

WELCOME TO GRADE 4

Summer Reading

Read and write answers to questions for The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate a biography from the "Who Was....?" Series, and a historical fiction book from the "I Survived" series. The reading books have been provided as well as notebooks. The questions are to be answered in notebook provided. Books and completed notebooks must be brought back the first day of school.

Note: Scholars cannot possibly read enough at this age, so additional reading of any kind is expected I am not concerned with what other books are read and there are no additional writing assignments on these books. I just want your scholar to read. The benefits of that are tremendous.

Math iXL

The goal for iXL would be to average around 30 minutes a week during the summer on Math. The brain is a muscle and needs to stay working. A dormant summer will hurt scholar growth enormously. Scholars should work on any **3rd grade** skills on iXL skills that they did not master/complete this year. **Please do not work on 4th grade skills.**

Math Facts

Have your scholars practice, practice, practice and then practice some more. Almost everything we do in Math in 4th grade is related to the basic multiplication facts from 0-12. If your scholar has these facts memorized, they will have a much easier time succeeding in Math next year. I cannot stress this enough. I have given the scholars flash cards to use for practicing.

Supply List

Plenty of #2 pencils (not mechanical), that is it. **Everything else is provided! No need to waste money on anything extra.**

If a scholar loses anything provided to them it will need to be replaced. Other than that they just need #2 pencils. I just need scholars in school every day ready to work, willing to learn, giving their best effort at all times and getting all assignments completed on time.

Important notes: 1) Regular backpacks are fine as scholars will not be taking Chromebooks home in 4th grade. 2) Lockers are not to be decorated in any way, there is to be nothing in scholar lockers daily besides their backpacks, lunches and jackets. At night they are to be empty. 3) No need to purchase any folders or binders as well.

Grade 4 Summer Reading Book One

The One and Only Ivan

Comprehension Questions

Directions: Please answer the following questions in the notebook you were given, Make sure you answer in complete sentences, in as much detail as you can, and with your best effort.

- 1) What does Ivan mean when he says, "In my size humans see a test of themselves" (p. 4), and "I am too much gorilla and not enough human" (p. 7)?
- 2) Why does the sign for the Big Top Mall show Ivan as angry and fierce? Why doesn't Ivan express any anger in the beginning of the story?
- 3) What are the characteristics of Stella and Bob that make Ivan call them his best friends? Why is each of them important to Ivan?
- 4) There is a special bond between Julia and Ivan. Why is she different from all the other children who come to see his shows?
- 5) Why do people pay for Ivan's drawings if they don't recognize what he has drawn? Why is Ivan's art important to Mack? Why is it important to Julia?
- 6) What is the importance of the television in Ivan's cage? What does he learn from watching the television?
- 7) Why is Bob so independent? What makes him trust Ivan enough to sleep on Ivan's stomach?
- 8) Compare the personalities of Mack and George. How are they alike, and how are they different? What is the meaning of "family" to each of them?
- 9) What does Stella mean when she says, "A good zoo is how humans make amends" (p. 64)? What is the importance of the story that Stella tells about Jambo (pp. 63-66)?
- 10) What is Ivan's initial reaction to the arrival of Ruby? How does her arrival affect all the other animals at the mall?

- 11) When and why do Ivan's feelings about Ruby change?
- 12) Why does Ivan promise Stella that he will take care of Ruby when he knows how hard it will be to keep that promise?
- 13) How does Ivan know that Stella is gone before anyone else does?
- 14) What is the importance of memory in this story? How does Ivan's perception change when he begins to remember more of his own history?
- 15) What was Ivan's name in the forest? Why is it important for him to remember his name and his life as a baby gorilla?
- 16) When does Ivan start to believe that he will be able to help Ruby, and perhaps himself as well? What events come together to change Ivan's acceptance of the situation and to help him grow into his own strength and wisdom? How do you know he is changing?
- 17) How does Julia convince her father that Ivan's picture has a very important meaning? Why does George agree to help Julia display Ivan's art on the billboard, even though he knows it might cost him his job?
- 18) Why is Ivan reluctant to join the other gorillas when he arrives at the zoo? How does he learn to be a true gorilla? What does he need to do to be accepted by the others?
- 19) What is the theme of this story? What is the meaning of belonging?
- 20) Did you like this book? Explain why or why not.

Grade 4 Summer Reading Book Two – “Who Was?” Biography

Please read the book and then write a 3 paragraph essay telling me what you learned about the person you read about. I expect your best effort and want to see very well written paragraphs. Please write in the notebook given.

Grade 4 Summer Reading Book Three – “I Survived” (historical fiction book)

Please read the book and then write a 4 paragraph essay. Paragraphs 1 and 2 should describe/summarize what you read. The third and fourth paragraphs should be about how you felt reading while reading the book and what you would do if you were faced with a similar situation. Again, I expect your best effort and want to see very well written paragraphs. Please write in the notebook given.

Questions, Comments, Concerns

If you have any questions or need anything, please email me at cuva@sacredheart-boston.org. I will be in the school about 3 mornings a week this summer.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Mr. Uva