



# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2021

Dear Parents and Rising 4<sup>th</sup> Graders,

Here it is! The packet you have all been waiting for! Your very first assignment as 4<sup>th</sup> graders!  
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While you are enjoying your summer vacation, take some time to read in the sunshine! You will be reading two specific books and completing the attached reading questions.

Books:

*Abel's Island*

William Steig

*From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*

E.L. Konigsburg

The attached questions for both books must be completed and turned in by *Friday of the first week of school.* This will be your first graded assignment for the school year!

Also included in this year's summer packet is a "*Summer Scripture Challenge!*" This is an *optional activity* and you are on the honor system. If you complete the challenge, have your parents sign and date the second page and return it to school for a special treat!

If you misplace this packet, please contact the WCA school office.

Have a marvelous summer!

God bless you,

Mrs. Schoenherr and Mr. Pfeiffer ☺

**From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankenweiler**

**By: E.L. Konigsburg**

**After reading the book, please pick one of the four assignments below to complete as your book report.**

**Choose One:**

- 1. Create a game from your book. Use the plot, characters and setting. Bring in the game to play with the class. (Think of the game Clue)**
- 2. After finishing the book, write an additional chapter that tells what happened the next day. What did the characters do?**
- 3. Create a shoebox diorama of your favorite scene from the book.**
- 4. Create puppets and write a script for a puppet show of your favorite scene from the book. Be prepared to share your puppet show with your class!**

**Enjoy!**



OPTIONAL AND JUST FOR FUN!

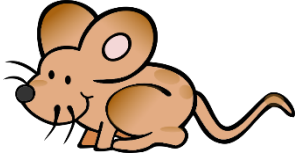
(And extra credit!)

Take your family on a “field trip” to the Cleveland Art Museum!

While you are enjoying the museum, try to find an area where you think that Claudia and Jamie could “set up camp” each night! Write a story about an adventure that they could have in the Cleveland Museum of Art. Be sure to share in your story what they would see, what they would do, where they would sleep, and any mysteries they would solve! We will share these stories together in class at the beginning of the year! ☺

Have fun and happy reading!

Questions for Abel's Island



1. As you read, use the table below to record 3 of the different ways that Abel *attempts* to leave the island.

How Abel tries to leave the island:	What happens:

2. Read the following excerpt (taken from the bottom of page 79-81) before answering the next questions:

*His mind was frozen. It began to seem it had always been winter and that there was nothing else.....the universe was a dreary place, asleep, cold all the way to infinity...Somewhere out there, in the night sky- and it could only be night- were the glittering stars, and among them his, the one he had always known. This star, his, millions of miles away, was yet closer than Amanda, because if he had the will and the strength to get up, uncover his window, and look out, he could see it. He knew, therefore, that it existed. But as for Amanda, father, mother sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and the rest of society and the animal kingdom, he had to believe they were there, and it was hard to have this faith. As far as he really knew, he himself was the only, lonely, living thing that existed, and in his coma of coldness, he was not so sure of that.*

- a. Why does Abel feel like his star is closer to him than Amanda- even though it is millions of miles away?

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- b. Read Hebrews 11:1 in your Bible. What does this verse tell us about faith?

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- c. Even though Abel's family and friends still exist, because he cannot see them, he begins to doubt they are there. Read John 20:29 in your Bible. Do we need to see God to believe that He is real? Why or why not?

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3. In chapter 12, Abel (a small mouse) stands up against an owl (one of the greatest enemies of mice)! As he holds his mouse-sized paper spear, he yells, "Down with unsightly devils! Down with evil of any sort!"

- a. What does this reveal about Abel? What character trait is shown here?

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(This is just a side note ☺ ...does Abel's encounter with the owl remind you of a Bible story? When I was reading, this part of the book reminded me of the story of David and Goliath- when David, a young boy, stands up against a huge giant!)

4. After Abel crosses the river, he says that his challenging year on the island was an experience that "he was now glad he had gone through, even though he was also glad it was over." Difficult experiences are not fun when we're in the middle of them, but afterwards, like Abel, we can look back and see how we learned and grew during the hard times. Explain two ways that Abel learned and grew during his time on the island:

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5. Describe how Amanda must have felt when she walked in her house and saw her scarf lying on the table.

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