

December 12th, 2018

Dear Third Grade Family,

This week, we introduced the Author Study Cumulative Project in reading class. Students will be applying concepts and skills learned throughout our fiction unit of study to compare and contrast two books by the same fiction author. This project will look different than it has in the past and a majority of the work will be done in class when we return from Christmas Break during Reader's Workshop and silent reading time. Students will be held accountable for using class-time wisely to complete required tasks. Should students not follow this expectation, work will need to be completed at home. Please look at the attached schedule for more information.

Please note, the first step in for the Author Study Cumulative Project is for students to choose their top three **fiction** authors. **Author choices will be due by Wednesday, December 19th.**

Also note, students will need to have **two different fiction books written by his/her author by Monday, January 7th** as we will be starting the research process as soon as we return from Christmas Break.

Thank you,
Your Third Grade Team

Fiction Author Study Project Schedule

Project Objectives:

- Read different texts by the same author and compare and contrast the texts according to the author's style and story elements.
- Research an author to see if the author's personal experiences influenced his or her writing.

You have been working very hard to read and understand the elements and styles of fictional texts. As the fiction unit of study is at an end, it is now your chance to show what you know! You have the opportunity to select one of your favorite fiction authors and complete an author study. To complete the author study, you will be assigned the following items:

	Assignment	Assigned Date	Due Date
Step 1	Choose an author. <i>In order to eliminate multiples, please choose your top 3 that you would be interested in studying.</i>	December 12	December 19
Step 2	Research your author and complete the handout. (complete at home)	December 19	Research handout due in class: December 21
Step 3	Use Christmas Break to find two different fiction books by your author. <i>These will need to be brought to school so you can complete the in class book assignments.</i>	December 21	January 7
Step 4	Read a book by your author and complete Book #1 assignments. (complete at school)	January 7	January 11
Step 5	Read a <u>different</u> book by your author and complete Book #2 assignments. (complete at school)	January 14	January 18
Step 6	Create file folder booklet. (complete at school)	January 21	TBD
Step 7	Present your project.	TBD	Your presentation day will be assigned at a later date

Handouts and directions for each step of the project will be presented to you on the *Assigned Date*. If assignments are not completed in class, students will need to complete work at home.

HAPPY READING!

Age Appropriate Author Ideas

The following is a list of ideas to get you thinking about familiar authors. More author ideas can be found at scholastic.com/teacher/ab/biolist.htm.

Mary Pope Osborne (The Magic Treehouse)

Jeff Kinney

Roald Dahl

Beverly Cleary

Megan McDonald

Ron Roy (A to Z Mysteries)

Jeff Brown (Flat Stanley)

Andrew Clements

Judy Blume

Kate DiCamillo

Dan Gutman

Patricia Polacco

Betty G. Birney (The World According To Humphrey)

Dav Pilkey

Nick Bruel

Suzy Kline

Valerie Tripp

David Adler

Jan Brett

Lauren Tarshis (I Survived)

Gertrude Chandler Warner (Boxcar Children)