

Dear Students and Families,

Summer is a great time for reading! Our summer reading assignments are meant to provide continued practice over the summer break and to prepare students for our areas of academic focus this fall. The required reading selection will be an important part of our integrated curriculum this coming year, particularly as we work on our biography unit culminating in the scarecrow project. It also ties into our Continent Study of Australia/Oceania/Antarctica. **All summer reading assignments must be completed by the first day of school on August 16.** Students will need to have copies of their required reading books in class beginning the first day. The other summer reading book, each student's choice, will need to be at school with their book project on Monday, August 21.

Upper Elementary students are required to read a total of two books over the summer.

All UE students are required to read ONE of the following books:

- *Who Was Steve Irwin?* by Dina Anastasio

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23281887-who-was-steve-irwin?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=OeRPG8FZKO&rank=1

OR

- *Who Was Ernest Shackleton?* by James Buckley Jr.

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18114172-who-was-ernest-shackleton?ref=nav_sb_ss_1_25

This will be the first book we discuss together at the beginning of the school year. **There is no independent project to be completed for this book.** Work will be done in class once school starts. *All students are required to have a copy of this book at school.*

The second book required for summer reading is the student's choice and should not be a book he or she has previously read. There are many excellent children's books available, including the titles recommended at the link below. This website is just one resource for discovering great books for kids of all ages.

<https://www.readbrightly.com/summer-books-for-tweens/>

***Each student will need to create a project for the book he or she chooses independently (NOT for the class book *Who Was Steve Irwin?* NOR *Who Was Ernest Shackleton?*).** The project should tell the class all the important details about the book your student read (title, author, genre, characters, setting, plot). **All projects must be labeled with the book's title and author.** Students may choose a project idea from the list provided. Have fun and be creative!

Have a wonderful summer and happy reading!