

Parent & Student
LETTERS



The READING Bucket List

Dear Parents and Guardians,

One of my goals for your children is to instill a love of reading! In the past, your child may have been required to do Accelerated Reader, a reading log, or a specific amount of timed reading per night. While these programs certainly make a child read, it does not address the need for students to read a broad spectrum of texts, and at times discourages the enjoyment reading can bring.

I am excited to introduce a new reading program we will be implementing in our class this year called the *Reading Bucket List*. The *Reading Bucket List* is a way for students to have more selection in their reading, opportunities to discuss texts rather than take a test or record minutes, and be introduced to a wide-range of “types of reading” that they may have not otherwise been exposed to.

Your child has been given a “Bucket List” of reading genres, both traditional and out-of-the-box. Each quarter, your child is responsible for reading 10 texts, totaling 40 by the end of the year. Of those 40 texts, there are 10 that must be completed, 20 that are up to the student, and 10 that can be a repeat of a genre or a genre not on the list. Texts listed on the “Bucket List” are suggestions only; texts beyond those listed are acceptable. Each week, I will conference with your child and discuss their current reading selection.

Your child has also been given a “Bucket List Log,” which will act as a recording tool to keep track of what “Bucket List” items have been read and which texts were used. Naturally, some texts will fit into multiple categories, so the student has the ability to choose which genre they would like it to count. Please note, each text can only count once.

Finally, your child has been given a “Reading Response Menu” and rubric. From the menu, your child is responsible for completing two of these per quarter, totaling eight by the end of the year. These products will be graded. They may choose any text to complete each menu item. Specific due dates will be discussed in class and communicated as they are established.

Thank you for your support in implementing our *Reading Bucket List* program. I believe this will encourage students to build a greater interest in reading and will allow me to have more meaningful and personal conversations about literature.

Sincerely,



The READING Bucket List

Student's Guide to the *Reading Bucket List*

In your *Reading Bucket List* notebook, you will find:

1. The "Bucket List" of genres you can choose from and book recommendations
2. The "Bucket List Log"
3. The "Reading Response Menu"
4. The "Reading Response Menu Rubric"

The way this works:

Each quarter, you are responsible for reading 10 texts to fill up your reading bucket. This makes **40 texts during the year.**

- 10 of those texts are highlighted in red. You must read texts that fulfill these genres.
- 20 texts can be from any category on the "Bucket List"
- The final 10 can be repeats from your favorite genre or a genre not represented on the "Bucket List"

Many texts will fit into more than one genre. You may count it for which ever genre you please, but it may only count once.

Each week, I will conference with you and discuss the text you are currently reading. It is encouraged that you bring the text with you (when possible) to the conference.

After completing a text, fill in the genre, text name, and date on the "Bucket List Log"

During each quarter, you are also responsible for completing two "Reading Response" products, so you will complete 8 of them by the end of the year. This will count as a grade.

You may use any of the selected texts for your "Reading Response" assignments, but please be certain that the text would be appropriate for that specific product. For example, you should not use a comic book for the cartoon strip project. I will set dates for these and we will mark them down.

