END OF THE YEAR READ ALOUDS

Even upper elementary students love read alouds, especially at the end of the year. The end of the year is a great time to read short picture books as most of the time your novels or class read alouds have been wrapped up.

These printables go along with three of my favorite end-of-the-year read alouds for third, fourth, and fifth graders.

To read the complete blog post and get ideas for using the printables, **click here or on the image below**.

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End of the Year LITERACY
4TH & 5TH GRADE ACTIVITIES
PRINTABLE & DIGITAL

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End of the Year MATH
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My Teacher Likes to Say

If you have never watched your students impersonate you (and not in a mean way), you are missing out. It cracks me up every year that the students seem to pick up on my mannerisms and sayings very easily. They often pick up on things that I am not even aware of. This end of year read aloud is perfect for letting the students show you just how much they have picked up on.

My Teacher Likes to Say is full of common idioms and other sayings that teachers may say. As you read aloud the book to your students, discuss the sayings, their meanings, and whether or not you say each one (or something similar).

The other aspect of the book that I like is that the student doesn't seem to understand the sayings, so he or she gives his/her own meanings to them, often taking a literal interpretation. This would make a fun activity for the students to do with things you say.

They could choose a phrase that you say often, write a quick paragraph/poem in the same format as the read aloud, and then illustrate it.

You can find the printables for this book on pages 4-7 of this PDF.

My Teacher Likes to Say

"
_____

_____

_____,"

my teacher likes to say. I'm not sure what she means, but I like it anyway.

_____

_____

_____

_____

My Teacher Likes to Say

My teacher likes to say…	The saying could be misunderstood to mean…	The saying really means…

5 Things My Teacher Likes to Say...

①	
②	
③	
④	
⑤	

3 Things My Teacher Likes to Say...

①

②

③

Last Day Blues

This cute end of the year read aloud is about a group of students reminiscing about the school year and what they will miss. They also share what they are looking forward to. This lends perfectly into a quick writing activity where the students make lists or poems about the parts of school they will miss and what they will look forward to.

In the book, the students are also very worried that their teacher will miss them and be miserable over summer. Throughout the book, they brainstorm the perfect gift for her. As a fun end of the year activity, the students could figure out what would make the perfect gift for you and why they think that. You could even have the students present their gift ideas to the class and have the class vote on which gift they think you would like the most. You could make it realistic gifts or let them go all out, even making up gift ideas that don't exist.

My favorite part of this read aloud is the end when the author reveals that the teacher is just as excited for summer break as the students. This will probably not come as a surprise to many of your students, but it is still a cute little twist.

You can find the printables for this book on pages 9-11 of this PDF.

Last Day Blues

Directions: Make a list of what or who you will miss and what you can't wait to do or what will happen over summer vacation.

I will miss…	I can't wait for…

Last Day Blues - The Perfect Gift

Directions: Brainstorm three gifts that would be perfect for your teacher. Then write the reasons why those gifts are perfect.

The Perfect Gift	Reasons Why It Is the Perfect Gift
①	
②	
③	

Last Day Blues - The Perfect Gift

Directions: Brainstorm a gift that would be perfect for your teacher. Then write the reasons why you think that gift is perfect for you teacher.

GIFT: _____

REASON #1

REASON #2

REASON #3

REASON #4

Mrs. Spitzer's Garden

This short read aloud contains an extended metaphor, comparing gardening to teaching. At the beginning of the book (which is set at the end of the summer), the principal gives Mrs. Spitzer a packet of seeds and she tends to them all year.

For this end of year read aloud, you can have the students find the activities and objects that are similar to teaching or objects found in a classroom (the flowers are like students, the tools she uses are like books and activities, tending to the garden is like teaching, etc.).

Another activity is to have the students brainstorm other activities that can be compared to teaching and write similar stories or simply write about those comparisons.

Here are some ideas we have come up with in the past:
- ✓ Running a zoo
- ✓ Raising children/raising a family
- ✓ Building a house

You can find the printables for this book on pages 13-14 of this PDF.

Mrs. Spitzer's Garden

Directions: In the table, record some of the activities that Mrs. Spitzer does or objects she uses or interacts with. Then write about how those activities or objects are similar to teaching or objects found in schools.

Activity/Object	How It is Similar to Teaching

Mrs. Spitzer's Garden - Your Turn

Besides gardening, what else can be compared to teaching?

_____

Directions: Complete the chart with specific activities/objects and how they are similar to teaching or objects found at school.

Activity/Object	How It is Similar to Teaching

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Thanks!
Jennifer Findley