

# Reading Summer Work for Rising Third Graders



Students rising to third grade are required to read the book ***Third Grade Angels*** by renowned author Jerry Spinelli. Students will then complete a project based on story. Students will also be responsible for completing a **self-evaluation rubric** (see reverse) upon completion of their self-selected project. These projects were designed to promote creativity, engagement, and fun with reading! Students may choose from a variety of projects which they will bring with them on the first day of school. Students should be prepared to share their projects with the class.

## Preventing Summer Slide

For some children, summer is a time dedicated to playing video games, sleeping in, vacationing, and relaxing as much as possible before the beginning of another school year. Children may argue that summer should be spent taking a break from academics and enjoying “doing nothing.” As parents and educators, we need to ensure that our children do not fall into what is commonly referred to as a “summer slide.” The summer slide: it sounds fun, but it can make the transition from grade to grade

very difficult. Research shows that students who do not read during the summer may experience a decrease in their reading level. But guess what? Students who read regularly during the summer often improve their reading level and ability! Studies have shown that students who read regularly through their elementary years (summer included) score higher on SAT tests. Calverton students can start strong in the fall if their reading habits don’t “slide” away during the summer months.

### SUMMER READING PROJECT SELECTIONS (Choose ONE)

**Write a new ending** for your story. This new ending should be at least one full notebook page in length.

**Write a continuation** of your story. What happens in the new “next” chapter? This should be at least one full notebook page in length.

**Create a book report in a bag.** Write a summary about what happened in the book. Decorate a paper grocery bag with an illustration of a scene from the book glued on one side, and the summary glued on the other. Place five items in the bag that represent something from the book.

**Construct puppets** representing the characters in the book and create a **3-minute video** with a reenactment of one of your favorite events from the story.

**Write a comic book** that tells about your favorite part of the book. The comic strip should be a minimum of six panels. Include dialogue and illustrations in either black and white or color. Create your own comic strip or book online at:  
<http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/>

**Make a shadow box or diorama** displaying your favorite scene. The shadow box or diorama should include written paragraph that describes the scene and its significance to the story.

**Create a life-sized cardboard cutout** of one of the characters from your book. The project must include a written paragraph that tells about the character and about events involving the character.

**Put a check mark in the box that is true for each category.**

	<b>Great</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Okay</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Incomplete</b>
Rate yourself on how much of the book you read.	I read the entire book.	I read most of the book.	I read some of the book.	I read a few pages of the book.	I did not read the book.
Rate yourself on the quality of your project.	My project is wonderful. I did my best!	My project is good, but it is not my best work.	I think my project is okay, but it didn't turn out as well as I'd hoped.	I started my project, but didn't finish it.	I did not begin a project.
Rate yourself on how well you understood the book.	I understood all of it and could definitely explain it to others.	I understood most of it and could probably explain it to others.	I understood most of it, but I would have trouble explaining what I read.	I didn't understand a lot of what I read.	I did not read the book.
How would you rate the book?	It was awesome! I would definitely recommend this book to other people.	Most of it was good. I would probably recommend this book to others.	It was just okay. There were some parts I liked and others I didn't like.	I would not recommend this book to anyone.	I did not read the book.

Tell what happened in the book in 20 words or less.

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Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_