A WRITER’S NOTEBOOK: UNLOCKING THE WRITER WITHIN YOU
BY RALPH FLETCHER

Student Packet

Return completed packet to classroom teacher by the first day of school.

NAME ________________________________________________
Dear New Fifth Grade Student,

We are very excited to meet you and begin a brand new year with you in Fifth Grade! This coming year our fifth grade team will be working on writing workshop, in which writing will focus on your ideas, thoughts, wonderings, and development as a writer. We have many activities and lessons planned to help you unlock the writer inside of you. Ralph Fletcher is an author of many books, and has written a book about being a writer called A Writer’s Notebook. Please take the time to read his book, A Writer’s Notebook, and complete the activities that are attached to this letter.

This book and activity you complete will be used in class throughout Fifth Grade in Writing Workshop to help create your own Writer’s Notebook. As you read the book, it will explain how to complete the activities in the packet that is attached. Some of the activities will require you to collect items over the summer, so it is important to work on this project throughout the summer. Please plan your time throughout the summer to complete your best work. Please complete all of the following activities and **bring this packet and book to class the first day of Fifth Grade.**

Sincerely,

Your Fifth Grade Teachers
Ralph Fletcher wrote about Unforgettable stories. After reading the chapter on “Unforgettable Stories,” think of this quote,

“What moves you? What stories keep tumbling around through your mind even when you try not to think about them? Jot them down.”

In the space provided, jot them down.
After Reading, “FIERCE WONDERINGS”, write down your thoughts and wonderings in the space provided below based on the information given by Ralph Fletcher.

“Real wonder is hard to fake”
Mind Pictures

Use this page to capture the mind pictures you take of the world around you.
Throughout the summer, find quotes, articles, writing from different sources, and cut out and paste, or copy them onto this page.
After reading Snatches of Talk, record them down throughout the summer in the area provided below.
After reading the section Memories, use the section below to record, cut and paste, your memories.