

BEE a Summer Reader  
Summer Reading Program

As the summer break approaches, thoughts may turn to vacations, summer camp, and all kinds of outdoor activities. Make sure your summer plans include time to read, read, read!

*BEE a Summer Reader* is our summer reading program for incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students are required to read one assigned book, and complete one of the activities listed at the end of this handout.

Students who choose to read an additional two books from the recommended list, and complete an activity for each book, will receive a prize and be recognized at the first Kabbalat Shabbat.

Note: An activity for the required book must be brought to school the first day of school, along with a copy of the book. Language Arts assignments during the first weeks of school will be related to the required book.

Students who want to qualify for the *BEE a Summer Reader* award must also hand in the two additional activities on the first day of school. The books read for this award must be from the recommended list that is attached.

San Diego Jewish Academy  
Summer Reading 2007  
Incoming Grade 3 Students

#### Required Reading

All in-coming third graders are required to read the following book, and complete one of the activities listed at the end of this book list.

***Granny Torrelli Makes Soup***

**By Sharon Creech**

Rosie and Bailey are neighbors, born only a week apart. They are like sister and brother, but now they have had a falling out. In this endearing story by Newberry Medal-winner Sharon Creech, a wise old Italian granny skillfully imparts life advice (and cooking lessons) to her winning but sometimes obstinate 12-year-old granddaughter.

The following books are recommended reading. If you read two of these books and complete one of the activities listed at the end for each book, you will be recognized at the first Kabbalat Shabbat, and given a prize.

***Action Jackson***

**By Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan**

This picture book biography of Jackson Pollack focuses on a two-month period when he created Number 1, 1950 (*Lavender Mist*). It explores how Jackson worked, what inspired him, and his daily routine.

***Aldo Ice Cream.***

**By Johanna Hurwitz**

Nine-year-old Aldo discovers the pleasures of doing volunteer work to help the older citizens of the community and the satisfactions of earning his first money on his own for unselfish reasons.

***Ben and Me***

**By Robert Lawson**

*In this Astonishing Life of Benjamin Franklin by His Good Mouse AMOS*, readers will discover that while the good Mr. Franklin got considerable credit, many of his most important contributions really originated with his mouse, Amos.

***The BFG***

**By Roald Dahl**

Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant) who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.

***Dreamer From the Village***

**The Story of Marc Chagall**

**By Michelle Markel**

In the imagination of Marc Chagall, all of life was an inspiration for the beautiful and strange pictures he created. In this picture book biography, young readers learn how Chagall had to struggle against his family's disapproval and the rigid training of art school to paint what was in his heart.

***Frindle***

Or any Andrew Clements school series

**By Andrew Clements**

Nick Allen is a mischievous fifth grade boy who likes to get out of doing homework. When he makes up a new word, it brings a lot of excitement to his life.

***The Ghost on Saturday Night***

**By Sid Fleischman**

Opie and Aunt Etta think there's something funny going on when Professor Pepper announces that he's going to raise the ghost of a dead outlaw--live on stage. Can Opie cut through all the fog to get to the bottom of the professor's plans?

***Gloria's Way***

**By Ann Cameron**

Gloria shares special times with her mother and father and friends Julia, Henry, and Latisha.

***Gooney Bird Greene***

**By Lois Lowry**

A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.

***Herbie Jones***

**By Suzy Kline**

Third grade isn't looking too good for Herbie Jones. Not only is he stuck being in Apples, the lowest reading group in class, but he has to get a birthday present for annoying Annabelle and be good for the entire field trip to the museum! How is Herbie ever going to make it through the year?

***I, Freddy***

**By Lois Lowry**

Freddy is an unusual hamster. Unlike his pet-shop mates, he has ambitions beyond traditional cage life. He wants to explore the world and resolves to attract the right buyer. His choice is Sophie, almost six, a budding bookworm. Freddy's intellect and adventures increase when he

goes to live with Mr. John, who recognizes Freddy's superior intellect and encourages him to communicate using the computer.

***Jake Drake, Class Clown***

**By Andrew Clements**

Jake acts like a class clown in order to cheer up his teacher.

***Misty of Chincoteague***

**By Marguerite Henry**

First published 1947. Two youngsters' determination to own a Chincoteague pony is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among those rounded up for yearly auction.

***Owen Foote, Super Spy***

Or any book in the Owen Foote series

**By Stephanie Green**

Owen and his friends get bored with spying on their families and move on to more difficult missions involving walkie-talkies and camouflage.

***Ramona Quimby, Age 8***

**By Beverly Cleary**

Ramona feels quite grown-up taking the bus by herself, helping big sister Beezus make dinner, and trying hard to be nice to pesky Willa Jean after school. Turning eight years old and entering the third grade can do that to a girl. So how can her teacher call her a nuisance?

***Sarah, Plain and Tall***

**By Patricia MacLachlan**

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. Newbery Medal winner.

***See You Around, Sam!***

**By Lois Lowry**

Sam (Anastasia's little brother) is forbidden to wear his plastic fangs in the house and attempts to run away to Alaska, where the walruses will surely accept his oral protrusions.

***Stone Fox***

**By John Reynolds Gardiner**

Willy is determined to win the dogsled race to save his grandfather's farm. But he will be racing against Stone Fox, who has never lost a dogsled race in his life.

***The T.F. Letters***

**By Karen Ray**

Seven-year-old Alex starts to lose her baby teeth, begins a correspondence with the Tooth Fairy, and tries to accept the fact that her family is moving to a distant state.

***Walking the Road to Freedom***

**By Jeri Ferris**

This is the important and inspiring story of a woman who called herself Sojourner Truth. Using only the power of her voice, she spoke out against slavery throughout New England and the Midwest.

## Summer Reading Activities

For each book you read from the Summer Reading List, choose an activity as a way to report on the book. Keep written assignments short. These activities are not meant to take a lot of time. You may choose a different activity for each book, or repeat the same activity for all the books – your choice!

1. Draw a scene from the book. On the back, write a few sentences telling about the scene you have illustrated.
2. Design a book jacket. Draw a cover for the book on the front, write a brief summary of the story on the inside flap.
3. Create an “ad” to sell the book to your friends.
4. Pretend you are one of the characters in the book and describe a day in your life.
5. Write a newspaper article about an exciting event from the book.

Rosie's story unfolds as she and Granny make and eat zuppa, and Granny Torrelli tells parallel stories from her own childhood to help Rosie with her current predicament. Rosie and Bailey are neighbors, born only a week apart. She has always been his helper as he was born visually impaired. Use these questions and activities that follow to get more out of the experience of reading *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup* by Sharon Creech.

1. List some of the things Rosie likes about Bailey. Rosie grew up with Bailey.