BLUEBONNET PROJECTS

Each year the Texas Library Association selects 20 books as nominees for the Bluebonnet Award. Students in grades 3-5 read at least 5 of these books and in January vote for their favorite. The votes are tallied and sent to Austin where they are counted with other schools throughout Texas that participate in this program. The winner receives the prestigious Bluebonnet Award.

Our class will be participating in this program. As a requirement in my classroom, all students must be eligible to vote in January. In addition to reading the book they must pass the AR test for the book. If they accomplish this they will receive a 100 for AR voting. If they only read 4 they will receive an 80, 3 will be a 60 and so on. (DEADLINE FOR VOTING IS JANUARY 11, 2014.)

In addition, a Bluebonnet Breakfast is offered in May for those students who read 10 of the 20 (third graders), 12 of the 20 (fourth graders), and 15 of the 20 (fifth graders) and pass the AR tests. TEACHERS WILL INFORM STUDENTS IF THIS IS OPTIONAL OR REQUIRED. If a student is eligible for the breakfast they will receive a 100 in my grade book (as well as have a fantastic breakfast in the library). If the goals for the breakfast are not met and it is required by the teacher, the grade will be based on how many are tested on. (DEADLINE FOR BLUEBONNET BREAKFAST IS APRIL 30, 2014.)

We will also be working on Bluebonnet Projects this year. The list of books is included in this packet.

There will be 2 areas of learning that these projects will cover therefore 2 grades will be taken.
1 – Some way to prove understanding of the book’s content (the AR test)
2 – A creative project that allows each student to show a special interest or talent (a list of suggestions is included but students are not limited to these)

I will be requiring 2 Bluebonnet Projects this school year. Due dates are October 15, 2013 and February 11, 2014. It will be your responsibility to find the book. The Red School library has a number of copies of the books as does the public library. You may also purchase the books from a bookstore.

Projects may not be turned in early. Due dates must be adhered to. If a project is late I will take 10 points off the grade for each day it is late. After
3 days of no project the grade becomes a 0. AR tests may be taken in the classroom or in the library. The library is open at 7:30 for tests as well as during our library or recess time.

**SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS TO SHARE BOOKS**

- Act out the story
- Create a powerpoint or multimedia presentation about the book
- Make a diorama or mobile
- Write a letter to the author
- Make a pop-up story book
- Dress up like your favorite character from the book
- Write a poem
- Paint a scene from the story
- Make a poster to "sell" the story
- Write an advertisement for the book
- Make a collage
- Make a banner
- Put on a puppet show
- Write a new ending to the story
- Write a sequel
- Write a commercial about the book
- Make character masks
- Read another book by the same author and compare/contrast
- Write a play or a skit and present it to the class
- Write and perform a song or rap about the story or characters
- Make a time line poster
- Create an information wheel
- Create a mini-book
- Create a jigsaw puzzle
- Make popsicle stick models

**CHECKLIST FOR YOUR PROJECT**

**DO**
- Write a good summary. Be prepared to give it as part of your oral presentation.
- Include the Title and Author.
- Include your first and last name.
- Practice your presentation!
- Be able to tell how the project relates to the book.
- Make connections to real life or to other books

**DON'T**
- Xerox any part of the book. It violates Copyright Law. You may draw a picture or represent the information another way.
So I know you have read this form and understood the directions, please read and sign below and return this sheet with this folder.

The grading rubric for this project is included in this packet.

Thank you for your cooperation and for raising your child to be a student capable of doing such work.

Sincerely,

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teachers
Ms. M. Smith / Librarian

I have read the Bluebonnet News.

Student’s Printed Name_________________________________________

Student’s Signature____________________________________________

Parent’s Signature_____________________________________________  
Date___________________________________________________________

You may not duplicate an idea for a creative project. For example if for your first project you make a poster, you may not make a poster for your second project.