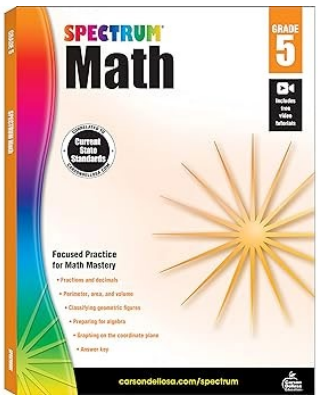
# Fourth-to-Fifth Grade Summer Review

SGS teachers know that some review during the summer is important for three reasons: to help students **feel comfortable** with the work they will be doing in fifth grade, **to reinforce** what was taught over the past school year, and **to not lose academic gains** made during the fourth grade.

**Math:**

Parents often ask us how their child can prepare over the summer for math concepts they will be seeing in the fifth grade. One of the strongest predictors for success for the next year is **RETENSION** of skills mastered the previous year. This means **practicing** skills learned in fourth grade over the summer months, much like an athlete will lift weights to get stronger. You have to actually put in the time and effort to get stronger. The same thing is true for academics. Another crucial key is **mastery of math facts**. Continuing to practice multiplication, division, and reducing fractions for five minutes, five days a week is a fabulous way to build mathematical confidence. You can also challenge your child with some **mental math**. Questions such as, "What is an equivalent fraction to seven eighths?" or, "How much money will we save if the shirt we are buying for $30.00 is 25% off?" Anything you can do to activate their prior learning and put it into practice would be highly beneficial.

To best plan for review, use this guideline: From the report card, any skill in which your child scored below a "2" indicates that complete mastery was not developed, and in turn, needs to be practiced. On skills that they have achieved a "2" they should still practice, but kick it up a notch, and have them challenge themselves. Your child's 4th Grade Math Journal should be their best friend in this regard.




If you would like your child to have a workbook, a good suggestion would be ***Spectrum Math Grade Five***, or for more of a challenge, ***Spectrum Math Grade Six***. These are wonderful workbooks, and relatively inexpensive. These workbooks can be purchased at many different locations, but easiest option is to order them from www.amazon.com, or www.barnesandnoble.com. It is also wise to remove the answer key and keep it in a separate location.

Lastly, we suggest a variety of online math programs. The best being Beast Academy. This program is extremely good at building logic and number sense.

**Reading:**

If you are interested in ways to motivate your child to read during the summer, there is a fifth grade reading incentive. There will be some type of treat offered to those who complete their summer reading form by the deadline at the beginning of the new school year.

There is one book that is required for incoming fifth graders to complete before the school year called, ***The Way of the Warrior Kid*** by Jocko Willink. In addition, your child should read four more age-appropriate books of their choice.

Also, have your student read things that **feed their interests**. This is motivating in itself! I used to tell my children, it didn't matter if it was poetry, newspaper articles, cookbooks, magazines, graphic novels...**just read** what interests you. A good rule of thumb is to wind down at the end of the day with 20-30 minutes of reading.

**Writing:**

For ways to get your child writing this summer, you have a number of options. **Journaling** while on vacation, or at camp is a fantastic way for them to process and remember things while on an adventure. Some students might also like keeping a **photo journal** where they take photos and write a little bit about each photo. www.shutterfly.com and www.snapfish.com are two wonderful websites you can use to make these into books and have special keepsakes of your adventures.

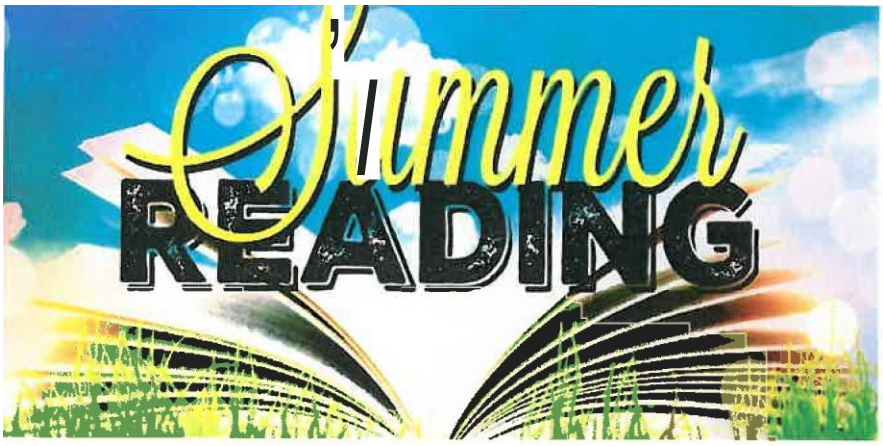
There are two excellent websites for writing stories. www.storybird.com and www.storyjumper.com are great resources for the **writing process**, AND the **publishing process**. So cool!

I hope these tips, tricks, and resources are helpful. Please...ENJOY your summer and make lots of incredible memories together. Remember, "stay-tuned" for the next school year! 😉

GO Dragons!

Kim

# 4th to 5th Grade Summer Reading




In order to keep our students on track over the summer, we are assigning some summer reading. The one-and-only required read will be "Way of the Warrior Kid: From Wimpy to Warrior the Navy SEAL Way: A Novel" written by Jocko Willink. The remaining four books are self-selected

1. Read "Way of the Warrior Kid: From Wimpy to Warrior the Navy SEAL Way: A Novel" written by Jocko Willink'
2. Choose 4 other books - must be 100 pages or more
    a. Please avoid "Esperanza Rising," and "Wonder" - we will be reading those during the school year
3. Have a parent sign the form below for *each* book read
4. Turn this form in before the Dragon Dance - Friday, August 28th -- no late forms

***Every child who completes the summer reading will enjoy a special treat provided by your 5th grade teachers.***

| | Book Title | Parent Signature |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | "Way of the Warrior Kid: From Wimpy to Warrior the Navy SEAL Way: A Novel" written by Jocko Willink | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |