Jackson-Madison County School System
Summer Reading Topics

Research is clear...
- Students are able to build their vocabulary faster when they read multiple books, articles, and other texts on the same topic.
- When students are unfamiliar with a topic, it is harder for them to understand what they are reading and to learn new words.
- Reading several books, articles, and other texts on the same topic allows students to learn more and to learn faster.

What can we do about it?
- For Kindergarten through Fifth Grade, we have identified a list of topics that will be areas of focus throughout each grade level.
- By allowing students to read about these topics in advance, they have an opportunity to begin building background knowledge. This will help them be prepared to learn in class!
- For books, articles, magazines, and other texts on these topics, reach out to the local library and local bookstores!

Kindergarten:
- Weather and Seasons
- Plants and Animals
- Five Senses
- Native Americans
- Presidents and American Symbols

First Grade:
- Astronomy
- Animals and Habitats
- Human Body
- Frontier Explorers
- Fables

Second Grade:
- Cycles in Nature
- Insects
- U.S. Civil War
- Immigration
- Fairy Tales and Tall Tales

Third Grade:
- Frogs
- Continents and Countries of the World
- Peter Pan and Other Literary Classics
- Conservation
- Electricity and Magnets

Fourth Grade:
- Animal Defense Mechanisms
- Native Americans
- The American Revolution
- Ecosystems
- Earth's Natural Formations

Fifth Grade:
- The Rainforest
- The United States from 1850 to Present
- Jackie Robinson and Civil Rights
- Natural Disasters
- Climate
- Earth and the Solar System

The Big 3 Reading Questions...Great Questions to Discuss After Reading!

1. What were the most important parts of what you read?
2. Did you read any new or difficult words? What do they mean and how did you figure out their meaning(s)?
3. Imagine your friend wants to read this. What would you tell them about it?