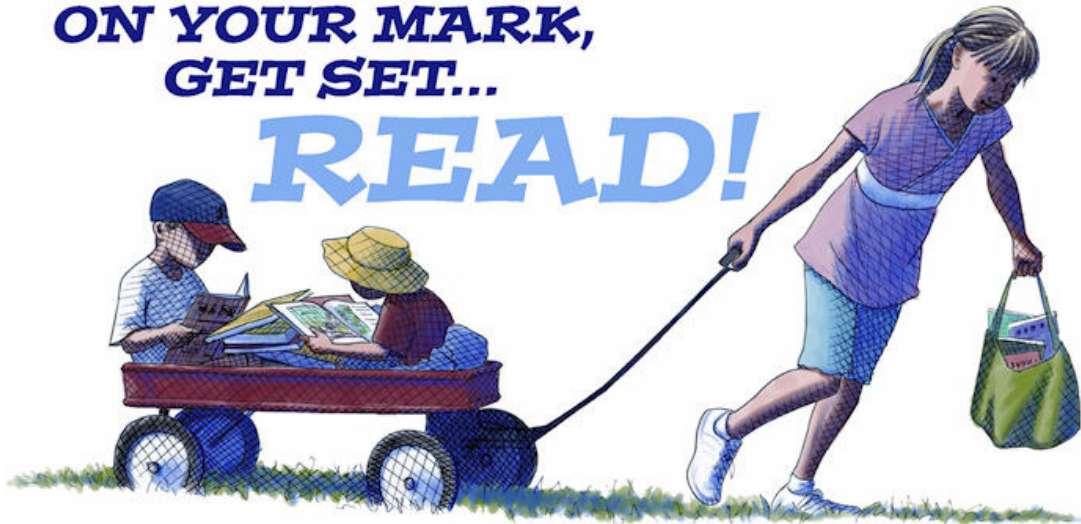


This summer, West School students...

**ON YOUR MARK,
GET SET...
READ!**



Dear Families,

This year we are joining with the Stoughton Public Library's 2016 Summer Reading Program, **"On Your Mark, Get Set... Read!"** Participants are required to keep a reading log, and are given many opportunities to receive prizes throughout the summer for doing so. Children can begin filling in the reading log at the Stoughton Public Library after registering for the program. Please read the enclosed informational letter, and visit <http://www.stoughtonlibrary.org> for additional information.

Even if you are unable to fully participate in this program, please have your child complete a reading log throughout the summer. You can download this log for your child's use. Please bring **ALL** reading logs to school in September. (Reading logs kept at the Stoughton Public Library program will be sent to our school for you.) Children who have participated in the library program, or kept a reading log at home, will be recognized at school in September for their efforts!

We strongly suggest daily reading throughout the summer to help children maintain the reading skills they have acquired during the school year. Please encourage your children to read a wide range of books, across many genres that might include fiction, nonfiction, poetry and biographies, to name a few. Their use of the "Goldilocks Strategy for Choosing Books" will help them in selecting reading material that is "just right". A "just right" book is one that a child can read and enjoy with minimal assistance. The best gains in reading are made when the book is not too easy or too difficult!

We have posted suggested book lists, along with other helpful information, at <http://west.stoughtonschools.org>. **By all means, choose books that interest and motivate your child, whether on the list or not!**

Enjoy a relaxing summer, **"On your Mark, Get Set... Read!"**

Using the Goldilocks Strategy to Choose Books



Too Easy Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a "Too Easy" book for you. Have fun reading it!

1. Have you read it lots of times before?
2. Do you understand the story (text) very well?
3. Do you know (can you understand) almost every word?
4. Can you read it smoothly?



Too Easy

Just Right Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a "Just Right" book for you. Go ahead and learn from it!

1. Is the book new to you?
2. Do you understand some of the book?
3. Are there just a few words per page you don't know?
4. When you read are some places smooth and some choppy?
5. Can someone help you with this book? Who?



Just Right

Too Hard Books

Ask yourself these questions. If you are answering YES, this book is probably a "Too Hard" book for you. Spend a little time with it now. Give it another try later (perhaps in a couple of months).

1. Are there more than a few words on a page you don't know?
2. Are you confused about what is happening in most of this book?
3. When you read, does it sound pretty choppy?
4. Is everyone else busy and unable to help you?



Too Hard

Independent Strategies

Jill Marie Warner

When I get stuck on a word in a book,
There are lots of things to do.
I can do them all, please, by myself;
I don't need help from you.

I can look at the picture to get a hint,
Or think what the story's about.
I can "get my mouth ready" to say the first letter,
A kind of "sounding out."
I can chop the word into smaller parts,
Like *on* and *ing* and *ly*,
Or find smaller words in compound words
Like *raincoat* and *bumblebee*.
I can think of a word that makes sense in that place,
Guess or say "blank" and read on
Until the sentence has reached its end,
Then go back and try these on:
 "Does it make sense?"
 "Can we say it that way?"
 "Does it *look* right to me?"
Chances are the right word will pop out like the sun
In my *own* mind, can't you see?

If I've thought of and tried out most of these things
And I *still* so not know what to do,
Then I may turn around and ask
For some help to get me through.



(Jill Warner is a reading specialist in the Ithaca City School District in Ithaca, New York)