

RSU 38 KVBA Program

To help us reach our goal of creating life-long interest in reading by literate individuals, we have a new KVBA program. This program is aligned with the English Language Arts Common Core Standards, and is tailored to help children learn how to read, enjoy and think deeply about high quality, contemporary literature. Teachers and parents model these behaviors by sharing books with children, providing time to read and talk about books, and offering choice about what to read, and how to respond to text.

Each year, the KVBA book titles feature new books in a variety of genres, selected by our district's elementary librarians. These titles are available in our school and town libraries (Lithgow library in Augusta also displays these books). For those who wish to purchase any of the titles, Barnes & Noble in Augusta has the books available.

We encourage students to read from the KVBA booklist throughout the school year. Our goal for the 2012-2013 school year is 100% participation in Grades 3-4-5! Third graders need to read 6 books; fourth and fifth graders need to read 10. Although we rarely can obtain reading levels for these new titles, we depend upon student judgement using our "Good Fit" book choosing criteria (P=Purpose, I=Interest, C=Comprehend and K=I Know most of the words). There are 37 books on the list, allowing a variety of choice to match student interests. It is not intended that students read every book on the list! In fact, there are some books that will be challenging for students to comprehend without supplemental instruction, and our teachers will be using these in their classrooms.

Students are required to complete KVBA Book Records for every book read over the summer. Once the school year begins, students will be expected to complete an activity for each book read. During the school year, students can join book clubs with school staff, do a book talk for their class, or blog about their favorites.

Students can read KVBA books on their own, with a sibling, parent or friend. Teachers can also read aloud books to students and work with the class on a project, although much of the child's reading from the list will be independent, unless there are special circumstances. School librarians will keep track of student progress, and students who read 20 or more books from the list will enjoy a special reward at the end of the year.

In the spring, each school, or pairs of schools will host a schoolwide celebration of KVBA reading, featuring student created projects including artwork and character costume design.