomp a few nice childders, she decides she must top them once and for all. |
| Shiloh | Phyllis Reynolds Naylor | When Marty Preston comes across a young beagle in the hills behind his home, its love at first sight – and also big trouble. It turns out the dog, which Marty names Shiloh, belongs to Judd Travers, who drinks too much and has a gun – and abuses his dogs. So when Shiloh runs away from Judd to Marty, Marty just has to hide him and protect him from Judd. But Marty's secret becomes too big for him to keep to himself, and it exposes his entire family to Judd's anger. How far will Marty have to go to make Shiloh his? |
| Hatchet | Gary Paulsen | After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce. |
| A Summer to Die | Lois Lowry | Thirteen year old Megan envies her sister's beauty and popularity. Her feelings don't make it any easier for her to cope with Molly's strange illness and eventual death. |
| On My Honor | Marion Dane Bauer | When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and Terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience. |
| The Million Dollar Kick | Dan Gutman | Thirteen-year-old Whisper, who hates sports, is torn when she gets a chance to win a million dollars by kicking a goal against a local soccer |

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| | | hero. |
| A Mango – Shaped Space | Wendy Mass | Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the death of her beloved cat, Mango. |
| The Watsons Go to Birmingham | Christopher Paul Curtis | The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama. |
| The Buffalo Are Back | Jean Craighead George | The buffalo, an American icon once nearly extinct, has made a comeback. This stirring picture book tells the dramatic story, following bison from the Plains Indians to the cowboys, Teddy Roosevelt to the Dust Bowl, and from the brink of extinction to the majestic herds that now roam our national parks. |
| Magic Treehouse Research Guides Series | Mary Pope Osborne | These non-fiction companions to the Magic Treehouse series, offer students a fun and easy way to find out more about the subjects, time periods, and favorite places they enjoy. |
| The Great Fire | Jim Murphy | Vivid first hand descriptions by persons who lived through the 1871 Chicago fire are woven into a gripping account. |
| The Superstorm Hurricane Sandy | Josh Gregory | On October 29, 2012, one of the largest, most powerful storms in recent history landed on the coast of New Jersey and proceeded to wreak havoc upon the East Coast of the United States. Readers will discover how Superstorm Sandy formed as a hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean and made its way through the Caribbean and up to the United States and why the storm grew so powerful. They will also learn about the widespread damage and suffering caused by the storm and find out how people are working to rebuild and recover after this devastation. |