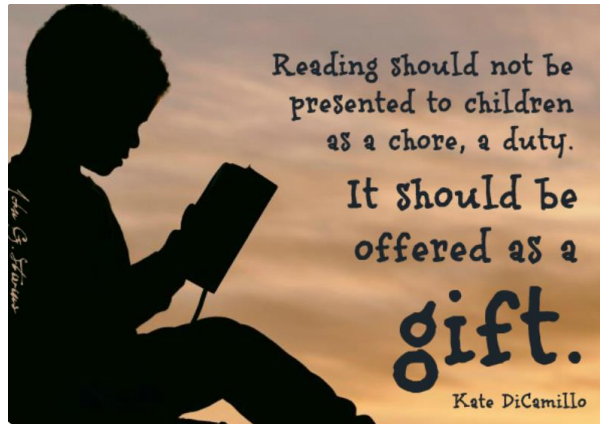


Summer Reading



June 2022

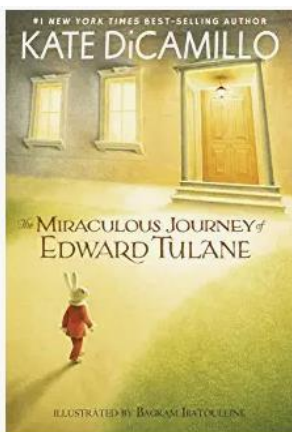
Dear Families of Fourth Graders,

Students need a strong foundation in reading and writing to reach their full potential. Reading outside of the classroom is critical for maintaining and expanding a child's literacy skills, especially over the extended summer break. Research suggests that students should spend a minimum of 20 minutes a day reading. This could be listening to a book read aloud or practicing their own reading skills. Conversations about each book increase enjoyment and connection to texts.

Timberlane's summer goal is simple: Help students connect with books (both fiction and nonfiction) to grow a love for learning and engagement in texts. This will inspire students to become lifelong readers. To this end, we are gifting each student with a book that we hope will be read and reread over the summer.

Students at each grade level, returning to our elementary schools next year, are receiving a book by the author Kate DiCamillo. If you have children in multiple grades, encourage them to share similarities and differences in the books she writes.

Incoming Fifth Graders are receiving:



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo.

Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane. The rabbit was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who adored him completely. And then, one day, he was lost... Kate DiCamillo takes us on an extraordinary journey, from the depths of the ocean to the net of a fisherman, from the bedside of an ailing child to the bustling streets of Memphis. Along the way, we are shown a miracle--that even a heart of the most breakable kind can learn to love, to lose, and to love again.

With this book comes the expectation that your child will read the book during the summer months. It can be an independent reading opportunity or shared as a read aloud. Have ongoing conversation about what is happening in the book and what your child thinks about that.

At the start of the school year, expect your child's teacher to follow up with lessons and activities based upon this beautifully written book. On the reverse side of this letter, you will find author information and optional activities to support reading.

Happy Reading!

One way to share and celebrate reading is to visit local bookstores or libraries and peruse selections. Be sure to check out local area library schedules for events occurring during the summer months!

- Atkinson <https://kimballlibrary.com/>
- Danville <https://colbymemoriallibrary.org/>
- Sandown <https://www.sandownlibrary.us/>
- Plaistow <https://www.plaistowlibrary.com/>

Below are some optional activities to go with your summer reading book, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo.

- Visit <https://www.katedicamillo.com/> to find out more about the author, Kate DiCamillo.
- Visit this link to check out this book trailer before you begin reading.
https://www.yout.ube.com/watch?v=i_Z69eq2Cdk
- As the title says, Edward traveled a miraculous journey. As you read, track Edward’s journey on the chart below. His first owner and name has been added for you.

Place	Owner	Edward’s Name
Egypt Street	<i>Abilene</i>	<i>Edward</i>
Ocean Floor		
Fisherman’s Cottage		
Garbage Dump		
Traveling the Countryside		
Garden		
Shack		
Neal’s Diner		
Workshop		

- Edward is repeatedly lost by those who love him. Have you ever lost something you treasured? How did you deal with it? Tell someone or write about what happened to it and how you reacted to it. Draw or paint a picture of it.
- Throughout his journey, Edward Tulane yearns to go home, which he considers to be Egypt Street. And yet he spends many happy years with people who take him in and give him new homes. Make a list of things that mean “home” to you.
- Bagram Ibatoulline is the illustrator of this book. His full-color paintings and half-tone illustrations extend our understanding of the characters and of Edward’s Tulane’s journey. What other scenes would you have liked to see illustrated? Select one scene or image from the story and draw or paint your vision of it. Write the corresponding caption from the text.
- To print a crossword puzzle based on this book, visit <https://tinyurl.com/p6fr3jbj>

Kate DiCamillo

Kate DiCamillo's writing journey has been a truly remarkable one. She grew up in Florida and moved to Minnesota in her twenties, when homesickness and a bitter winter led her to write *Because of Winn-Dixie* — her first published novel, which became a runaway bestseller and snapped up a Newbery Honor. *The Tiger Rising*, her second novel, was also set in Florida and went on to become a National Book Award finalist. Since then, the best-selling author has explored settings as varied as a medieval castle and a magician's theater while continuing to enjoy great success, winning two Newbery Medals and being named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. She now has almost 30 million books in print worldwide.

Now, for the first time ever, Kate DiCamillo is returning to the world of a previous novel to tell us more about a character whom her fans already know and love. In *Louisiana's Way Home*, set two years after the events of National Book Award finalist *Raymie Nightingale*, she picks up the story of Raymie's friend Louisiana Elefante, who uncovers difficult truths about her past — and makes choices that will determine her future.

Kate DiCamillo's books' themes of hope and belief amid impossible circumstances and their messages of shared humanity and connectedness have resonated with readers of all ages around the world. In her instant #1 New York Times bestseller *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, a haughty china rabbit undergoes a profound transformation after finding himself face down on the ocean floor — lost and waiting to be found. *The Tale of Despereaux* — the Newbery Medal-winning novel that later inspired an animated adventure from Universal Pictures — stars a tiny mouse with exceptionally large ears who is driven by love to become an unlikely hero. *The Magician's Elephant*, an acclaimed and exquisitely paced fable, dares to ask the question *What if?* And Kate DiCamillo's second Newbery Medal winner, *Flora & Ulysses*, was released in 2013 to great acclaim, garnering five starred reviews and an instant spot on the New York Times bestseller list.

Born in Philadelphia but raised in the South, Kate DiCamillo now lives in Minneapolis, where she faithfully writes two pages a day, five days a week.

