

HIGH BRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

High Bridge, New Jersey 08829



Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

Before you know it, we'll be welcoming you to **Fifth Grade!** It will be an exciting year, filled with interesting projects, activities and wonderful learning experiences.

Here's what we'll be learning:

- We will read novels to determine character traits and motivations.
 - We will find ratios and proportions and use fractions in mathematics.
 - We will develop our map skills and learn about World Geography.
 - We will use the Scientific Method and will write research reports.
 - We will prepare book reports and projects, practice giving oral presentations and study poetry.
 - We will use Hyper Studio software and develop Power Point computer presentations.
 - Together we will learn to cooperate in a culturally diverse society and will develop respect for ourselves and each other.
 - Each student is expected to be prepared, completing assignments on time and building positive citizenship qualities.
- Conduct independent research and write five paragraph essays.

Here's how to succeed:

- Be yourself! You have so much to offer!
 - Try! Give it your best effort. You will succeed!
 - Be involved. Take part in after school activities. Develop your interests.
 - Write down all your assignments and then complete them on time.
- Expect homework and independent reading assignments daily, including some weekend homework. And remember that there are consequences, including homework detention or a lower grades, when assignments are not turned in.



Your Summer "Homework"

- When you return to school, we'll ask you which books you read over the summer, so **READ, READ, READ**, and keep a list!
- Practice your **MATH FACTS!** We will expect you to **know your** basic facts, including **multiplication** (up to and including the "12 times..." table). You really must have these facts memorized. During the first week of school we will check your recall of basic math, so don't let these skills get rusty.
- You will be doing lots of research next year so, with the help and supervision of an adult, use the Internet to **research** a specific topic. For example, if you're traveling out of town on vacation, learn more about the history of your destination.
- In Social Studies we will be learning about **world geography**, so take time this summer to learn more about what is happening around the world. Watch the news with your family and, on a map or globe, locate the countries you hear about. If you learn the names of the continents and major oceans this summer, you'll be a step ahead!

Some Family Activities

Summer is a great time to relax, explore new interests and spend time together as a family. Here are some ideas and activities for the whole family, to help keep your academic skills sharp and also have **FUN**:

- As you're driving, collect **new words** from roadside signs and try to spell them a mile later down the road.
- Practice reciting **times tables** including multiples of 12. During road trips, recite the times tables together, or challenge each other with multiplication problems to solve.
- **Practice reading maps** and using the mileage scales. Why not use a map of the U.S. to plan a fantasy dream trip and calculate the mileage?
- Talk with family members about your **cultural heritage**. What are your "roots?" What was life like when your parents were children? Interview a grandparent and write his or her story in a journal.
- Visit the **library** and select books the whole family can enjoy. Tell each other about the books you are reading.
- **Discuss current events** over the supper table. What's happening in the world?
- Let the whole family **plan** a week's worth of menus, **and calculate** the costs together.
- **Gather as a family** to watch educational programming on TV – on the Discovery Channel, PBS, the History Channel and the like.

Most of all, enjoy your summer and use the time to keep your mind and skills sharp!

See you in September!

The Fifth Grade Teachers

Supplies Needed

Glue sticks
Pencils/pens
Highlighters
Marking pens for corrections
1/2" blue binder (no more than 1/2"!)
1 pack white notebooks
Marble Composition Book
Protractor
1 pack Whiteboard markers with eraser
scissors
3 folders