

**THE SELWYN SCHOOL
SUMMER REQUIRED ACTIVITIES
FOR STUDENTS ENTERING FIFTH GRADE**

As an integral part of Selwyn's departmentalized program in the lower school, we strive to ensure that all of our students are actively reading, writing, and thinking during the summer break. All students are required to complete the following activities. Assignments should be completed over the summer and brought to class on the first day of school in August.

LANGUAGE ARTS REQUIREMENT

All students must read *The Magician's Elephant* by author Kate DiCamillo. Using the attached book report form, write a book report on this book. The book report can either be typed or written in cursive, but must follow the formatting instructions on the information sheet. This book report should be turned in on the first day of class.

In addition to the book report, each student should also complete ONE of the following options. This project should be turned in on the first day of school, and you will present your project to the class during the first week.

Option 1: Make a poster about the book that would encourage others to read it. This can be a collage, a timeline of the main events in the book, a movie poster, or any other creative display of your choice that is persuasive in nature and would make someone want to read the story.

Option 2: Make a diorama depicting an important scene from *The Magician's Elephant*. On the back of the diorama should be a well-written paragraph describing what the scene is about and why it is important. This paragraph should be written in **complete sentences** and in **cursive handwriting** as well.

MATH REQUIREMENT

One of the most important reasons for assigning school work over the summer is for you to keep up with all you've learned this year and practice those skills which you will need when you return to school in August. Students should complete ONE of the following options.

Option 1: On-line Practice: This summer, you will need to spend an average of AT LEAST 30 minutes per week practicing your math skills on IXL. Use the attached calendar to track your time spent and skills practiced. Parents should initial each entry on the calendar as it is made. The calendar will be part of the grade and will need to be turned in on the first day of school. Your account log-in and password are the same that you used in class all year long. If you have any trouble accessing your account, please contact Mrs. Kinder. If you are new to Selwyn and would like to select this option, please email kkinder@selwynschool.com so that a classroom account can be created for you.

Option 2: Summer Review Packet: Use the attached work packet to practice a variety of math skills. The packet includes instructions for each section. You must show your work on all problems to receive full credit. The packet should be turned in on the first day of school.

SOCIAL STUDIES REQUIREMENT

You will need to pick one of the 50 United States and complete a project about that state. If you are taking a trip to a certain state this summer, that would be a great state to choose! You will need to have your choice of state and project approved by Mrs. Miller so that we can avoid duplications. Please contact Mrs. Miller at cmiller@selwynschool.com to get approval. In case of conflict, state choices will be approved in the order that requests are received. This project should be turned in on the first day of

school, and you will present your project to the class during the first week. The oral presentation should last a minimum of 3 minutes. Have fun with this project!

You may select ONE of the following state projects (or come up with your own project idea):

- State poster
- State brochure
- Oversized state post card
- State scrapbook
- State power point or prezi presentation
- Come up with your own unique project!

All projects **must include** the following information:

- State capital
- State size and population
- Date of statehood
- Interesting attractions (places to visit)
- Map of the state
- State flag
- Historical information
- Climate/Agriculture/Business

Other items you might want to include:

- State bird
- State motto
- State flower
- State nickname
- State song
- State symbols
- State tree