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# WELCOMING GRADE THREE STUDENTS TO THE LIBRARY

Grade three students will become responsible users of the library as they become more independent in using the library and in following library rules relating to acceptable library behaviour and the care of books and materials. Before beginning your grade three library program, discuss basic rules of library citizenship as seen in the list below.

## Library Citizenship

Keep books in a plastic bag when transporting them to or from the library so that pages will not wrinkle or curl if exposed to moisture.

Use a bookmark rather than bending the corner of a page or leaving the book open flat on its face.

Keep books out of the reach of babies or very young children.

Wash hands before reading a book, otherwise the pages may become sticky or smeared.

Turn pages carefully so they won't tear or wrinkle.

Return books on time so that other children can enjoy them.

In addition to the above you may also want to discuss topics such as honesty in reporting book damage (explain that children should not try to fix a book at home—the library has special 'book doctors' to repair damage), the cost of some children's books, and the concept of taxes (which pay for the library books and make them public property).

# GRADE THREE BOOKMARKS/ LIBRARY READING INCENTIVES



Name \_\_\_\_\_

## WHO IS AN AUTHOR?

An author is someone who writes books for others to read. Authors sometimes write about memories from their own childhood, or perhaps they might write stories of make-believe. Many authors write books because they are interested in a certain topic such as space, history, weather or art.

Authors often do more than write books. Some also teach, some are mothers or fathers, and some are children. If you have ever written a story, then you are an author too!

<b>Make a list of some of your favourite authors.</b>

<b>Would you like to be an author? Why?</b>

*(Use the library to help you.)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## WHO IS AN ILLUSTRATOR?

An illustrator is someone who adds pictures or drawings to the words an author writes. An illustrator helps the words come alive and also helps the reader better understand what she or he is reading. Illustrators can use paint, chalk, pencils, charcoal, textas, crayons or even construction paper or crepe paper to illustrate a book. If you have ever used any of these things to design something you have written, then you have been an illustrator.

*(Use the library to help you.)*

<b>Make a list of some of your favourite illustrators.</b>

<b>Would you like to be an illustrator? Why?</b>

# THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Picture Book of the Year Award is given annually to the most distinguished Australian picture book for children published during the preceding year. The award is considered the most prestigious of its kind. One of the requirements for the award is that the artist be either a citizen or a resident of Australia. The judging panel is made up of eight children's literature experts, one representing each Australian state and territory. The award is administered and presented by the Children's Book Council of Australia, which was established in 1945.

The first award was given in 1956 to Peggy Barnard and Sheila Hawkins for their book *Wish and the Magic Nut*. Since then the award has been given 28 times, with the most successful author being Bob Graham, who has won three times. Authors who have won the award twice include Pamela Allen, Jenny Wagner (illustrated by Ron Brooks), Gary Crew (illustrated by Peter Gouldthorpe), Junko Morimoto (one adapted by Helen Smith) and Margaret Wild (illustrated by Julie Vivas and Anne Spudvilas).

There are always books with outstanding illustrations that do not become winners. The selection committee may, and usually does, choose Honour Books—other fine picture books that have been serious contenders for the award.

## PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES

- Create a display of award-winning books in the library. The display should be accessible for the children to look at.
- Make a classroom chart displaying the titles of award-winning books read by the grade three children.
- Have the children pretend they are the Children's Book Council of Australia, and it is their job to choose a new Picture Book of the Year. Have the children vote for the new winner. They may also wish to choose new Honour Books.