



Lower Division Summer Reading

May 2022

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of the school year, our focus shifts to summer activities and ways to reinforce student learning. Research shows that students require ongoing review and practice of previously taught skills for maximum retention. This is especially true for students with learning differences. With that in mind, we have assigned summer reading to provide you and your child opportunities to engage in rich, meaningful literature together.

At Swift, we have embraced a knowledge building curriculum that provides students with grade level content, texts and vocabulary development. This carries across all subject areas, with a direct tie to content subjects and the arts. The books we have selected will connect to topics covered in the coming year. Our purpose is for students to be exposed to rich texts with background knowledge that will support their learning. We recognize that students may not be able to read these books independently. Therefore, we encourage you to become familiar with reading strategies that are used here at Swift to support struggling readers.

Some useful strategies and tools are:

- An adult first previews the text to become familiar with the content and vocabulary.
- An adult then introduces the text; student previews and shares what they notice and wonder about the book which prompts their curiosity and interest in the text.
- Together, an adult and student read the book. Students are not expected to read the text independently or work on decoding. Support students by reading aloud or using assistive technology, i.e. Learning Ally, Read and Write, Bookshare, Audio Book, etc.
- Discuss the book as you read it. Making connections to existing knowledge and ask questions that support comprehension and new vocabulary.
- Summarize learning by visiting your local library, aquarium, science and art museums. Children can express their learning by drawing, painting, creating 3D models, timelines, and so much more. Although these are not required, should your child create something, they are welcome to bring them in and share with their new class in the fall.

Assigned books are as follows:

Rising 1st - Bats at the Library, by Brian Lies

Rising 2nd - Frog and Toad All Year, by Arnold Lobel

Rising 3rd - Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist,
by Jess Keating

Rising 4th - Who Was Clara Barton?, by Stephanie Spinner

I hope you enjoy learning together. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Have a fun filled, relaxing summer.

Best,

Roni Battaglia

Lower Division Director