

## SUMMER READING

Dear Parents and Students:

Summer is nearly here, and this means another Summer Reading assignment. This year, your child(ren) that are being promoted to seventh and eighth grades will choose ONE of the following books. Information about these novels is attached to this letter.

The assignment will be to read the novel and depending upon the choice, either be prepared to take a quiz upon returning to school this fall or complete 3 of the projects and write a complete lab report for each to turn in. The report should be in 12 point, Times New Roman font and explain the steps of the scientific method used in each experiment.

By reading during summer vacation, students keep their minds sharp during the two and a half months away from the classroom. Please sign and return the section below. This will be a homework grade and is due on Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Nickolson

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I have read and understand the above information.

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Student Name

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Student Signature

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Parent's Name

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Parent's Signature

## Science Experiments You Can Eat by [Vicki Cobb](#), [David Cain](#)

\*3 EXPERIMENTS COMPLETED WITH FULL LAB REPORTS TURNED IN UPON RETURNING TO SCHOOL

### **Incredible Edible Experiments**

Ever wonder

What makes popcorn pop?

Why cakes rise?

How jelly gels?

Your kitchen will be transformed into a laboratory worthy of a mad scientist as you make startling discoveries about how cabbage can detect acid, how bacteria makes yogurt, and how decomposed sugar turns to caramel. Then after a long day at the lab you can relax and eat your results: soup, biscuits, pretzels, cupcakes, or cookies.

Vicki Cobb's seminal book has been revised and updated to encompass advances in modern technology but still provides what all kids want: a legitimate excuse to play with their food!

## Science Fair: by [Dave Barry](#), [Ridley Pearson](#)

\*QUIZ TO BE TAKEN UPON RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Grdankl the Strong, president of Kprshtskan, is plotting to take over the American government. His plan is to infiltrate the science fair at Hubble Middle School, located in a Maryland suburb just outside Washington. The rich kids at Hubble cheat by buying their projects every year, and Grdankl's cronies should have no problem selling them his government-corrupting software. But this year, Toby Harbinger, a regular kid with Discount Warehouse shoes, is determined to win the \$5,000 prize-even if he has to go up against terrorists to do it. With the help of his best friends, Tamara and Micah, Toby takes on Assistant Principal Paul Parmit, aka "The Armpit", a laser-eyed stuffed owl, and two eBay buyers named Darth and the Wookiee who seem to think that the Harrison-Ford-signed BlasTech DL-44

blaster Toby sold them is a counterfeit. What transpires is a hilarious adventure filled with mystery, suspense, and levitating frogs.

**One Minute Mysteries: Solve 'em with Science!** by  
Eric Yoder, Natalie Yoder

\*3 EXPERIMENTS COMPLETED WITH FULL LAB REPORTS TURNED IN UPON  
RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Not an ordinary mystery book, One Minute Mysteries makes science fun! Each one-minute mystery (solutions included) exercises critical thinking skills while covering earth, space, life, physical, chemical, and general science.