

## Summer Reading For Rising 4th Graders

Welcome to 4th Grade! This summer, you will read *The Boy at the Back of Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf. Below you will see a list of projects you can choose from when you finish the novel. Happy reading and see you in September!

All 4th Graders will read: *The Boy at the Back of Class* by Onjali Q Raúf.

Students will A) choose ONE of the projects from this first list to complete about *The Boy at the Back of Class*:

- Make a shadow box or diorama displaying your favorite scene.
- Create a timeline of the major events of the book. Use drawings to show events along the timeline. Label each event.
- Create a comic book that tells about your favorite part of the book. The comic strip should have a minimum of eight scenes or sections. Include comic style illustrations in color and include dialogue bubbles.
- Make a 3-5 minute video recording with a reenactment of one of your favorite events from the story. You may use friends or family members as actors and actresses. Be prepared to share your video with the class when we present our projects.

**And**, students will B) choose ONE of the assignments from this second list to complete about *The Boy at the Back of Class*:

- Write a new ending for *The Boy at the Back of Class*. This new ending should be at least one page long (it can be typed, but the font should be no bigger than 18 either Clibri or Times New Roman).
- Write a continuation of *The Boy at the Back of Class* by creating chapter 27. What happens in the new “next” chapter? This new chapter should be at least one page long (it can be typed, but the font should be no bigger than 18 either Clibri or Times New Roman).
- Write a song that tells about *The Boy at the Back of Class*. You may sing your song with or without music. Be prepared to perform your song to the class or have someone video your performance so it can be played for the class.
- Write a poem about one of the characters and how they demonstrate STJES’ Traits of Success (organization, attentiveness, courage, faith, persistence, positive attitude, flexibility, generosity, and responsibility). Be sure that the poem is at least 10 lines long.

**And**, students will C) choose TWO of the following writing prompts from this third list to write a paragraph about *The Boy at the Back of Class*:

- What are some of the key themes in the book (e.g., friendship, empathy, social justice, inclusivity)?
- What lessons did you learn from the story? How did it change your perspective on certain issues?
- How do you feel about the different characters in the story? Who are your favorites and least favorites, and why?
- How does Ahmet's experience change the characters? What lessons do they learn about friendship, empathy, and justice?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of each character? How do their personalities influence their actions?
- How does the author use humor and lightheartedness to balance the serious themes in the story?
- Have you ever seen an injustice done to someone? If yes, what was your response to the situation?
- How does the story address the issue of refugees? What are some of the stereotypes and prejudices that are highlighted in the book?
- What are some of the ways that the characters try to help Ahmet and his family?
- If you could change one thing about the story, what would it be?
- If you could change one thing about the story, what would it be?
- How does the story relate to real-life situations and events? Can you think of any examples of how the themes in the story are reflected in the world today?
- How can we work to create a more inclusive and compassionate society?
- What is your favorite quote from the book and why?