

SCROLL DOWN TO THE TO LAST PAGE FOR SUPPLY LIST!!

Mercy Watson to the Rescue

Greetings Lower El Families!

We hope that you enjoy reading Mercy Watson To The Rescue this summer. We will be revisiting the theme and characters from the story in our classrooms during the first weeks of school.

In order to demonstrate your child's knowledge and understanding of the book, we are asking that each child complete a project related to the story. You may choose from the list of ideas we have provided, or you may decide to get creative and develop your own plan.

Your child is welcome to bring in the project August 25th through September 19th.

Students will begin presenting their projects through September 19th. Each project will be evaluated based on the following criteria:


1. Creativity
2. Quality of work
3. Demonstration of knowledge
4. Presentation

Please remember, this project is about enjoying literacy and sharing the understanding of a fantastic story. Have fun with it! There is more than one way to enjoy this book!

1. Your child can read it independently.
2. You can alternate reading pages together.
3. Parents can read it to your child.

We are looking forward to seeing all of the children and their imaginative projects!

Mrs. DelCampo and Mrs. Wilcox



Dress and Guess! Come to class dressed as one of the characters. Tell the class your version of the story from that character's perspective.

Pen Pals! Write a letter to one of the characters in *Mercy Watson*. Ask the character questions and offer your opinion about the story.

The Funny Papers! Make a comic strip about one of the scenes in *Mercy Watson*. Include a title frame and lots of conversation bubbles to retell what happened.

T.V. Commercial! Write a T.V. Commercial advertising the book. Present it live to the class or make a video tape and bring it in.

Talk Show Host! Pretend that you are a television talk show host and will be interviewing a character from *Mercy Watson*. Write a list of interview questions, have a friend pretend to be the character and conduct a "live taping" of your show or produce a video.

Movie Marquee! *Mercy Watson* is about to become a major motion picture and **you** have been chosen to design the promotional poster! Include the title, author, and list the main characters and the actors or actresses who will play them, and a short paragraph summarizing the story.

Mobile Magic! Create and assemble an exciting and colorful mobile to display in your classroom. Using a coat hanger, string or fishing wire, and heavy paper, show the plot, setting and characters.

Mystery Box Game! Cover a shoebox with construction paper and color question marks all over the box. On one side of the box write the title of the book. Fill your box with 5 objects that are related to *Mercy Watson*. Allow the class time to ask "yes or no" questions about the objects. When someone guesses the object, he or she will explain how it relates to the story.

Puppet Show! Construct puppets and present a show of one or more parts of the story.

News Bulletin! Pretend you are a television reporter on the scene to report an exciting part of the story. Present you bulletin live or on video.

Patchwork Quilt! Use a piece of 18" X 26" tagboard and six 8" X 8" squares of paper. Glue the squares on the tagboard and simulate stitching around each piece using a crayon or marker. Each of the squares will tell specific information about *Mercy Watson*. One square should state the title and author, and the other squares should tell about the characters, plot and setting.

Board Game! Create a board game using vocabulary, information, and characters from *Mercy Watson*. Be sure to include a set of instructions for your game that tell the rules and object of the game. Make game pieces and cards.

Wanted Poster! Create a WANTED poster for one of the characters in the book. Include the following: drawing of the character, physical description, character's deed, other important information, and the reward offered for the capture and return of the character.

Why Summer Reading?

Summer will be here before you know it, and if you think those lazy, hazy months should be all play and no work, take a gander at the following statistics:

Summer Learning Loss

- When young people aren't engaged in educational activities during the summer, they experience learning loss.¹
- **Reading just 5 books over the summer can prevent summer learning loss.**²
- In a study of fourth graders, the students who read for fun every day scored the highest on reading assessment tests.³
- Summer reading loss is cumulative. By the end of 6th grade, children who consistently lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates.⁴
- Students who participated in a summer reading program had better reading skills at the end of third grade and scored higher on standardized tests than students who did not participate.⁵

References: [Click here to see the full article](#)

Summer reading is a required activity at every level at Chatfield School.

Students who are entering second grade in the fall will read *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo. Students will also complete a project at home based on the book, which they will present during the first weeks of school. Chatfield has purchased a class set of these books, and each student will be able to borrow a copy for the summer. **Books will need to be returned in the fall or there will be a replacement fee.**

On the following pages, you will find information and resources to promote summer learning in all curriculum areas. We also have a list of learning websites on our web page at chatfieldschool.org under second grade. We hope you will take advantage of them, and help block seasonal brain-drain.

Enjoy your summer of learning!

Mrs. Wilcox and Mrs. DelCampo

Grade Two Required Summer Reading

Mercy Watson to the Rescue

By Kate DiCamillo

About the Book

Mercy Watson, a food-obsessed pig with a fixation on toast, snuggles in bed with her owners. When the bed begins to fall through the floor, Mercy leaps out.

The Watsons think she is getting help, but in fact she's gone next door in search of a snack.

Mercy frightens her neighbors, the elderly Lincoln Sisters, and they call the fire department, which arrives in time to save the Watsons. Mercy is hailed as the hero.

PreReading Activities

Show your child the cover of *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*, but conceal the title. Ask him or her to look at the picture and guess what they think the book might be about. Why is the pig running? Does she look happy? Where do you think she is going? Look at the people in the window. What expression do they have on their faces? Why do you think they look like that?

Rereading Builds Fluency

Fluency is the speed at which a child reads, and the vocal expression used to enhance the meaning of the text. Research shows that improving fluency improves comprehension, so we recommend reading the book several times. The first time through, we recommend you read to your child and discuss the story. The second time through, share the reading with your child. You read a little and they read a little. Remember to provide a positive model of fluent reading using an appropriate pace and expression. Continue to share the reading until your child shows that he or she is ready to read it on his or her own.

Mercy Watson to the Rescue: Study Questions and Activities

We are providing the following questions to stimulate comprehension during the reading. Your child **does not** need to submit written responses to these questions.

Chapter 1

What is something that makes you feel warm inside?

Chapter 2

Write about a dream you have had recently.

Chapter 3

Mercy's favorite food is _____. What is your favorite food?

Chapter 4

What would you do if you were Mercy? Would you help Mr. And Mrs. Watson or would you go next door for sugar cookies?

Chapter 5

Do you think pigs belong in the house as a pet? Why or Why not?

Chapter 6

What do you think will happen when the firefighters arrive at the Lincoln's house?

Chapter 7

What would be a real emergency for the fire department?

Chapter 8

What is the problem in this story?

Chapter 9

What does "porcine wonder" mean?

Chapter 10

Did Mercy really save the Watsons? Is she a hero?

Chapter 11

The word toast has two different meanings in this chapter. What are the two meanings?

Chapter 12

What did you learn from reading this story?

K-2 Reading Sight Word List

Kindergarten words	Kindergarten continued	1st Grade words	1st Grade continued	2nd Grade words	2nd Grade continued
am at can go is like me see the to I a dad he in it look mom my on up we do love and are come	for got here not play said you day down into looking she they went where will your red orange blue green purple brown pink black white yellow	all away back big her over this want who with get but came have help next now one some then was what put or didn't don't eat from give good make	of out saw were when again because could does every laugh many new night very walk why would should cannot can't four three two that an as must eight	if no us after ask each how its more other than time upon yes around good just know wish right take too here those pretty their think	again goes how may off which also write been before best first say these through high kind they've need try live still our most great turn different

Summer Math

Check out the following websites this summer to sustain and sharpen math skills and concepts!

Second grade students are expected to master both addition and subtraction facts. Also remember to practice telling time, and counting coins with your child.

20 FUN math games to play

<https://www.weareteachers.com/second-grade-math-games/>

Worksheets to Make

<http://www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/math/>

<http://www.mathworksheetwizard.com/arithmetic.html>

<http://www.themathworksheetsite.com/>

In addition to these websites, flashcards are a great activity to take on road trips.

Optional opportunities for summer learning!

Summer Writing

- Keep a travel journal
- Keep a nature journal
- Write to a relative
- Write to your teacher:

Mrs. Wilcox
231 Lake Drive
Lapeer, MI 48446

Mrs. DelCampo
231 Lake Drive
Lapeer, MI 48446

- Email friends and relatives or your teacher
Mrs. Wilcox's email: jwilcox@chatfieldschool.org
Mrs. DelCampo email: mdelcampo@chatfieldschool.org
- Keep a writer's notebook and write creative stories

Summer Science

Our science units for Grade 2 will be Changes to the Earth's Surfaces, Matter, and Ecosystems. This summer you could:

- Plant a seed and keep a journal with drawings, measurements, and written observations.
- Make a plant scrapbook: collect and identify leaves and flowers
- Identify bodies of water in our community and state.

Summer Social Studies

- Draw a map of your neighborhood
- If you travel this summer you could draw a picture of the place you visited and tell how it is different from where you live.
- Make a family tree
- Collect pictures of businesses and other places you visit in the community over the summer and we will put together a special project in the fall.

The following table includes the most essential things you and your child will need to know about learning and growing in the Lower El.

Supplies	This list may be updated at the end of the summer.
Lockers/Closet	One large backpack
Lunch	Your child should bring a nutritious lunch to school daily. Hot lunch is available, please use skyward to apply funds to your lunch balance.
Snack	Each child should bring his/her own snacks each day. Please send a snack that is high in nutrition and low in sugar. <u>We want to discourage UNHEALTHY choices like cookies, candy, etc.</u>
Planner	Students will bring a planner home <u>EACH NIGHT</u> . It is the expectation that parents will read and sign the planner and review homework and correspondence from school. Please help your child develop the skill of responsibility by returning the planner <u>EVERY DAY!</u>
Outdoor Play	<u>All children</u> will be going outdoors for learning experiences and/or recess every day unless they have a written doctor's excuse. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather.
Transportation	Lower El students and their younger siblings are picked up at the Dolphin Area or Kindergarten Lot. <u>You must provide a note if there are any changes in the normal routine.</u> We will only release your child to you or persons you designate in written form.
Birthdays	Please do not send in or pass out birthday party invitations in the classroom areas.
Field Studies/ PAR	We schedule field studies throughout the year. You are welcome to join us. Parent volunteers transport children. Our service learning project is to volunteer at Paradise Animal Rescue on Friday mornings. (Leave Chatfield 8:30-Return by 10:00). We do rely on family drivers to meet the goal of three visits per student.
Parent Participation	As parents ourselves, we recognize the parent as the child's first teacher, and we would like you to be as involved as you would like to be in your child's education.
Communication	We will be sending home a bi-weekly newsletter. It will also be posted on the Chatfield School website; www.chatfieldschool.org along with pictures and other important classroom information and/or homework. If you have any needs or concerns, we will be happy to talk with you in person, on the phone, or via email.

Second Grade 2025-2026 Back To School Shopping List for each individual student

- 1 -Full Sized Backpack
- 1 - Soft Zipper Pencil Pouch- **NO BOX!!** It has to lay flat in their cubbies.
- 2 - hard cover composition notebooks wide rule (9.75" x 7.5")
No spiral bound notebooks
- 1 -1 inch Binder, color and design of your choice! Please label front with name.
Make sure that the inside of the binder has a pocket.
- 1 Set of headphones (not earbuds) labeled with your child's name.
- 1 -12 Pack of **Ticonderoga** Pencils (pre-sharpened would be great!)
- 1 - 2 Boxes of Tissues
- 1 - blunt pair of scissors (rounded tip)
- 1 - Crayola Broad Markers (**Wilcox class only**)
- 1 - Pencil cap erasers (**Wilcox class only, last name begins with A-K**)
- 1 - Sandwich size bags (**Wilcox class only, last name begins with L-Z**)
- 1 - Snack size bags (**Wilcox class only, last name begins with A-K**)
- 1 - Crayola Crayons (**Wilcox class only, last name begins with L-Z**)
- 1 - Block erasers (**DelCampo class only**)
- 1 - Plastic spoons (**DelCampo class only**)
- 1 - Band-aids (**DelCampo class only**)
- 1 - Liquid hand soap 50 fl.oz (**DelCampo class only, last name A-K**)
- 1 - Roll of paper towel (**DelCampo class only, last name L-Z**)

