Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to your summer assignment! We hope you're as excited as we are about the upcoming fifth grade year. As part of our summer reading and creative expression initiative, we have selected two graphic novels that you may choose to read: *El Deafo* by Cece Bell or *New Kid* by Jerry Craft. Upon completion of the book, we have a fun and engaging project for you to undertake: creating a graphic novel about your own summer vacation adventures!

Graphic Novel Creation:

1. After reading either *El Deafo* or *New Kid* , it's time to embark on your own creative journey! Your task is to create a graphic novel depicting your summer vacation experiences.

2. Your graphic novel should include:
   - A cover page with a title for your graphic novel.
   - A clear storyline that captures the essence of your summer adventures. You can choose to focus on one particular event or incorporate multiple experiences.
   - Vibrant and expressive illustrations to accompany your storyline. Feel free to experiment with different art styles and techniques.
   - Dialogue and narration to enhance the storytelling. You can write your dialogue in speech bubbles and narration in panels or captions.

3. Your graphic novel should be a minimum of 10 **frames** long (not pages). However, feel free to create more pages if you have additional stories to tell!

4. Be creative and have fun with this project. This is your opportunity to showcase your imagination and artistic talents. You can choose to create your graphic novel using the attached template or digitally using software such as Adobe Illustrator, Procreate, or Canva. Whichever method you decide, please ensure that it is neat and legible.

All projects will be shared during the first week of school. Below is the rubric that will be used to assess this project. Please email Ms. D'Angio if you have any questions.

You are also required to read two additional books this summer. There are no projects for these books, but you must complete a book summary for each of your books.

Have a great summer! We can't wait to see you in fifth grade!

Amanda D'Angio   Danielle Hazard
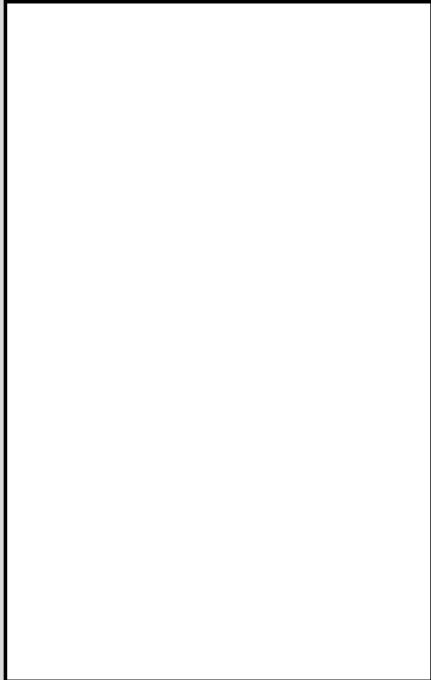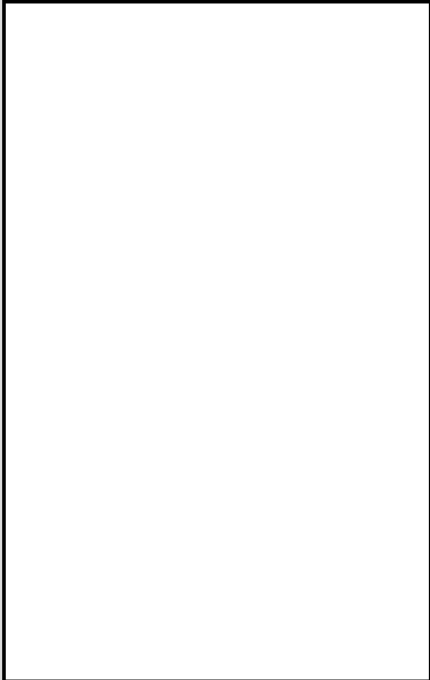adangio@unityschool.com   dhazard@unityschool.com

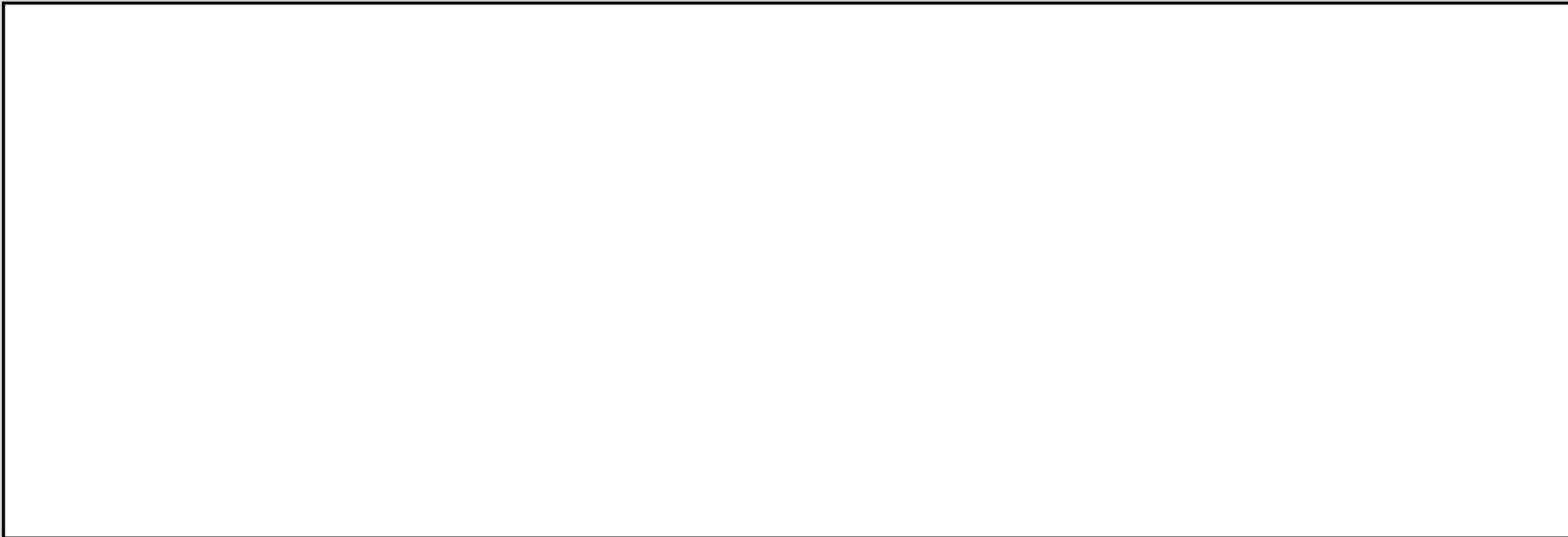# Unity School Summer Reading Program – 2025-2026
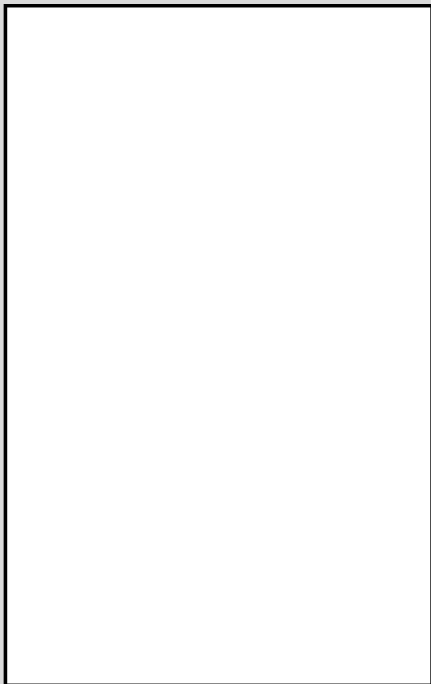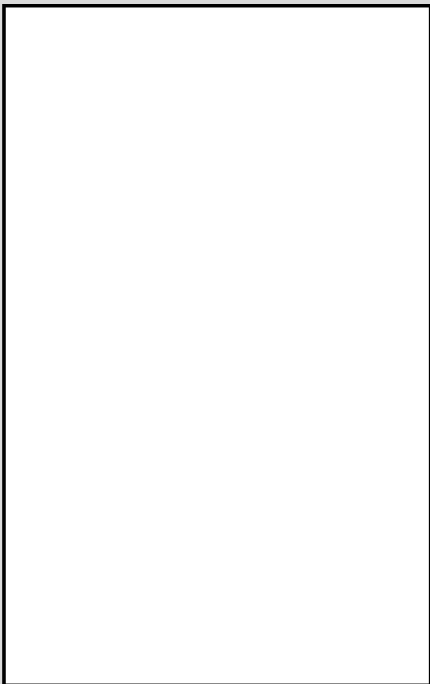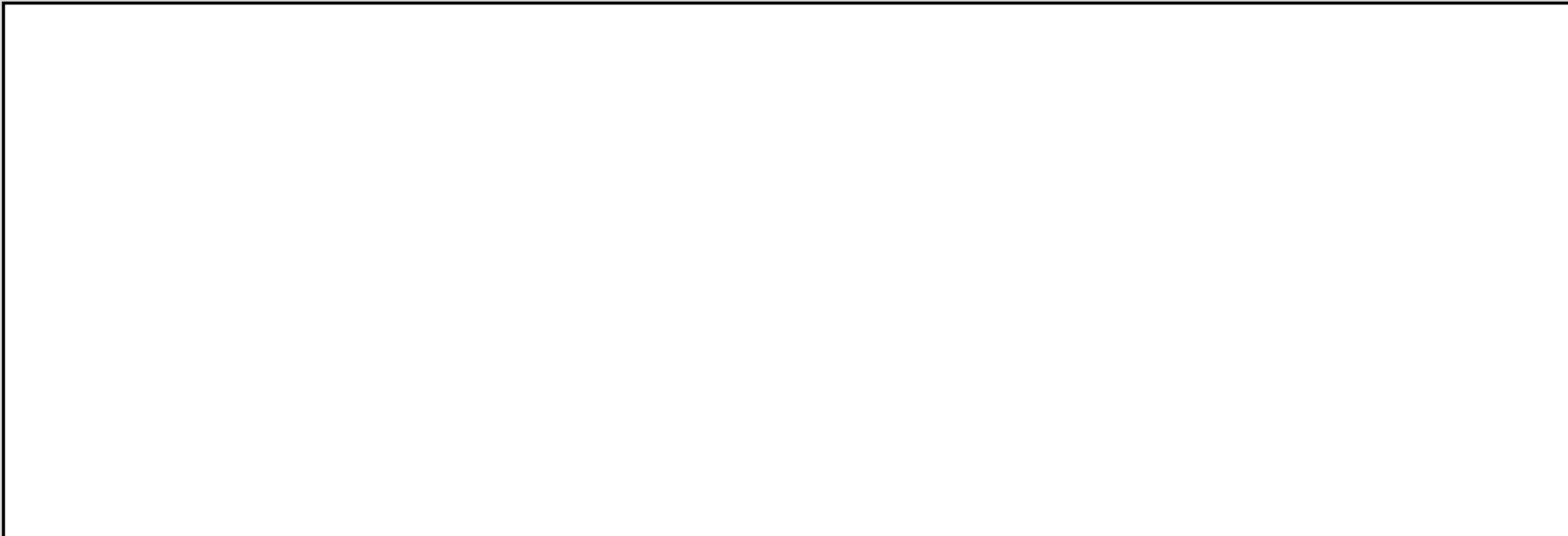## Students Entering Grade Five

You are also required to read two additional books this summer from the suggested list below. There are no projects for these books, but you must complete a book summary for each of your books.

The Girl Who Drank the Moon	by Kelly Barnhill
Framed (Framed Series)	by James Ponti
The Nebula Secret (Explorer Academy Series)	by Trudi Trueit
The Unteachables	by Gordon Korman
From the Desk of Zoe Washington	by Janae Marks
Katy the Catsitter (Graphic Novel Series)	by Colleen A F Venable
A Place to Hang the Moon	by Kate Albus
Amari and the Night Brothers (Supernatural Investigations Series)	by B.B. Alston
Masterminds (Masterminds Series)	by Gordon Korman
Black Brother, Black Brother	by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Clean Getaway	by Nic Stone
The Crossover	by Kwame Alexander
The Tale of Despereaux	by Kate DiCamillo
The Penderwicks (Series)	by Jeanne Birsdall
Sideways Stories from Wayside School	by Louis Sachar
Because of Winn-Dixie	by Kate DiCamillo
Hatchet	by Gary Paulsen
City of Ember	by Jeanne DuPrau

Graphic Novel Rubric

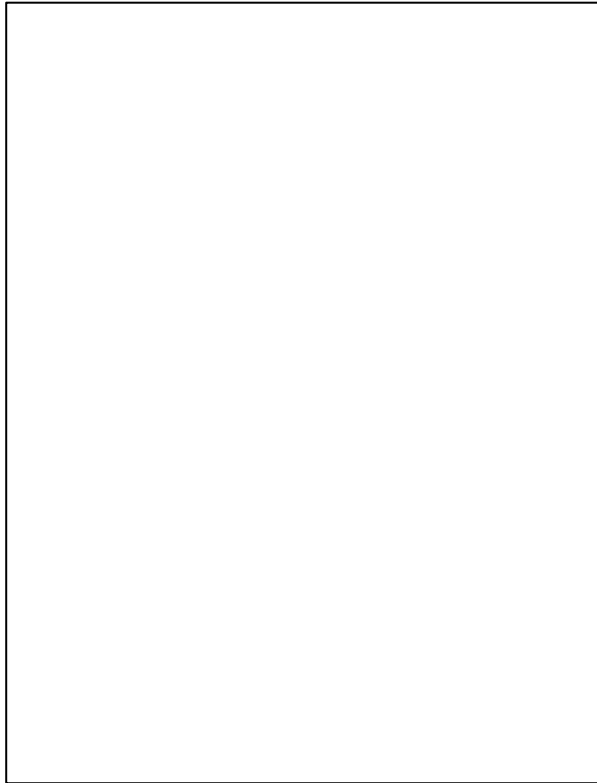| Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Needs Improvement (1)	Score
Storyline + Plot Development	The graphic novel features a well-developed storyline with clear exposition, rising action, climax, and resolution. The plot is engaging, cohesive, and effectively conveys the summer vacation experiences.	The graphic novel has a solid storyline with identifiable plot elements. The plot development is mostly clear, and the summer vacation experiences are adequately conveyed.	The graphic novel's storyline is somewhat fragmented or lacks coherence. Plot development may be unclear at times, affecting the portrayal of summer vacation experiences.	The graphic novel's storyline is poorly developed or confusing. Plot elements are unclear, making it difficult to understand the summer vacation experiences.	
Artwork + Illustrations	The artwork is visually stunning and enhances the storytelling. Illustrations are detailed, expressive, and effectively convey emotions and actions.	The artwork is well-executed and complements the storytelling. Illustrations are clear, and characters are visually appealing.	The artwork is adequate but may lack detail or consistency. Illustrations serve their purpose but could be more expressive.	The artwork is rudimentary or unfinished, detracting from the overall presentation. Illustrations lack detail, clarity, or coherence.	
Dialogue + Narration	Dialogue and narration are effectively integrated into the graphic novel, adding depth and clarity to the storyline. Speech bubbles and captions are well-written and contribute to character development and plot progression.	Dialogue and narration are generally well-done and enhance the graphic novel. Speech bubbles and captions effectively convey character interactions and story elements.	Dialogue and narration are present but may be inconsistent or lacking in clarity. Speech bubbles and captions occasionally confuse the reader or fail to convey essential information.	Dialogue and narration are minimal or poorly executed, hindering the reader's understanding of the storyline. Speech bubbles and captions are unclear or irrelevant.	
Organization + Presentation	The graphic novel is well-organized and presented in a professional manner. Pages are neatly arranged, and transitions between panels are seamless. The overall layout enhances readability and visual appeal.	The graphic novel is organized and presented effectively. Pages are arranged logically, and transitions between panels are smooth. The layout contributes to readability and visual appeal.	The graphic novel's organization and presentation are somewhat messy or inconsistent. Pages may be disorganized, and transitions between panels may be abrupt. The layout could be improved for better readability.	The graphic novel lacks organization and is poorly presented. Pages are disorganized, and transitions between panels are unclear. The layout detracts from the overall reading experience.	

book
Review

Book Title:_____

Review By: _____

Genre: Comedy Drama Horror Action
Romance Mystery Thriller Fantasy SciFi
Other_____

Setting (Time and Place) *This book takes place in...*

Draw your favorite Character, Setting, or Scene here:

Plot Summary

This book is about...

Notable Quote

Said by:_____

Book Rating

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

I **WOULD** or **WOULD NOT** recommend this book to others because...

book
Review

Genre: Comedy   Drama   Horror   Action
Romance   Mystery   Thriller   Fantasy   SciFi
Other_____

Setting (Time and Place) *This book takes place in...*

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Draw your favorite Character, Setting, or Scene here:

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Plot Summary

This book is about...

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Notable Quote

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Said by:_____

Book Rating

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

I **WOULD** or **WOULD NOT** recommend this book to

others because...

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