

# MAGNOLIA SCHOOL

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment

All students entering second grade will be required to read the following books:

- *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney (may be read together with a parent)
- One non-fiction book on a science related topic of interest to your new Monarch, at a reading level which is appropriate for her to read independently. Three suggestions of varying reading levels follow, but please feel free to choose from outside of this list.
  - [\*Ranger Rick: I Wish I Was a Sea Turtle\*](#) by Jennifer Bové
  - [\*DK Readers: Bugs Bugs Bugs!\*](#) by Jennifer Dussling
  - [\*National Geographic Readers: Great Migrations Butterflies\*](#) by Laura Marsh

### Journal Assignment Part One:

Writing in a journal is a great way to record your thoughts as you read a wonderful piece of literature. Purchase an authentic, bound journal with lines marked for writing. You will use this journal for this year's assignment as well as summer reading assignments for years to come, so be sure to take care of it. On the cover or the first page, write your full name and decorate it. Remember to do your best work and write clearly and neatly for each entry.

Create one journal entry for each book after you finish reading it. You will have a total of two journal entries about your reading.

First, write the title of the book and the date, and then complete the following in your journal for *Miss Rumphius*:

- Miss Rumphius uses her gifts to make the world a more beautiful place. Write about something you have done, or would like to do, to make the world more beautiful.
- Draw an illustration of your favorite part of the story.

Second, for your non-fiction science book, write the title of the book and the date, and then complete the following:

- Using complete sentences, share two facts about the topic you read about.
- Draw one illustration related to your topic.

### Journal Assignment Part Two:

Read the following poems by Robert Louis Stevenson aloud: "The Cow," "The Land of Counterpane," "Singing," and "The Swing" (These poems can be found in *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

Choose one poem to copy into your journal, memorize it, and be ready to recite it on the first day of school. As you copy your poem into your journal, pay special attention to your handwriting. You are free to use colored pencils, pens, or special markers to make your handwritten copy of the poem beautiful. **Your summer reading assignment will be due on the first day of school and will be for a grade. Have fun reading!**

**“The Cow”**

**by Robert Louis Stevenson**

The friendly cow, all red and white,  
I love with all my heart:  
She gives me cream with all her might,  
To eat with apple tart.

She wanders lowing here and there,  
And yet she cannot stray,  
All in the pleasant open air,  
The pleasant light of day;

And blown by all the winds that pass  
And wet with all the showers,  
She walks among the meadow grass  
And eats the meadow flowers.

**“The Land of Counterpane”**

**by Robert Louis Stevenson**

When I was sick and lay a-bed,  
I had two pillows at my head,  
And all my toys beside me lay,  
To keep me happy all the day.

And sometimes for an hour or so  
I watched my leaden soldiers go,  
With different uniforms and drills,  
Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

And sometimes sent my ships in fleets  
All up and down among the sheets;  
Or brought my trees and houses out,  
And planted cities all about.

I was the giant great and still  
That sits upon the pillow-hill,  
And sees before him, dale and plain,  
The pleasant land of counterpane.

**“Singing”**

**by Robert Louis Stevenson**

Of speckled eggs the birdie sings  
And nests among the trees;  
The sailor sings of ropes and things  
In ships upon the seas.

The children sing in far Japan,  
The children sing in Spain;  
The organ with the organ man  
Is singing in the rain.

**“The Swing”**

**by Robert Louis Stevenson**

How do you like to go up in a swing,  
Up in the air so blue?  
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing  
Ever a child can do!

Up in the air and over the wall,  
Till I can see so wide,  
Rivers and trees and cattle and all  
Over the countryside—

Till I look down on the garden green,  
Down on the roof so brown—  
Up in the air I go flying again,  
Up in the air and down!