



# SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS



## For Rising Fourth Graders

Reading over the summer reinforces language arts skills and encourages children to become lifelong learners. Please assist your child with their summer reading and activities.

### NAVIGATION

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#### **SUMMER READING**

- ◆ [Summer Book Assignment](#)
- ◆ [Recommended Reading](#)
  - [Fantasy](#)
  - [Graphic Novels](#)
  - [Historical Fiction](#)
  - [Realistic Fiction](#)
  - [Nonfiction](#)
- ◆ [Additional Resources](#)
- ◆ [Timothy House Summer Reading Log](#)

#### **SUMMER MATH RESOURCES**

- ◆ [Websites](#)
- ◆ [Workbooks](#)
- ◆ [Math Log](#)



# SUMMER READING

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## Welcome!

Dear Students,

We are so excited to see you next school year! We are going to have so much fun in the fourth grade! We hope you read many books, magazines, and newspapers during your summer, and we have attached a list of book suggestions for you to read. Please read at least **THREE** books from the list below. We hope you devour books this summer, so feel free to choose one that is not on the list as well.

We have listed the books, their authors, and a brief summary to help you make your choices. Again, feel free to read as many as you would like! We have included a reading log so you can keep track of all the great reading you do this summer.

Of the three books you read, please choose two activities listed below.

## Summer Book Assignment:

Choose **TWO** of the books you have read and show your understanding by completing one of these activities:

- Write a short story about what the character(s) would be doing one year later.
- Write a letter to the author or illustrator.



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- Write a short book review. Remember to include a few sentences describing the book as well as a few sentences about why you liked it — or didn't.

**Take it to the next level by completing one of these extra activities:**

- Choose two people or characters from two different books who you think would be great friends. Why?
- Create a photo collage or animated trailer. (iMovie or Pic Collage are great apps for this activity)

Have a wonderful summer! We can't wait for school to start and for all the exciting grade 4 events.

Happy Reading!

## Recommended Reading

### Fantasy

#### **The Wishing Spell (The Land of Stories) by Chris Colfer**

The first book in Chris Colfer's #1 New York Times bestselling series The Land of Stories about two siblings who fall into a fairy-tale world! Alex and Conner Bailey's world is about to change, in this fast-paced adventure that uniquely combines our modern day world with the enchanting realm of classic fairy tales. The Land of Stories tells the tale of twins Alex and Conner. Through the mysterious powers of a cherished book of stories, they leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with fairy tale characters they grew up reading about. But after a series of encounters with witches, wolves, goblins, and trolls alike, getting back home is going to be harder than they thought.



#### **The Iron Giant by Ted Hughes**

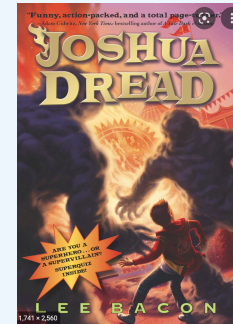
A mysterious creature stalks the land, eating barbed wire and devouring tractors and plows. The farmers are mystified—and terrified. And then they glimpse him in the night: the Iron Giant, taller than a house, with glowing headlight eyes and an insatiable taste for metal. The hungry giant must be stopped at any cost. Only a young boy named Hogarth is brave enough to lead the Iron Giant to a safe home. And only Hogarth knows where to turn when a space-bat as big as Australia, hungry for every living thing on Earth, darkens the sky.



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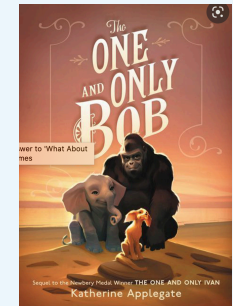
### **Joshua Dread by Lee Bacon**

Middle school is tough already—but when your parents are evil supervillains and you’ve just discovered you have powers of your own, life can be a real challenge. Not only do bullies pick on Joshua, but do you see those supervillains over there trying to flood the world? The ones that everyone, including his best friend Milton, are rooting for Captain Justice to take down? They're the Dread Duo, and they just happen to be his parents. As if trying to hide his identity wasn't hard enough, Joshua has started leaving a trail of exploding pencils and scorched handprints in his wake, and only Sophie, the new girl in town with a mysterious past, seems unsurprised. When a violent attack at the Vile Fair makes it clear someone is abducting supervillains, and that his parents may very well be next, Joshua must enlist both Sophie and Milton's help to save them.



### **The One and Only Bob by Katherine Applegate**

Return to the unforgettable world of the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling novel The One and Only Ivan (soon to be a major motion picture!) in this incredible sequel, starring Ivan's friend Bob! Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan and Ruby. As a hurricane approaches and time is running out, Bob finds courage he never knew he had and learns the true meaning of friendship and family. Bob, Ivan, and Ruby have touched the hearts of millions of readers, and their story isn't over yet. Catch up with these beloved friends before the star-studded film adaptation of The One and Only Ivan hits theaters in August 2020!



### **The Wild Robot by Peter Brown**

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is—but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home—until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.



### **The Offenders by Jerry Craft**

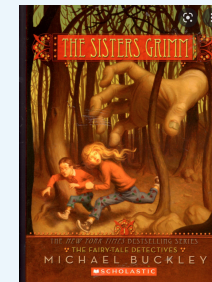


Read a book from Dwight's latest author visit from December 2018! Bullies beware! A freak accident gives five middle school bullies super powers. But instead of being able to transform into cool super-beings, they take on the characteristics of the kids they bully. Sure their abilities may be at an all-time high, but do they really have what it takes to save their school when their self-esteem is at an all-time low? "Creative, funny, and engaging – this book presents a unique look at the dynamics of bullying. With a diverse cast of characters, the book illustrates that bullying affects everyone – and that the students who are bullying can change their behavior and make their school a more positive place." — PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center



### **The Fairy Tale Detectives (The Sisters Grimm, Book 1) by Michael Buckley**

In the tradition of Lemony Snicket's Series of Unfortunate Events and The Spiderwick Chronicles comes a new humorous mystery of fantastic circumstances. The Sisters Grimm (Book One): The Fairy Tale Detectives introduces us to two orphaned sisters, Sabrina and Daphne, who are sent to live with their mysterious grandmother, Relda Grimm. Grandmother Grimm lives in a strange town in New York State, known for its extraordinary number of unexplained and unusual crimes. As soon as the sisters arrive, they begin to unravel a mystery that leads to their ancestors' magical beginnings. Sabrina and Daphne learn they are descendants of the Brothers Grimm, who were actually detectives of the magical phenomenon perpetrated by the Everafters, a parallel race of magical beings. They soon discover it is the Grimm family's legacy to keep the Everafters in line and the two sisters are the sole heirs to this challenge!



## **Graphic Novels**

### **EI Deafo by Cece Bell**

A 2015 Newbery Honor Book. Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful — and very awkward — hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't — but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend,



someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become “El Deafo, Listener for All.” And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she’s longed for.

### **Ghosts by Raina Telgemeier**

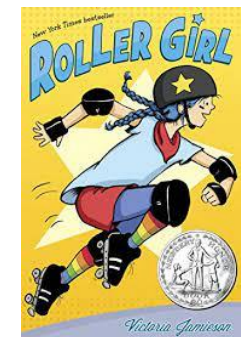
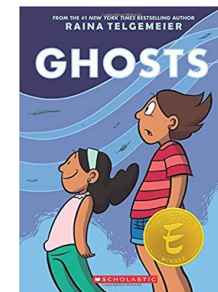
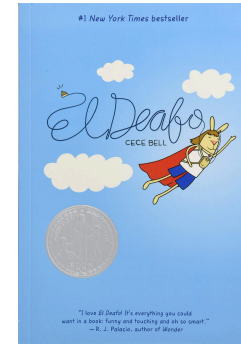
Catrina and her family are moving to the coast of Northern California because her little sister, Maya, is sick. Cat isn’t happy about leaving her friends for Bahía de la Luna, but Maya has cystic fibrosis and will benefit from the cool, salty air that blows in from the sea. As the girls explore their new home, a neighbor lets them in on a secret: There are ghosts in Bahía de la Luna. Maya is determined to meet one, but Cat wants nothing to do with them. As the time of year when ghosts reunite with their loved ones approaches, Cat must figure out how to put aside her fears for her sister's sake — and her own.

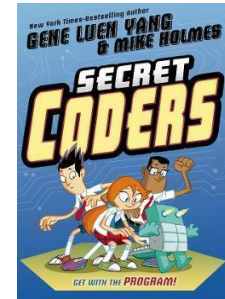
### **Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson**

For most of her twelve years, Astrid has done everything with her best friend Nicole. But after Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for derby camp, Nicole decides to go to dance camp instead. And so begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. As the end of summer nears and her first roller derby bout (and junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes that maybe she *is* strong enough to handle the bout, a lost friendship, and middle school... in short, strong enough to be a roller girl.

### **Secret Coders by Gene Luen Yang**

Hopper is not excited to start a new school, which looks more like a haunted house. Her classes are boring, she runs afoul of her teachers, and, worst of all, no one wants to sit with her at lunch. Her only company is a weird bird who opens a third eyeball. What could be going on? Hopper’s classmate Eni thinks he knows: the birds are robots, and they’re responding to numbers in binary. From there, Eni and Hopper discover all kinds of coding-based tricks around school. They figure out a lock combination, discover a robot, pull a prank on their classmates, and, thrillingly, find a hidden passageway. Now they’re not only playing around with programming but investigating a mystery!





## Historical Fiction

### I Survived Series by Lauren Tarshis

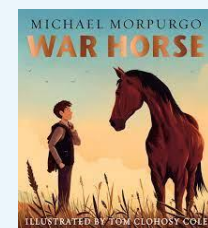
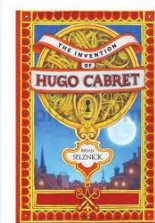
Each book in the series tells a terrifying and thrilling story from history, through the eyes of a boy who lived to tell the tale.

### The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

### War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

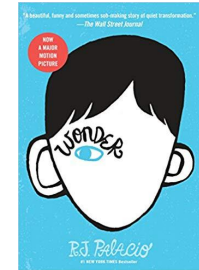
In 1914, Joey, a beautiful bay-red foal with a distinctive cross on his nose, was sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges toward the enemy, witnessing the horror of the battles in France. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him and he is able to find warmth and hope. But his heart aches for Albert, the farmer's son he left behind. Will he ever see his true master again?



## Realistic Fiction

### Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Over 6 million people have read the #1 New York Times bestseller *WONDER* and have fallen in love with Auggie Pullman, an ordinary boy with an extraordinary face. August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. *WONDER*, now a #1 New York Times bestseller and included on the Texas Bluebonnet Award master list, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.



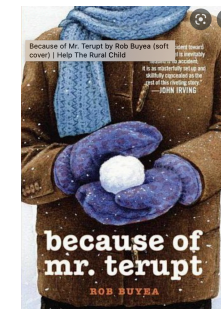
### All Four Stars by Tara Dairman

Meet Gladys Gatsby: New York's toughest restaurant critic. (Just don't tell anyone that she's in sixth grade.) Gladys Gatsby has been cooking gourmet dishes since the age of seven, only her fast-food-loving parents have no idea! Now she's eleven, and after a crème brûlée accident (just a small fire), Gladys is cut off from the kitchen (and her allowance). She's devastated but soon finds just the right opportunity to pay her parents back when she's mistakenly contacted to write a restaurant review for one of the largest newspapers in the world. But in order to meet her deadline and keep her dream job, Gladys must cook her way into the heart of her sixth-grade archenemy and sneak into New York City—all while keeping her identity a secret! Easy as pie, right?



### Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea

Features seven narrators, each with a unique story, and each with a different perspective on what makes their teacher so special. It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



### **Best Man by Richard Peck**

When Archer is in sixth grade, his beloved uncle Paul marries another man—Archer’s favorite student teacher. But that’s getting ahead of the story, and a wonderful story it is. In Archer’s sweetly naïve but observant voice, his life through elementary school is recounted: the outspoken, ever-loyal friends he makes, the teachers who blunder or inspire, and the family members who serve as his role models. From one exhilarating, unexpected episode to another, Archer’s story rolls along as he puzzles over the people in his life and the kind of person he wants to become...and manages to help his uncle become his best self as well.

### **The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo**

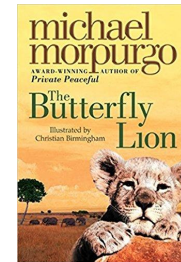
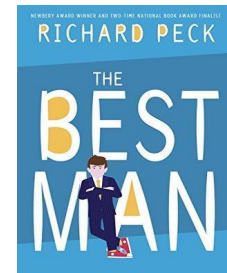
A lyrical and moving tale of a young boy growing up in Africa, and his lifelong friendship with a white lion. Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld. They are inseparable until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus. Bertie swears that one day they will see one another again, but it is the butterfly lion which ensures that their friendship will never be forgotten.

### **Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate**

Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent. And not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan. Again. Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything? Beloved author Katherine Applegate proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.

### **Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts



opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

### **Booked by Kwame Alexander**

Like lightning/you strike/fast and free/legs zoom/down field/eyes fixed/on the checkered ball/on the goal/ten yards to go/can't nobody stop you/can't nobody cop you...

In this follow-up to the Newbery-winning novel *THE CROSSOVER*, soccer, family, love, and friendship take center stage as twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate Coby, and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read. This electric and heartfelt novel-in-verse by poet Kwame Alexander bends and breaks as it captures all the thrills and setbacks, action and emotion of a World Cup match!

### **The Tapper Twins Go To War (With Each Other) by Geoff Rodkey**

This bestselling first book in the Tapper Twins series is a hilariously authentic showcase of what it's like to be in middle school in our digitally-saturated world, told as a colorful "oral history" with photos, screenshots, text messages, chat logs, and online gaming digital art. Twelve-year-old twins, Claudia and Reese, who couldn't be more different...except in their determination to come out on top in a vicious prank war. But when the competition escalates into an all-out battle that's fought from the cafeteria of their New York City private school all the way to the fictional universe of an online video game, the twins have to decide if their efforts to destroy each other are worth the price. In a starred review, Publishers Weekly declared "This uproarious series opener... is packed with both laugh-out-loud moments and heart."



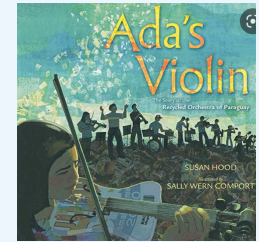
## **Nonfiction**

**Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay by Susan Hood**



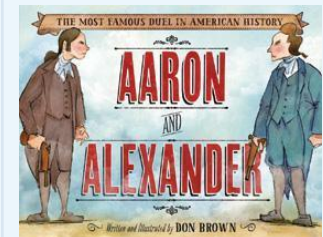
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Ada Ríos grew up in Cateura, a small town in Paraguay built on a landfill. She dreamed of playing the violin, but with little money for anything but the bare essentials, it was never an option...until a music teacher named Favio Chávez arrived. He wanted to give the children of Cateura something special, so he made them instruments out of materials found in the trash. It was a crazy idea, but one that would leave Ada—and her town—forever changed. Now, the Recycled Orchestra plays venues around the world, spreading their message of hope and innovation.



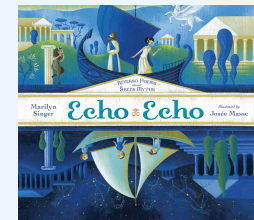
### **Aaron and Alexander: The Most Famous Duel in American History by Dan Brown**

Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton were both fierce patriots during the Revolutionary War, but the politics of the young United States of America put them in constant conflict. Their extraordinary story of bitter fighting and resentment culminates in their famous duel. For young patriots who may not yet know the shocking and tragic story, Aaron and Alexander captures the spirit of these two great men who so valiantly served their country and ultimately allowed their pride and ego to cause their demise.



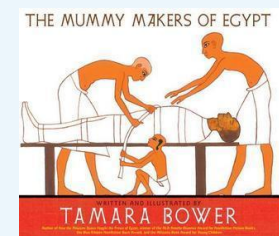
### **Echo Echo: Reverse Poems about Greek Myths by Marilyn Singer**

What happens when you hold up a mirror to poems about Greek myths? You get a brand-new perspective on the classics! And that is just what happens in Echo Echo. Read one way, each poem tells the story of a familiar myth; but when read in reverse, the poems reveal a new point of view! Well-known legends, including the stories of Pandora's box, King Midas and his golden touch, Perseus and Medusa, Pygmalion, Icarus and Daedalus, Demeter and Persephone, and Echo and Narcissus are part of this poetry collection.



### **Mummy Makers of Egypt by Tamara Bower**

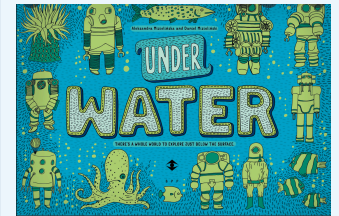
Artifacts, funerary customs, kid-loving gory details of the mummification process, hieroglyphs, and details of life in ancient Egypt are told through the eyes of Ipy, whose father is embalmer to the King. Yuya, father of the Queen, has died and Ipy must help his father in the mummification process. Yuya is an actual mummy and the discovery of his tomb is an entertaining story in itself, with the archaeologist Theodore Davis fainting at the sight of so much gold, and the portly Gaston Maspero getting stuck while trying to climb into the tomb. Yuya's tomb was a spectacular discovery in the Valley of the Kings that was later overshadowed only by the discovery of King Tut, Yuya's great-grandson. The book features sidebars of hieroglyphs and



their meanings, a map, and an afterword telling more about the life of Yuya, of the burial process, and ancient Egypt in general.

### **Under Water, Under Earth by Alexandra & Daniel Mizielinska**

Prepare to traverse subterranean soil and sink to watery depths in this richly informative, oversized double-ended picture book. Divided in two, this encyclopedic volume explores underground curiosities in one half and underwater marvels in the other and converges at the deepest points of both: the Earth's core and Challenger Deep, the nethermost region of the Mariana Trench. While paneled diagrams break down more elusive processes (such as the evolution of a sinkhole), crisp cross-sections of electrical wiring or mineshaft mechanics illustrate the human consumption of natural resources.



## **Additional Resources**

Students and families are encouraged to use the Dwight Library Sora collection for accessing ebooks.

- Dwight School Library
  - <https://soraapp.com/welcome>
  - Students login with username and password
  - Search for specific title
  - Read the sample
  - Check out and enjoy!
  - Need your username and password? Email Steve Presti - [spresti@dwight.edu](mailto:spresti@dwight.edu)

Please note: Often these resources have limited copies available. Use the “reserve” option so that you will be notified when the title is available for you to borrow. Also, please be mindful and return these items when you are finished reading so that others may enjoy them too.





[Printable Summer Reading Log](#)



# SUMMER MATH



**Please assist your child with their summer math activities as this will help them retain third grade knowledge and transition smoothly into fourth grade material. Regular practice outside the school months not only builds a strong skill base, but also helps children to become lifelong learners.**

Dear Rising Fourth Graders,



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We look forward to teaching you next year in fourth grade math. We have provided some resources for you to use as you continue to sharpen your math skills over the summer.

Some topics we will explore next year include:

- **Multiply/divide multi-digit numbers — multiplication and division fact fluency 0-12 are essential!**
- **Add/subtract/multiply with fractions and mixed numbers**
- **Multi-step problem solving**
- **Measuring and drawing angles with a protractor**

We would like you to pick **at least 1 website and 1 workbook** to use this summer (you may use more!). Please record the date and time you spend on each website. We will collect this in September.

We can't wait to see you in fourth grade!

Have an awesome summer,  
Your Fourth Grade Teachers

## Websites

- [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) › [maths-games](#) › [hit-the-button](#) Website used in fourth grade to practice multiplication and division facts from 1-12
- [www.khanacademy.com](http://www.khanacademy.com) This website is used in fourth grade and has tutorial videos and practice problems based on grade level or topic. It also covers subjects other than math.
- <http://www.aplusmath.com> Interactive math resources for teachers, parents, and students featuring free math worksheets, math games, math flashcards, and more
- [Xtra Math](#): This is a Fact Fluency app that students have used all year. All students have a log-in.

## Workbooks

- [Spectrum Math Workbook: Grade 4](#)



- [Summer Bridge Activities Grades 3-4 Workbook—Bridging Grades 3 to 4 in Just 15 minutes a day](#)

[Multiplication Flash Cards](#)



[PRINTABLE MATH LOG WORKSHEET](#)



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