

Dear Incoming Kindergarten Families,

Welcome! I'm so excited for the year ahead!

Reading every day improves a child's ability to read and learn all year long! This summer, all incoming Kindergarteners are being asked to read the same book, complete an activity at home, and be ready to discuss the book when we join together in class this fall.

Students should read The Big Umbrella by Amy June Bates, co-written by Juniper Bates. While reading, pause to ask questions such as "What do you think the word 'shelter' means?" and "Why do you think the author wrote this book?" After reading, have a discussion about people who are helpful. Your child can reflect on ways other people have been helpful to them, and ways your child can be helpful to others. Noticing kindnesses and helpful moments throughout the summer will be a special family activity after reading the book.

After reading and talking with you, your child should illustrate a helpful act they've experienced or one they've completed themselves. Please send in the illustration on the first day of school so we can all share our ideas throughout our first week.

In addition, your child may want to participate in the Montgomery County Public Library program throughout the summer.

MCPL Summer Reading Challenge:

[https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/programs/summer-](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/programs/summer-reading.html)

[reading.html](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/programs/summer-reading.html) I can't wait to hear about the students' summer reading

adventures!

Smiles!

Ms. Garry