Garfield School District
Summer Reading Program 2026
Students Entering Grades 1-2

"Prevent the summer slide and read!"

Unearth a Story™ underscores the joy of discovery that reading brings and that every person and every community have stories waiting to be found and shared – through books, programs, and local knowledge.

Garfield Public Schools **34 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026**

Dawn Rotio **973-340-5000**
Curriculum Supervisor

May 7, 2026

Dear Parents and Students,

I want to thank you for the consistent effort you put forth this school year. Your child has worked so hard and maintaining the skills he/she has acquired is important. Enclosed in this packet are the required reading assignments for the upcoming school year. This should be done throughout the summer to make reading a part of your daily routine.

To create a common reading experience, students will be required to read one book from a mandated series and the remaining books can be whatever is of high interest to your child. Online platforms, the local library, and bookstores can assist you in finding the books necessary to meet the reading requirements. Also included is an optional summer reading bingo board to help support consistent reading in the summer!

In addition to summer reading, Dr. Tomko is thrilled to launch the **1st Annual Superintendent's Reading Challenge** for students entering grades 2–8! Students who complete this summer packet will earn credit toward the Superintendent's Challenge while enjoying an exciting opportunity to stay engaged, inspired, and motivated all summer long. It's a fun and rewarding way to encourage reading at home, spark imagination, and celebrate a love of learning beyond the classroom! Stay tuned!!

Upon returning to school, students will hand in their completed activities to their teacher. The elementary schools will each recognize those students for their extra hard work and dedication to reading by bestowing upon them a reward for their participation in the program as well as giving credit towards their reading grade.

All information can be accessed on www.gboe.org by clicking on the summer reading link. Forms for assignments can be recreated by photocopying, downloading off the school website, using a word document, or handwriting it on a separate piece of paper.

Once again, thank you for your continuous involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Dawn Rotio

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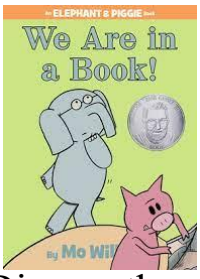
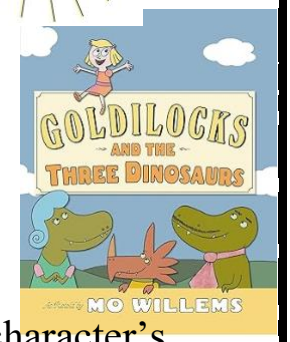
Curriculum Supervisor

Garfield School District
Summer Reading Program 2026

Required Reading:





1. **Any book by Mo Willems**
   - **a.** Discuss the beginning, middle, and end. Discuss the character's faces. Notice the punctuation marks. Was there a lesson learned in the story?

2. **Any non-fiction book that interests your child**
   - a. Discuss new/hard words.
   - b. Discuss facts you have learned.

Additional:

- Students must read **about 5-10 books** throughout the summer, depending on the length of the book. *If your child is reading chapter books, he/she will read less books because they take longer to finish.*
- Complete the questions for the two mandated books.
- Complete the Reading Log Form

****Upon completion of the summer reading assignments, students should continue to read for 20 minutes per night.***

Name:_____ Date:_____

Mo Willems – Book 1
Question 1

1. What happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story? Use your own words! Be sure to use capital letters and a punctuation mark. Highlight the capital letters at the beginning of each sentence and the punctuation mark with a light crayon or highlighter.

Draw a picture of the beginning of the story.

What happened at the beginning of the story?

Name:_____

Draw a picture of the middle of the story.

What happened in the middle of the story?

Name:_____

Draw a picture of the end of the story.

What happened at the end of the story?

Name:_____

Non-fiction Book 2

Question 1

1. What was the book mostly about? (Main Idea) Answer in complete, detailed sentences.

Name: _____

Non-fiction Book 2
Question 2

2. Write two facts you have learned from reading this book and one new word with its meaning and use it in a sentence.

Fact 1: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Fact 2: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

New Word: _____

Meaning:_____

_____

Sentence:_____

_____

_____

Name_____Grade 2026-2027_____

Reading Log Form for students entering First and Second Grade

Books I've read this summer....

Book Title	Author	Parent/Guardian Signature

Summer Reading Bingo

Read books to fill up as many squares as you can.

A book by your favorite author	A fiction book	A book about summer	A book with an animal on the cover	Read after dinner
Read with a friend	Read to a family member	A non-fiction book	A book with a sun on the cover	A book about animals
A book recommended to you	A book about the outdoors		Read in your pj's	A book in a week
A book with a color in the title	A biography	Read outside	A book by a male author	Read while having a cold drink
Read on the weekend	A funny book	A book about history	Read under a tree	A book by a female author

NAME:

DATE FINISHED: