

### Why it's important

Nonfiction books present many opportunities to learn new concepts and vocabulary, as well as expand a child's view of the world. Reading for information is a vital life skill. Nonfiction is "real-world" reading. A large portion of the reading students have to do for school will be nonfiction. Studies have shown that the majority of reading by adults is nonfiction. Students will need to prepare for that reality. Additionally, many children may actually prefer nonfiction reading. It allows them to read about topics they have a special interest in and enjoy.

### Here are some tips and strategies for getting the most out of nonfiction books:

- Check out the table of contents and examine section headings. Have your student make predictions about the content based on the headings and table of contents.
- In most cases, try reading nonfiction books more slowly than fiction.
- Many nonfiction books include helpful sections at the back of the book. Check the back of the text for a glossary, activities and questions, additional resources, index, and other possible sections.
- Re-read text if necessary.
- In nonfiction, the illustrations, charts, maps, and other graphics are important, and may contain info that is not included in the main body of text.
- Make connections, wonder about the text, and check for understanding. Ask your student, what do they already know about this topic? How does this topic affect daily life? What questions about this topic do you think will get answered as you read? What details stand out to you in the text? In the images and graphics? What facts did you learn?

### 3rd Grade Reading Challenge

Students spend kindergarten, first, and second grades **learning to read**. Now, in third grade, teachers expect them to begin the shift to **reading to learn**. While your student may have to occasionally sound words out or use context clues to figure out a meaning, much more of their focus will be on gaining the skills needed to understand more complex texts.

#### These skills include:

- Identifying and discussing key details and how they relate to a main idea.
- Using different text features such as key words and sidebars to increase comprehension.
- Differentiating their points of view from that of the author.
- Recognizing how illustrations can aid in comprehension.
- Building on preexisting knowledge with new information found in reading material.

#### How to Participate

Students choose **25 nonfiction titles and record them on their reading log** as they read over the course of this academic year. Remember to ask for one of our Challenge packets and get registered at the library to get the latest news. Students choose three titles from each category and ten books on any topic they select. Students are welcome to log nonfiction books they have been assigned in school. When they finish all 25 books, they can come to the library to receive a special sticker, a certificate of completion, and a **free book**.

*This Reading Challenge has been adapted for use at GLADL, from a program created by Clinton-Macomb Public Library, and is used with their permission.*



## TRUE 25 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE READING CHALLENGE

131 E. Jefferson St. Grand Ledge, MI  
Phone: 517.627.7014 Web: gladl.org

#### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm  
Friday & Saturday 10am - 5pm  
Sunday 1pm - 5pm

**I accept the challenge!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# True 25 Categories

**Choose 3 books for each of the following 5 categories.** Below find some suggestions to get you started:

## Animals

J 590s (Insects, fish, birds, mammals, etc.)

J 636s (Pets & pet care)

Wild Animal Kingdom series

## Biography

J 920s (Biographies)

J B (Biographies under last name of person)

Who Was series

## Cultures & Places

J 300s (Customs, cultures, legends, etc.)

Cultures of the World series

It's My State! series

## Science

J 520s-550s (Astronomy, physics, chemistry, earth science)

Let's-read-and-find-out Science series

Magic School Bus series

## History

J 970s (American history)

J 930s (Ancient history, Ancient Greece, Rome, Ancient Egypt, etc.)

Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales series

## Choose 10 books -- Non-Fiction of your choice:

How-to books, environmental books, art books etc.

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