

May 21, 2011

Dear Third Grader Scholar,

I hope that you will have a fun-filled, refreshing summer. I have already started preparing for an exciting new school year and will be reading lots of great books the summer. I feel that it is important that you read great books too. Reading over the summer will not only make you a better reader, but will also allow you to go places only books can take you! Be sure to read by yourself, read with someone, read to someone, and find someone who will read to you.

### **Poetry**

1. Select and read a book of poetry.
2. Pick your favorite poem and type it, handwrite it, or make a copy of it on a copy machine.
3. Ask an adult to teach you how to address an envelope (don't let them do it for you).
4. Mail your poem and illustration to me.

Dallas Bauer  
Topeka Collegiate School  
2200 S.W. Eveningside Drive  
Topeka, KS 66614

5. Bring your book of poetry on the first day of school.

(Please mail your poem and illustration by July 15 so that it can be included in a special book that I will be putting together for the first week of school. And if you are in the mood, write your own poem and send it in too!)

### **William Allen White Children's Book Award Nominee**

1. Select a book from the 2011-2012 William Allen White Children's Book Award nominee list, and read it on your own or with someone. The Master List is attached for grades 3-5.
2. Be prepared to discuss the book with others, including me, when you get to school.

(We will talk more about this list at the beginning of the school year, but be prepared! Scholars who read two books from the list will be eligible to vote online in April 2012 for the William Allen White Children's Book of the Year Award. )

Happy Reading!

*Ms. Bauer*

P.S. These are actual third grade assignments! Your completion of the books and the effort you put into each activity will be assessed and reported on your first quarter progress report.

# William Allen White Children's Book Award

## 2011-2012 Nominee Master List

### Grades 3-5

**The Boy Who Invented TV: The story of Philo Farnsworth** by, Kathleen Krull

This picture-book biography explains how Farnsworth held on to his dream to develop television and the scientific concepts behind it.

**11 Birthdays** by, Wendy Mass

After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

**Extra Credit** by, Andrew Clements

As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other.

**Family reminders** by, Julie Danneberg

In 1890s Cripple Creek, Colorado, when young Mary McHugh's father loses his leg in a mining accident, she tries to help, both by earning money and by encouraging her father to go back to carving wooden figurines and playing piano

**Fortune's Magic Farm** by, Suzanne Selfors

Rescued from a rainy, boggy town where she works in a dismal factory, ten-year-old orphan Isabelle learns that she is the last surviving member of a family that tends the world's only remaining magic-producing farm.

**The Grand Mosque of Paris: A Story of How Muslims Saved Jews During the Holocaust** by, Karen Gray Ruelle

During the Nazi occupation of Paris, no Jew was safe from arrest and deportation to a concentration camp. Few Parisians were willing to risk their own lives to help. Yet many Jews found refuge in an unlikely place, the sprawling complex of the Grand Mosque of Paris. Not just a place of worship but also a community center, this hive of activity was an ideal temporary hiding place for escaped prisoners of war and Jews of all ages, including children.

**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon** by, Grace Lin

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon that cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River.