

June 2020

Dear Parents,

We would like each incoming fourth grader to read three books this summer and complete a brief assignment on one of the books.

The first selection is ***Just Like Rube Goldberg: The Incredible True Story of the Man Behind the Machines*** by Sarah Aronson. All students in grades 3-5 will be reading this selection.

The second book is ***Because of the Rabbit*** by Cynthia Lord. The third book is a book of choice. Your child may choose books from the list of RI Children's Book Award Nominations at <http://www.olis.state.ri.us/youth/ricba/> or an age and grade appropriate book.

*Please help your child choose books appropriate for her/his reading ability.*

Your child will have a choice for the book report assignment. He or she only needs to do one of the assignments, for ONE of the books. Be prepared to discuss the *Just Like Rube Goldberg* book the first week of school.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in getting your child ready for 4th grade!

Sincerely,

Karen Turner

## Summer Book Report Assignment

Choose **ONE** of the following: (moms, dads, and technical advisors can help with construction!)

- 1) Construct a Rube Goldberg machine of your own to complete a simple task. For example, your machine might pop a balloon. If you are unsure of what a machine might look like, you can visit the site below for inspiration. You will make a video where you explain what your machine will do, what materials you used for construction, and how you constructed it. Your video should also include the running of the machine so you can share it in September with your class.
- 2) A little camera shy?? No problem! Construct a Rube Goldberg machine of your own to complete a simple task, as described above. Instead of making a video, take some pictures of your materials and your completed project to put on a small poster. Then, write a paragraph about what your machine was designed to do and how you did it! You will share the poster in class in September.
- 3) Not a fan of engineering? Well, that is not a problem either! You can write about any one of your three assigned books! You will write a critique about any **ONE** of the three books. Your critique needs to include at least 3 reasons why you liked or disliked the book. You should also include an example or a quote from the book. Your critique should be a paragraph of at least 5 sentences. The critique also needs to be accompanied by a poster of the book's cover, author's name, and title, with the paragraph attached to the back of the poster.

[Rube Goldberg video](#)

[How to build a Rube Goldberg Machine](#)

The book reports are due on the **FIRST DAY** of school! I hope you enjoy having some fun with your summer reading and look forward to you all sharing your creativity when we meet in September. Good Luck and have fun!