

Reading Explorer Challenge

GRADE 4

Pagel Design Co.





READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE

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Welcome to the Reading Explorer Challenge!

Congratulations on taking the first step toward making reading an exciting part of your family's year! This book list and reading challenge are designed to help your 4th grader grow as a reader, explore a variety of genres, and create lasting memories through the magic of books.

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How to Use This Book List at Home

Explore Different Categories

- The book list is organized into fun and engaging categories, such as "Classic Favorites," "Animal and Nature-Themed Books," "Adventure and Fantasy," and more. Encourage your child to pick books from various categories to broaden their reading horizons.
- This approach will help your child discover new genres, topics, and authors they might love!



Set a Reading Goal

- Decide as a family how many books your child will aim to read over the school year. For example, you could set a goal of reading one book from each category or completing a specific number of books from the list.
- To make the challenge even more rewarding, break the goal into smaller milestones, such as reading 5, 10, or 20 books, and celebrate each achievement.



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Celebrate Progress

- Once your child reaches their reading goal, use the included Certificate of Achievement to recognize their hard work! Celebrating milestones builds confidence and motivates them to keep reading.
- You can also create family traditions like a "Reading Reward Night," where you watch a movie based on a favorite book or enjoy a special treat.

Incorporate Reading into Your Routine

- Set aside dedicated reading time each day or week. Even 15 minutes of reading before bed can make a big difference!
- Encourage your child to read both independently and aloud with the family. Reading aloud builds confidence, fluency, and comprehension, while independent reading fosters focus and a love of books.



Choose Books That Match Their Interests

- Let your child take the lead in selecting books from the list. If they are excited about the topic or characters, they're more likely to stick with it!
- Feel free to supplement the list with books from your local library or bookstore that spark their curiosity.

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Why Reading Aloud Matters



- Reading aloud with your child is a powerful way to:
 - Build their listening comprehension skills.
 - Expose them to more complex vocabulary and sentence structures.
 - Spark meaningful conversations about characters, themes, and lessons in the story.

At the same time, independent reading is equally important for building focus, fluency, and confidence. Find a balance between the two that works for your family!

Tips for a Successful Reading Challenge

- **Make It Fun:** Create a cozy reading corner, let your child use a fun bookmark, or add stickers to the reading log for each book finished.
- **Be Flexible:** If a book isn't capturing your child's interest, it's okay to switch to a different one. The goal is to nurture a love of reading.
- **Encourage Conversations:** Ask questions about the story to help your child think critically and connect with what they're reading. Examples: "What was your favorite part?" or "How would you have solved that problem?"
- **Model Reading:** Let your child see you reading too! It's a great way to show that reading is a lifelong activity.



What's Included



- Curated Book List: A diverse collection of books organized by category, perfect for readers.
- Reading Log Template: A simple and fun way to track your child's progress throughout the year. Select from various templates to suit your reading goals.
- Certificate of Achievement: Celebrate your child's success when they reach their reading goals!

Grade 4

Fiction

- ☐ Because of Winn-Dixie – Kate DiCamillo
- ☐ Frindle – Andrew Clements
- ☐ The One and Only Ivan – Katherine Applegate
- ☐ Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing – Judy Blume
- ☐ The Wild Robot – Peter Brown
- ☐ Ramona's World – Beverly Cleary
- ☐ Rules – Cynthia Lord
- ☐ The Lemonade War – Jacqueline Davies
- ☐ The Year of the Dog – Grace Lin
- ☐ Wish – Barbara O'Connor

Mystery

- ☐ The Boxcar Children – Gertrude Chandler Warner
- ☐ Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective – Donald J. Sobol
- ☐ The 39 Clues: The Maze of Bones – Rick Riordan
- ☐ Warren the 13th and the All-Seeing Eye – Tania del Rio
- ☐ Samantha Spinner and the Super-Secret Plans – Russell Ginns
- ☐ Chasing Vermeer – Blue Balliett
- ☐ The Westing Game – Ellen Raskin
- ☐ Greenglass House – Kate Milford

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Adventure

- ☐ Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O'Dell
- ☐ Hatchet – Gary Paulsen
- ☐ The Secret Zoo – Bryan Chick
- ☐ The City of Ember – Jeanne DuPrau
- ☐ My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George
- ☐ The Lightning Thief – Rick Riordan
- ☐ Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library – Chris Grabenstein
- ☐ The Swiss Family Robinson – Johann David Wyss
- ☐ Julie of the Wolves – Jean Craighead George
- ☐ Race the Wild: Rain Forest Relay – Kristin Earhart

Humor and Fun

- ☐ The Tale of Despereaux – Kate DiCamillo
- ☐ The Terrible Two – Mac Barnett & Jory John
- ☐ Sideways Stories from Wayside School – Louis Sachar
- ☐ The Misadventures of Max Crumbly – Rachel Renée Russell
- ☐ I Funny – James Patterson
- ☐ The World According to Humphrey – Betty G. Birney
- ☐ Superfudge – Judy Blume
- ☐ The Dork Diaries Series by Rachel Renée Russell

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Fantasy

- ☐ Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone – J.K. Rowling
- ☐ The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis
- ☐ Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow – Jessica Townsend
- ☐ Amari and the Night Brothers – B.B. Alston
- ☐ The Green Ember – S.D. Smith
- ☐ Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon – Tracey West
- ☐ The Girl Who Drank the Moon – Kelly Barnhill
- ☐ The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell – Chris Colfer

Science Fiction

- ☐ A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle
- ☐ Last Day on Mars – Kevin Emerson
- ☐ The Wild Robot Escapes – Peter Brown
- ☐ The Fourteenth Goldfish – Jennifer L. Holm
- ☐ The City of Ember – Jeanne DuPrau
- ☐ Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor – Jon Scieszka
- ☐ The House of the Scorpion – Nancy Farmer
- ☐ The Lion of Mars – Jennifer L. Holm
- ☐ Space Case – Stuart Gibbs
- ☐ Jinxed – Amy McCulloch

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Non Fiction

- ☐ Who Was Albert Einstein? – Jess Brallier
- ☐ I Am Malala (Young Readers' Edition) – Malala Yousafzai
- ☐ What If You Had Animal Eyes!? – Sandra Markle
- ☐ National Geographic Kids: Weird But True! – Various
- ☐ The Story of Ruby Bridges – Robert Coles
- ☐ The Diary of Anne Frank (Young Readers Edition) – Anne Frank
- ☐ Who Would Win? Ultimate Showdown – Jerry Pallotta
- ☐ Shark Lady by Jess Keating
- ☐ The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers Edition) by William Kamkwamba
- ☐ National Geographic Kids Everything Series (Dinosaurs, Weather, etc.)

Historical Fiction

- ☐ Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
- ☐ Esperanza Rising – Pam Muñoz Ryan
- ☐ Sarah, Plain and Tall – Patricia MacLachlan
- ☐ Riding Freedom – Pam Muñoz Ryan
- ☐ The War That Saved My Life – Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- ☐ Elijah of Buxton – Christopher Paul Curtis
- ☐ Inside Out and Back Again – Thanhha Lai
- ☐ Lifeboat 12 – Susan Hood

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Social Emotional Learning

- ☐ Wonder – R.J. Palacio
- ☐ The Invisible Boy – Trudy Ludwig
- ☐ Fish in a Tree – Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- ☐ Each Kindness – Jacqueline Woodson
- ☐ Out of My Mind – Sharon M. Draper
- ☐ Restart – Gordon Korman
- ☐ The Hundred Dresses – Eleanor Estes
- ☐ Inside Out and Back Again – Thanhha Lai
- ☐ Be Kind – Pat Zietlow Miller

Poetry and Rhyming Book

- ☐ A Pizza the Size of the Sun – Jack Prelutsky
- ☐ Poems to Learn by Heart by Caroline Kennedy
- ☐ Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
- ☐ A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein
- ☐ Rhyme Schemer – K.A. Holt
- ☐ The Crossover – Kwame Alexander

READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

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Seasonal Reads

- ☐ One Crazy Summer – Rita Williams-Garcia
- ☐ Holes – Louis Sachar
- ☐ The Penderwicks – Jeanne Birdsall
- ☐ The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett
- ☐ Over and Under the Snow – Kate Messner

New Favorites

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LOG

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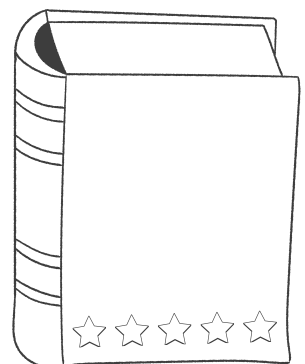
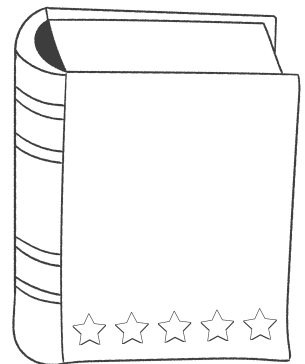
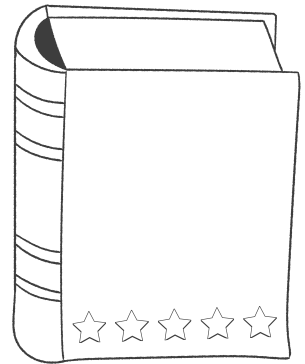
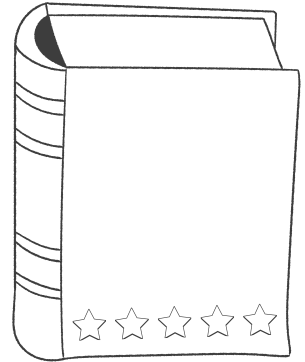
Reading Explorer

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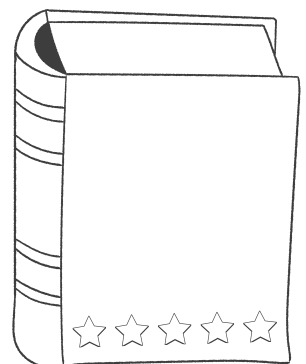
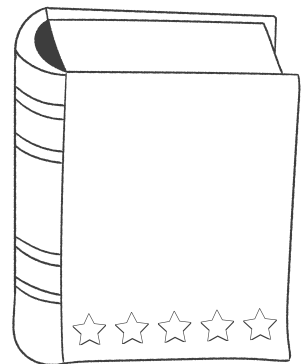
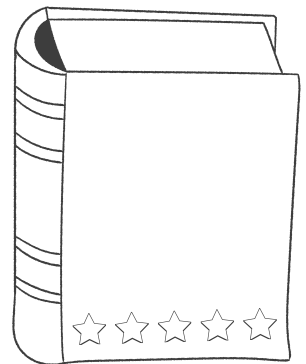
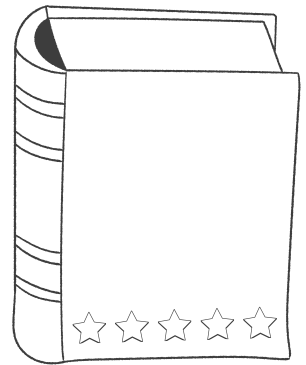
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Book Tracker



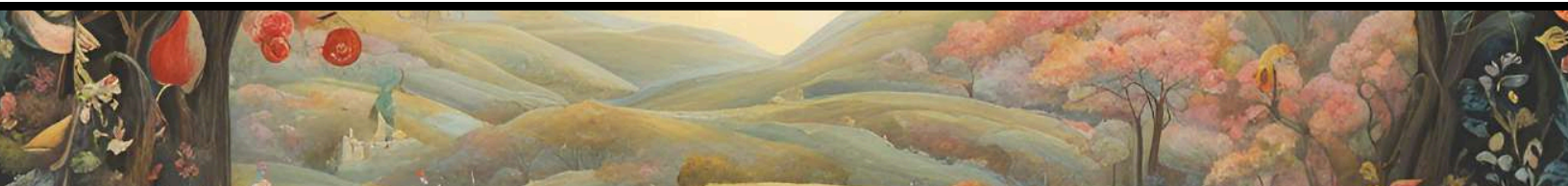
Book Tracker





READING LOG

DATE	TITLE	COMPLETED
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READING LOG

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

COMPLETED THE GRADE 4
READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE

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Date

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Authorized by:

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

COMPLETED A GRADE 4 READING EXPLORER
CHALLENGE GOAL

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