

THE SELWYN SCHOOL
SUMMER REQUIRED ACTIVITIES
FOR STUDENTS ENTERING FIFTH GRADE

As an integral part of Selwyn’s Middle School program, we strive to ensure that all of our students are actively reading, writing, and thinking during the summer break.

All students entering 5th grade must read *Flora & Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo and write a report over the book. The book report should follow the formatting instructions on the information sheet. This book report should be turned in on the first day of class. We will work with this book throughout the first several weeks of school.

BOOK REPORT FORMAT FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5TH GRADE

APPEARANCE

If Handwritten: Reports should be in cursive that is neat and legible. Both left and right margins should be observed and all paragraphs should be indented. You should skip a line in-between paragraphs and do not write on the bottom line on the page. Use both sides of the paper.

If Typed: Typewritten reports should be in black ink using a 12-point font such as Calibri, Ariel, or Times New Roman. The report should be double spaced with no extra spacing between paragraphs and can be printed either on either one or both sides of the paper.

COVER PAGE

The report should have a separate cover page that contains your name, the date (month, year) and the following information:

- Title of Book
- Author
- Genre
- Publisher
- Copyright Year
- A relevant graphic

INTRO PARAGRAPH

The introductory paragraph should focus on the author and include information such as personal background and their importance as a writer. Avoid statements such as “This book report is about . . .” or “I am writing about . . .”

SUMMARY

The next one to two paragraphs should be a summary of the plot. You should state the book’s title, and then describe the setting, main characters, and basic action of the book. Hit the highlights and main events without giving a complete retelling of the story.

ANALYSIS

Include a paragraph for each of the following topics. Use good detail and include examples from the book to support your opinion.

- Which character did you like the best and why? Which did you like the least and why?
- What was your favorite part of the book and why? What was your least favorite and why?
- What lesson is the author trying to teach?

CONCLUSION

Your closing paragraph should state your overall impression of the book, whether or not you recommend this book to others, and what type of reader would enjoy the book. Be sure to explain why you feel the way that you do. The conclusion should also include any awards the author won for the book, and may also include reviews of the book. For example, you may write “The *New York Times* calls this the year’s best book.” This shows that many other people enjoyed the book, too.