



Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School

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Dear Parents,

Summer is the perfect time for families to read for enjoyment. As you know, good readers and writers read and write DAILY. Recent brain research shows us that practice is necessary to master strategies that are critical to the success of the reading and writing process. The more students read, the more proficient they become at reading and writing. Your help is appreciated in making reading a part of your child's summer. It is a wonderful time of the year for students to read books for pleasure and to nurture a love for reading.

Before your child enters fourth grade, he/she will be required to read **ONE** of the following books:

- *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume
- *The Cricket in Time Square* by George Selden
- *No Talking* by Andrew Clements
- *Princess Academy* by Shannon Hale
- *The Lost Hero* by Rick Riordan

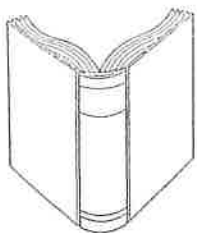
The students will be assigned a book jacket project, as well.

Upon returning to school your child will be expected to take an accelerated reader test and turn in their book jacket project to his/her teacher and participate in a classroom discussion about the book that he/she read over the summer. We hope that reading this summer will be a wonderful adventure for you and your child.

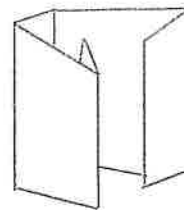
These assignments will be the first graded assignments of the new school year. They will be due on August 12, 2026. Late work will not be accepted.

Happy Reading.

Mrs. Saenz



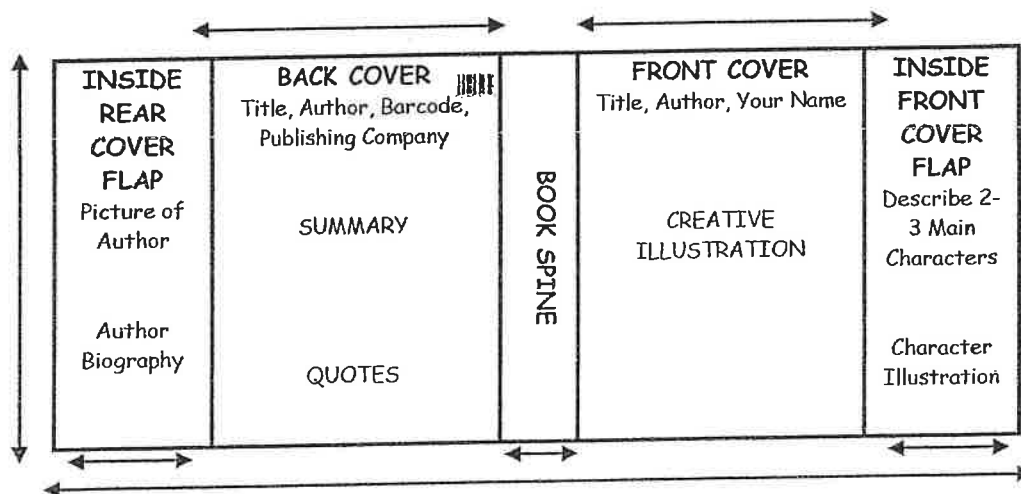
Book Jacket Project



plenty of time to complete your book jacket.

Constructing the Book Jacket:

1. Cut a sheet of oak tag or posterboard 11 inches high by 2 feet long. (any color, thicker paper tends to work better)
2. From the left side, measure in 4 inches and place a light pencil mark. Also place a mark 11 inches, then 13 inches, and then 20 inches from the left side.
3. With a ruler and a pencil, lightly draw a vertical line at each spot you measured from the top to the bottom. The oak tag or posterboard can then be folded inward along the lines. Check the diagram below.



Written Portion:

You will need to neatly handwrite or type each of the written sections of the book jacket. The templates provided should serve as a place for you to write your rough draft. I would prefer that written sections be typed, make sure the margins will fit the panel measurements.

If you
handwrite each section, try paper-clipping a lined piece of paper underneath a blank piece of white paper so the final copy doesn't have lines showing. Please also try to
handwrite the final copy in pen, rather than pencil (if you are not typing it).

BOOK JACKET GRADING RUBRIC

*Front Cover ____ / 15

Design a cover for your book jacket that includes:

- ☐ The title of the book (3)
- ☐ The author's name (3)
- ☐ Your name (3)
- ☐ A creative illustration. This should be eye-catching and reflect an important part of the book. Your illustration needs to be hand drawn and can be in colored pencils or markers. (6)

*Book Spine ____ / 15

- ☐ Use creative lettering to design a spine for your book jacket. (6)
- ☐ Include the title of the book (3) and the author's name (3)
- ☐ Write the name of the publisher at the bottom of the panel (3)

*Back Cover ____ / 20

- ☐ On the **top half** of the panel, include the title and author (2), a barcode (1), and the publishing company. (2)
- ☐ In the **middle section**, write a 2-3 paragraph summary of the book that highlights the beginning, middle, and end of the book. Remember, the summary states the facts, not what you thought about the book. These paragraphs should not include a personal opinion, but should include information about the plot, the characters, and the main events that occur in the book. You can include actual quotes or lines from the book to make your writing more interesting. (10)
- ☐ On the **bottom half** of the back cover, include quotes (2-4) that someone might have said about the book. (Ex: "One of the most suspenseful books of the year!") You can pretend like each of these quotes is written by an important person, book critic, magazine, or organization (like the NY Times). These quotes will include your opinion and should reflect your actual feelings about the book. (5)

*Inside Front Cover Flap ____ / 15

- ☐ On the **top 2/3** of the flap, you will write a brief description of 2 or 3 of the book's main characters. Each summary should be at least 3-5 sentences. Try to include information that is unique about the character and why they are important in the book. You will also want to use strong adjectives to describe the character.

Words like intelligent, sneaky, and honest are better than nice, happy, and pretty, to describe your character. (10)

☐ On the **bottom 1/3** of the flap, you will draw a picture of one of the characters you wrote about. This can be of just the character or the character in a scene from the book. Use colored pencils or markers. (5)

***Inside Rear Cover Flap** _____ / 15

☐ On the **top 1/3** of this panel, you will include a picture of the author, either from the internet, a photocopy, or a personal drawing. (5)

☐ On the **bottom 2/3** you will also include 1-2 paragraphs about the author in this section. Consider the following when writing your author biography: education, where he/she lives, family, other books, awards won, and interests/hobbies. Use the internet to find information about the author if possible! (10)

***Spelling/Grammar** _____ / 10

☐ Be sure to revise and edit your book jacket, checking for correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and well-written paragraphs. (10)

***Overall Creativity & Neatness** _____ / 5

☐ Try and be as creative as possible with your book jacket. Use lots of colors and use your imagination! (3)

☐ Book jacket was neatly put together, without torn or ripped edges or pieces of paper falling off. Written portions are easy to read. (2)

***Construction** _____ / 5

☐ Book jacket was constructed using oak tag or posterboard. (2)

☐ All panels are folded using the correct measurements. (2)

☐ Typed or written portions were done on a separate piece of paper and glued onto the panels correctly. (1)

TOTAL POINTS: _____ / 100

Comments: