

Timberlane Regional School District Summer Reading



June 2021

Dear Grade 4 Families,

Students need a strong foundation in reading and writing in order 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. As students discuss or write about what happened in the book, as well as things the books make them think about, the deeper a love for literature is developed.

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

Incoming Grade 5 students will receive...



All Elliott Harkness wants is to be a superhero. His parents are superheroes. His older sister is a superhero. Heck, even his dog is a superhero. But Elliott has a problem—he’s a “Zero”—which is super-speak for powerless! So, while his family is off fighting crime, Elliott is stuck muddling through middle school.

But when danger strikes and Elliott is Earth's last hope, will he find the power to be the epic hero he's always wanted to be—or will he always be just an Epic Zero? Follow Elliott's hilarious journey to fit in with his family, save the world, and make it home for dinner.

One way to share and celebrate reading is to visit local bookstores or libraries and peruse selections. Be sure to also check out local area library schedules for events occurring through the summer, hyperlinks below.

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

Below are some optional activities to go with your summer reading book, *Epic Zero: Tales of a Not-So-Super 6th Grader* by R. L. Ullman.

- Read another book in the *Epic Zero* series (There are 48 books in the series!) - or another series you like. Compare the two stories. How are the characters and plot the same? How are they different?
- Study the Meta Profiles at the end of each chapter. Create your own meta profile poster using the same format. What will your character's name be? List the character's vitals, meta powers, and characteristics. Add a picture.
- In *Epic Zero*, there are nine different superpower types. If you could choose only one power to have, which power would it be? Write a list telling why you chose this power.
- In *Epic Zero*, Elliott's nemesis is the Worm. In what ways are Elliott and the Worm similar? Make a t-chart!
- After you finish reading the book, visit this website to solve an *Epic Zero* crossword puzzle. <https://www.rlullman.com/printables/>