

Dear Fourth Grade Students (and Parents),

We hope you enjoy your summer vacation, and we are looking forward to a great start to the upcoming school year. Even though we are not in school, you can keep your mind sharp in the summer months. Our summer reading requirement can help with this!



Enclosed is a novel study for the book *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo. We are asking every student to read this book and complete the whole packet. The novel study packet is filled with different types of comprehension questions to allow you to show that you carefully read the book. You should answer the questions as you are reading the various chapters of the book. Please refer back to the book as you answer the questions. This packet will be our first look at your abilities and effort, so please do your best.

In addition, we are asking that each student also read ONE of the following books listed below. After reading their selected book, they should complete the "My Character Chart" in the back of the packet. It asks them to identify and give details about the main characters in their book. Please note that there may be spaces left over, depending on the number of main characters in the selected book.

**Both the novel study for *Because of Winn Dixie* and the "My Character Chart" should be completed and returned to school by Monday September 11, 2023.**

Incoming fourth graders need to have their basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts mastered before the start of school. The fourth grade Math curriculum is challenging, and not knowing basic facts will put your child at a significant disadvantage next year. Any apps, basic flashcards, and even your child's existing IXL.com account are great tools to use over the summer to help your child with their facts. We look forward to seeing you in September for a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> grade year!

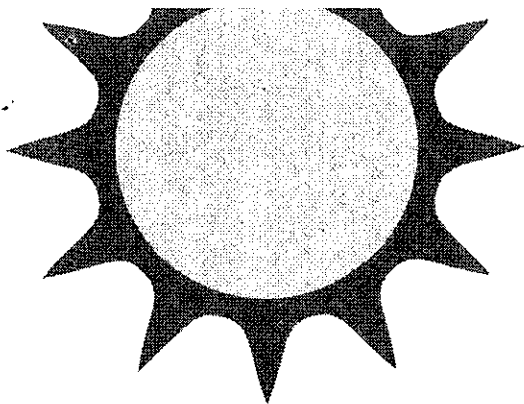
Sincerely,  
Miss Murray & Mrs. Patti

**Book Choices (Choose ONE):**

*Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume  
*Treasure Hunters* by James Patterson  
Any book from the *I Survived Series* by Lauren Tarshis  
*Land of Stories* by Chris Colfer  
*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia  
*The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies  
*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio







# 4th Grade Summer Reading Checklist

## Directions:

Students, please use this summer checklist to ensure that you are on track for starting the new school year off right!

- \_\_\_\_\_ I have read the novel *Because of Winn Dixie*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have completed the novel study for *Because of Winn Dixie* and proofread my work for neatness and grammar.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have selected and read one additional novel from the 4th Grade reading list.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have completed the "My Character Chart" activity for my chosen book.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have practiced my math addition and subtraction facts using traditional flashcards or computer apps. I have demonstrated *mastery*\* in these facts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have practiced my math multiplication and division facts using traditional flashcards or computer apps. I have demonstrated *mastery*\* in these facts.

\**Mastery* of math facts is evidenced by your ability to state the answer to the basic fact with little or no hesitation or delay. This requires memorization of the facts. Regular practice throughout the summer for short periods will ensure that you have memorized and mastered your facts.

*We look forward to working with you in September!*

*Miss Murray and Mrs. Patti*



# **Because of Winn-Dixie**

by Kate DiCamillo

A Novel Study by:

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 1 - 5

### Multiple Choice

1. What does Opal bring home from the grocery store in Chapter 1?

- (a) A bag of vegetables.
- (b) A dog.
- (c) The wrong change.
- (d) Junk food.

2. What or who does Opal ask her father to tell her about in Chapter 3?

- (a) His Sunday sermon.
- (b) What her chores are for the day.
- (c) Her mother.
- (d) The clerk at the grocery store.

### Short Answer

3. What does Winn-Dixie do when the preacher starts to speak in Chapter 5?

---

---

---

### Long Answer

4. At the end of Chapter 5, Opal talks to God about how lonely she feels. a) Why does Opal feel lonely? b) Have you ever felt the same way as Opal does in the story?

---

---

---

---

**A Little  
Extra!**

In two to three sentences, compare yourself to the main character of the story, Opal.

---

---

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 6 - 10

### Multiple Choice

1. What present did Miss Franny ask her father for as a girl?

- (a) A spotted pony.
- (b) A new dress.
- (c) Paintbrushes.
- (d) A library.

2. Opal meets Gloria Dump when:

- (a) Winn-Dixie runs into Gloria's yard.
- (b) Gloria Dump attends a church service.
- (c) Opal takes Winn-Dixie to the vet.
- (d) Opal visits the library.

### Short Answer

3. In Chapter 8, Opal and Winn-Dixie visit a pet store and Opal finds a beautiful but expensive collar and leash set. How does Opal plan to get the collar and leash?

---

---

---

### Long Answer

4. Gloria Dump and Opal meet for the first time at the end of Chapter 9. At the beginning of Chapter 10, Opal tells Gloria everything about herself. Why do you think Opal tells someone she barely knows everything about herself?

---

---

---

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 11 - 15

### Multiple Choice

1. What does Otis do to keep the animals in the pet store calm?

- (a) Feeds them extra food.
- (b) Turns off the lights.
- (c) Plays the guitar for them.
- (d) Pets them gently.

2. What does Gloria Dump tie to the big tree in her backyard?

- (a) Pine cones.
- (b) Toilet paper rolls.
- (c) Wind chimes.
- (d) Bottles.

### Short Answer

3. In Chapter 11, there is a terrible thunderstorm. How does Winn-Dixie react to the storm?

---

---

---

### Long Answer

4. In Chapter 14, Gloria tells Opal "not to judge people by the things they've done." What does Gloria mean by this? Do you agree with her?

---

---

---

---

**A Little Extra!**

*Because of Winn-Dixie* is an example of realistic fiction. Realistic fiction stories are stories which *could* happen in real life but are made up. Can you think of other stories you have read that are examples of realistic fiction?

---

---

---



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 16 - 20

### Multiple Choice

1. In what war did  
Littmus W. Block fight?

- (a) The Civil War.
- (b) World War I.
- (c) The Spanish-American War.
- (d) The War of 1812.

2. What does Opal's father ask  
her to do to Stevie Dewberry?

- (a) Ignore him.
- (b) Fight him.
- (c) Apologize to him.
- (d) Laugh at him.

### Short Answer

3. As Opal reads to Gloria Dump from the book *Gone with the Wind*, what idea comes to her mind?

---

---

---

### Long Answer

4. When Miss Franny offers a Littmus Lozenge to Opal and Amanda in Chapter 17, she tells them the secret ingredient in it is sorrow. Choose two characters from the story and explain what has caused them to feel sorrow in their lives.

---

---

---

---

**A Little  
Extra!**

The book *Gone with the Wind* was made into a very popular movie in 1939. What is a book that you have read and also seen a movie version of? Do you like the book or the movie better and why?

---

---

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding the Story

## Chapters 21 - 26

### Multiple Choice

1. What interrupts Opal's party in Chapter 23?

- (a) The police.
- (b) Winn-Dixie gets sick.
- (c) A thunderstorm.
- (d) A flash flood.

2. What does Opal do when she notices Winn-Dixie missing during the party?

- (a) She hops on her bike to look for him.
- (b) She goes with the preacher to look for him.
- (c) She asks Stevie and Dunlap to look for him.
- (d) She hides under Gloria's bed.

### Short Answer

3. After going missing, where is Winn-Dixie discovered in Chapter 25?

---

---

---

### Long Answer

4. In Chapter 26, Opal goes out to Gloria Dump's mistake tree and tells her Mama that she won't think about her as much. Why do you think Opal says this?

---

---

---

---

# Character Chart

Book Choice:

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# My Character Chart

Draw a picture and record important information about each important character as you read the text.

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## My Character Chart (Cont'd)

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

