



Dear Parents,

I know that this year has been a different and challenging year in so many ways. We have been so blessed to have been in school and with our students in person. It's always so rewarding to see them grow as learners and as people.

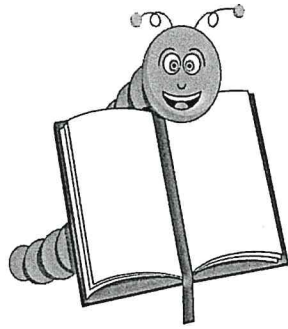
They have made amazing progress and have learned so much. You may have heard about the "summer slide". I had always heard that term too and didn't realize just how serious it could be until I started working with the same students year after year. Students who do not read over the summer, especially our younger students, may come back to school in the fall 2 levels or more below where they left. It often takes until November to get back to the level they were at when they left in June. My challenge to you this summer is to not let that happen. I know how busy summer can be and how much we all deserve a lot of rest and relaxation after this crazy year we have had but I challenge you to make reading a fun part of your summer routine. Set aside a few minutes a day or even 30 minutes 3x per week for reading. Take a book to the park as part of a picnic, read under the shade of a tree on a hot day or on the porch with a glass of lemonade, read at night with a flashlight under the stars or in a tent, have a "book club" meeting at dinner where you all discuss something you are reading ....so many ideas and ways to make reading fun!

Most of our local libraries have wonderful summer reading programs. I know they may look a little different this year but please check into them if you can. They will help motivate your child to read and I'm sure they will have fun along the way. Check out [:www.summerreadingnys.org/parents-find-your-library/](http://www.summerreadingnys.org/parents-find-your-library/) where you can find information for every library in Jefferson County.

We have put together packets for you to download and print at home to help encourage reading and writing over the summer. If you don't have access to a printer and would like these pages printed, please let the school know and we can make the copies here for you.

I wish you a summer filled with family, faith and fun. Happy reading!

Mrs Patti McElheran  
patti.mcelheran@ihcschool.org



## Reader's Oath

I promise to read  
Each day and each night.  
I know it's the key  
To growing up right.

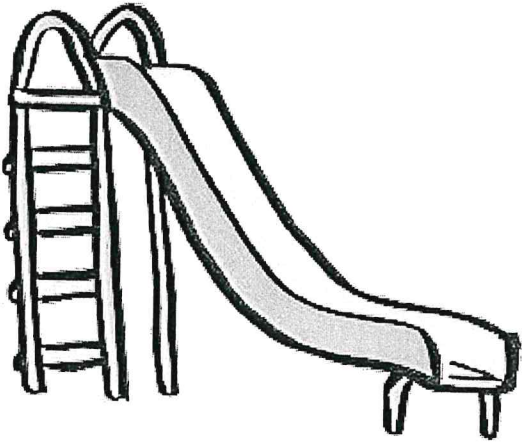
I'll read to myself  
I'll read to a crowd.  
It makes no difference  
If silent or loud.

I'll read at my desk  
At home and at school.  
On my bean bag or bed,  
By the fire or pool.

Each book that I read  
Puts smarts in my head.  
'Cause brains grow more thoughts  
The more they are fed.

So I take this oath  
To make reading my way  
Of feeding my brain  
What it needs every day.

# How to Avoid the "Summer Slide"



Experts agree that children who read during the summer gain reading skills, while those who do not often slide backward. According to the authors of a report from the National Summer Learning Association: "A conservative estimate of lost instructional time is approximately two months or roughly 22 percent of the school year.... It's common for teachers to spend at least a month re-teaching material that students have forgotten over the summer. That month of re-teaching eliminates a month that could have been spent on teaching new information and skills."

1. **Six books to summer success:** Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right – not too hard and not too easy.
2. **Visit the local library:** Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. The public library has summer reading programs that motivate kids to read, so find out what's available in your area.
3. **Keep Reading Aloud:** Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so they will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This increases student knowledge and expand their experience with text, so that students will do better when they read on their own.
4. **Set a good example:** When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book, magazine or newspaper, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
5. **MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Find time to read EVERY DAY. Students don't have to sit down for 30 minutes at a time...read anytime (in the car, in a waiting room for appointments, when it's too hot to go outside, beside the pool)...ANYTIME is a good time to read!)



# Summer Fun

My Summertime Goals...

A Picture of My Favorite Summer Activity

The Things I Will Miss Most About School...

This Summer I Will...



# READING BINGO CHALLENGE

Get 4 in a row, 4 corners, or play for a black out card to win!

|                               |                                |  |                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Read a Book with a Flashlight | Read a Funny Book              | Read a Book to an Animal (real or stuffed) | Read a Book About Transportation     |
| Read a Book About Animals     | Read a Book to a Younger Child | Read a Book with a One Word Title          | Read a Poem                          |
| Read to a Grandparent         | Read a Book that Rhymes        | Read a Fairy Tale Book                     | Read a Book Outside                  |
| Read Your Favorite Book       | Read a Book About Bugs         | Read Inside a Blanket Fort                 | Read to Your Family During Breakfast |

**REWARD:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Summer Reading Log

Title

Author

#of pages/  
minutes

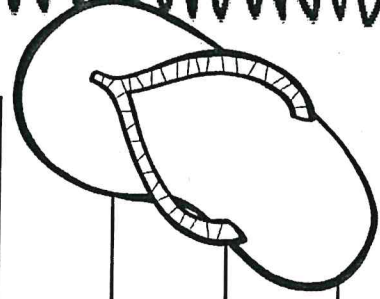
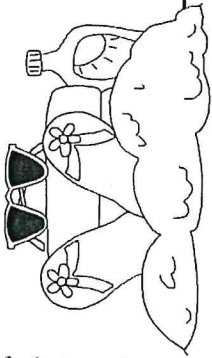
Parent  
Initials



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# I'm Flipping out Over

Summer because...



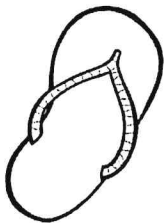
© Rick Wins 2013

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# I'm Flipping Out Over...

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| s | n | s | u | n | x | i | c | f | r |
| p | o | w | t | y | f | b | o | e | k |
| o | i | i | f | a | r | y | l | v | q |
| l | t | m | r | s | k | a | z | h | b |
| f | a | m | i | e | x | e | n | u | l |
| p | c | i | e | i | o | a | s | v | p |
| i | a | n | n | v | b | e | a | c | h |
| l | v | g | d | o | j | x | d | t | e |
| f | u | n | s | m | o | z | m | g | c |

beach  
movies  
Sun



Swimming  
vacation  
friends



fun  
flip flops  
relaxing





Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Words to FLIP over!

Write the following words in ABC order:

beach  
vacation

movies  
friends

sun  
fun

swimming  
flip flops

relaxing

warm



\_\_\_\_\_



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\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



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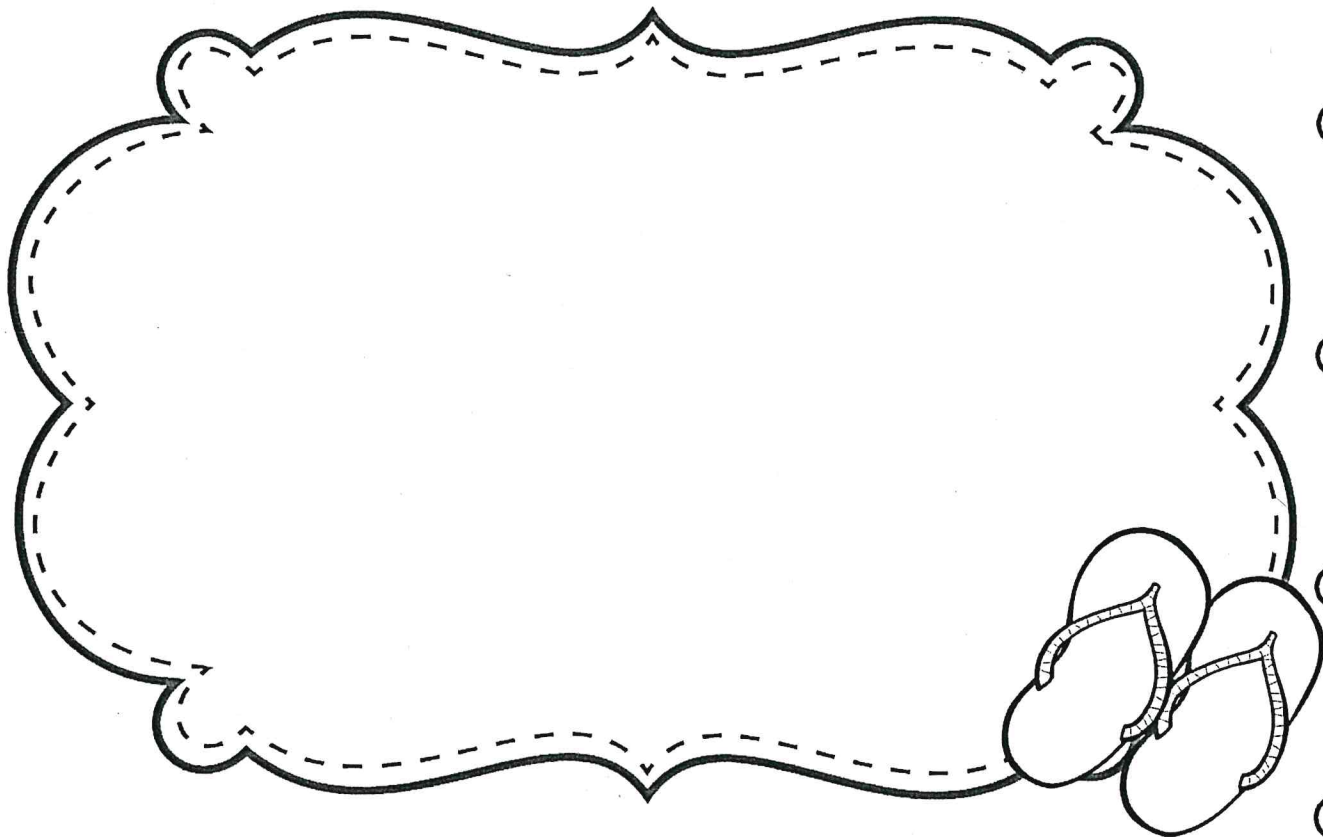
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\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# If I Had A Magical Pair of Flip Flops...



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My

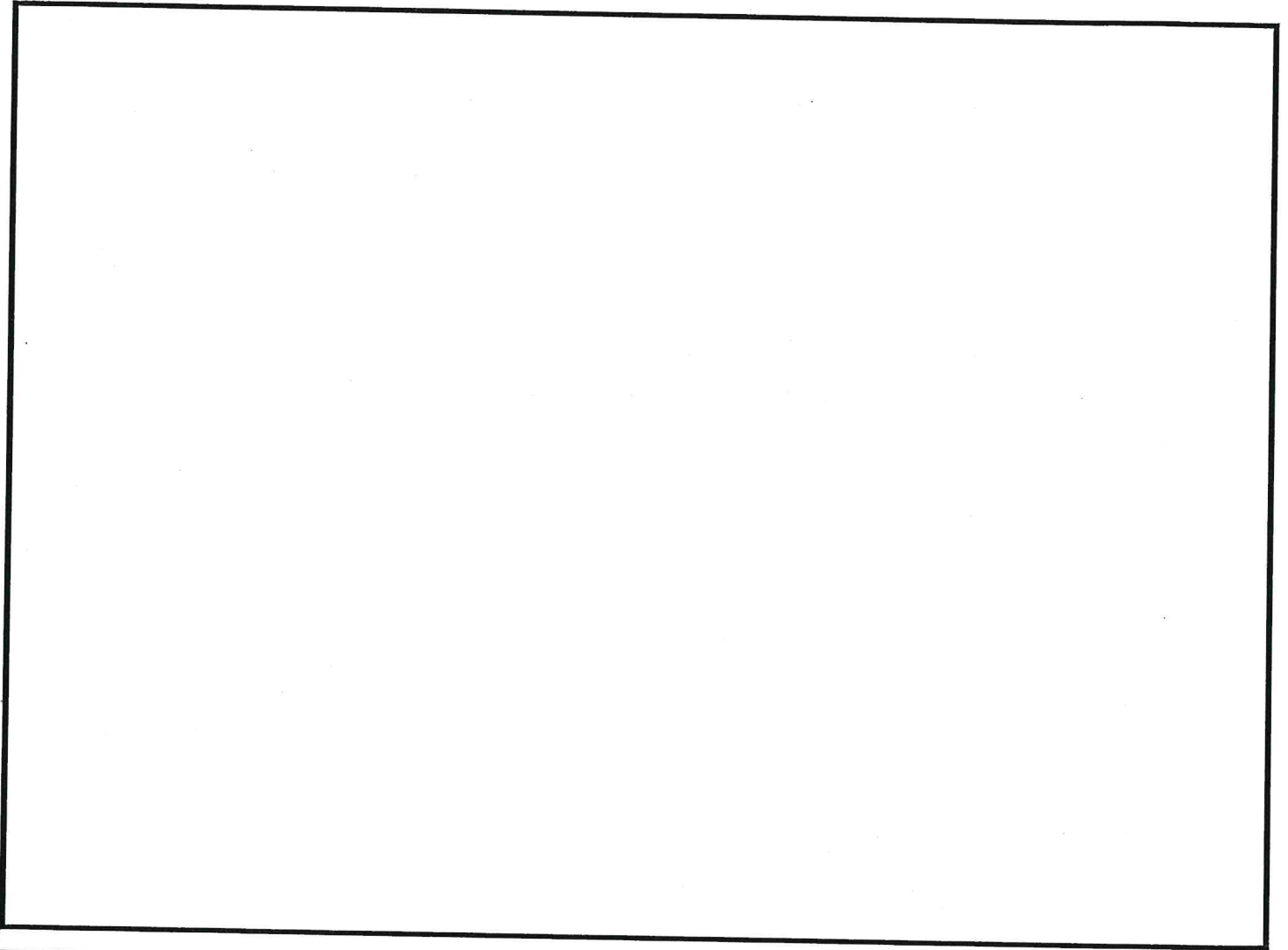
Summer

Journal

By \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

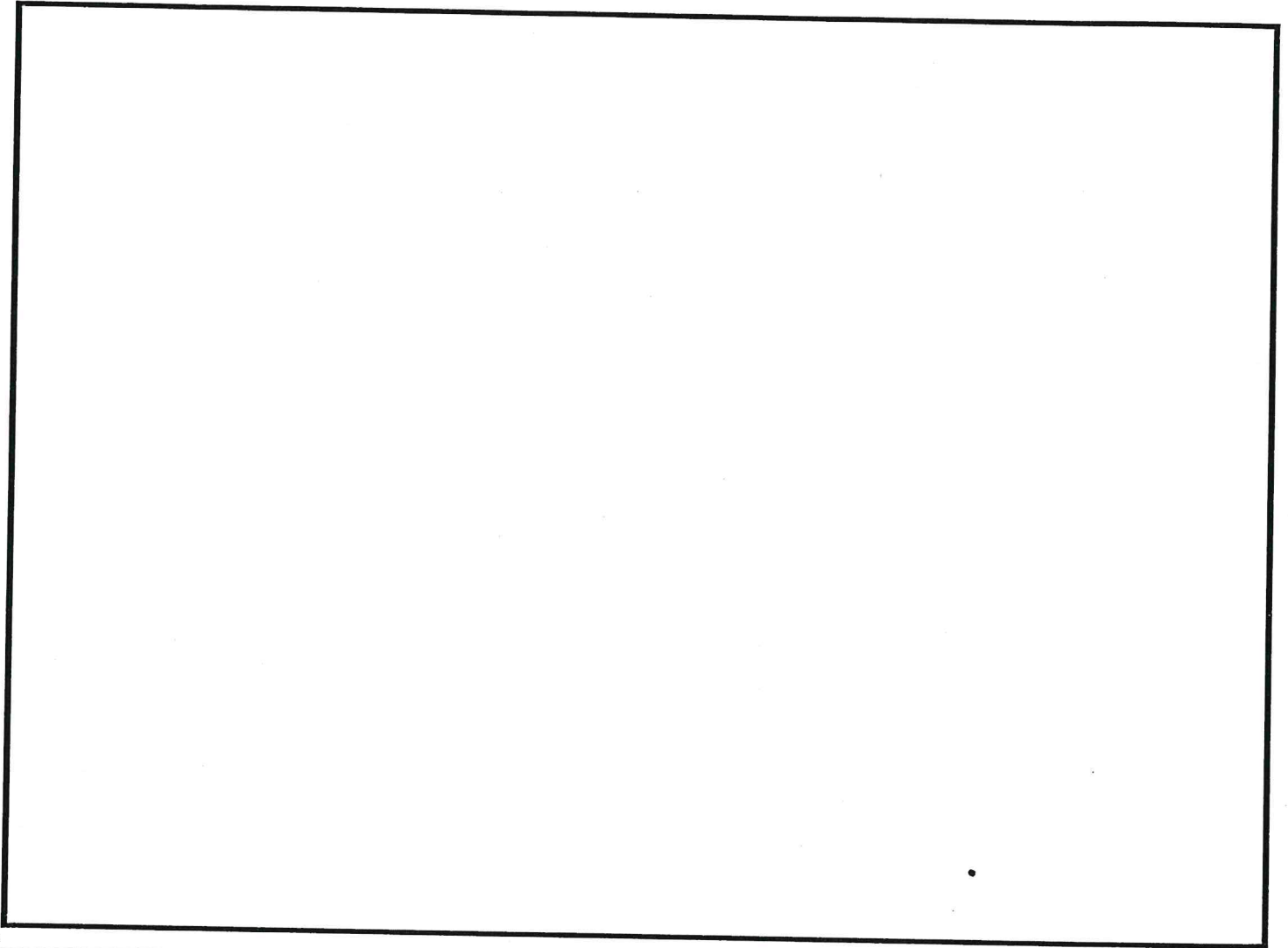
When it is hot, I like to...



Four sets of horizontal writing lines, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, for writing a response.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

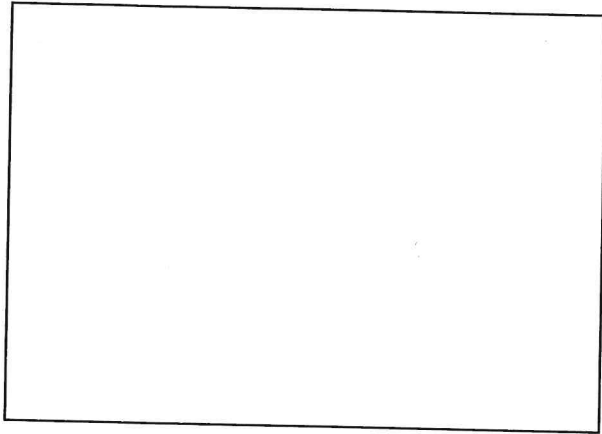
# My Best Day Ever



Four sets of handwriting practice lines, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

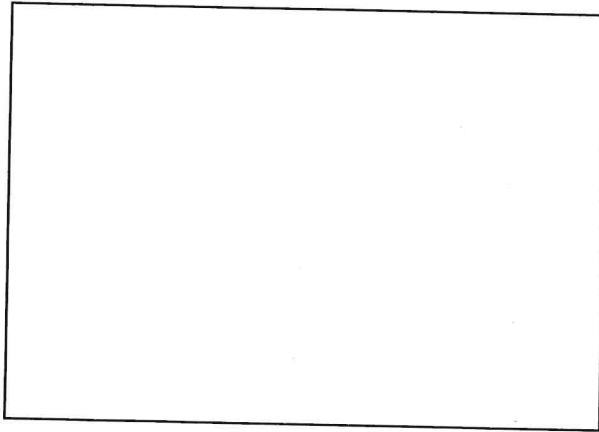
# How to Enjoy a Summer Day



First, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

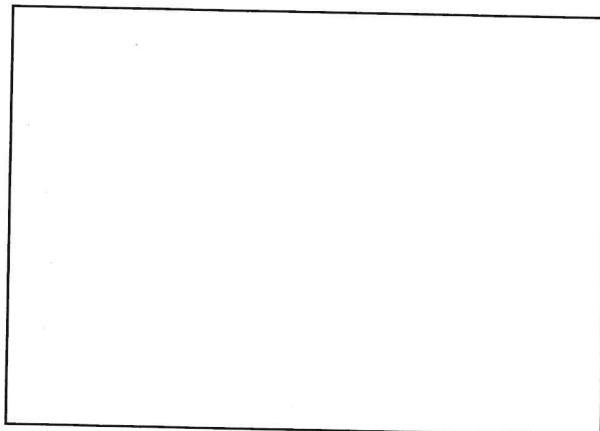
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Next, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



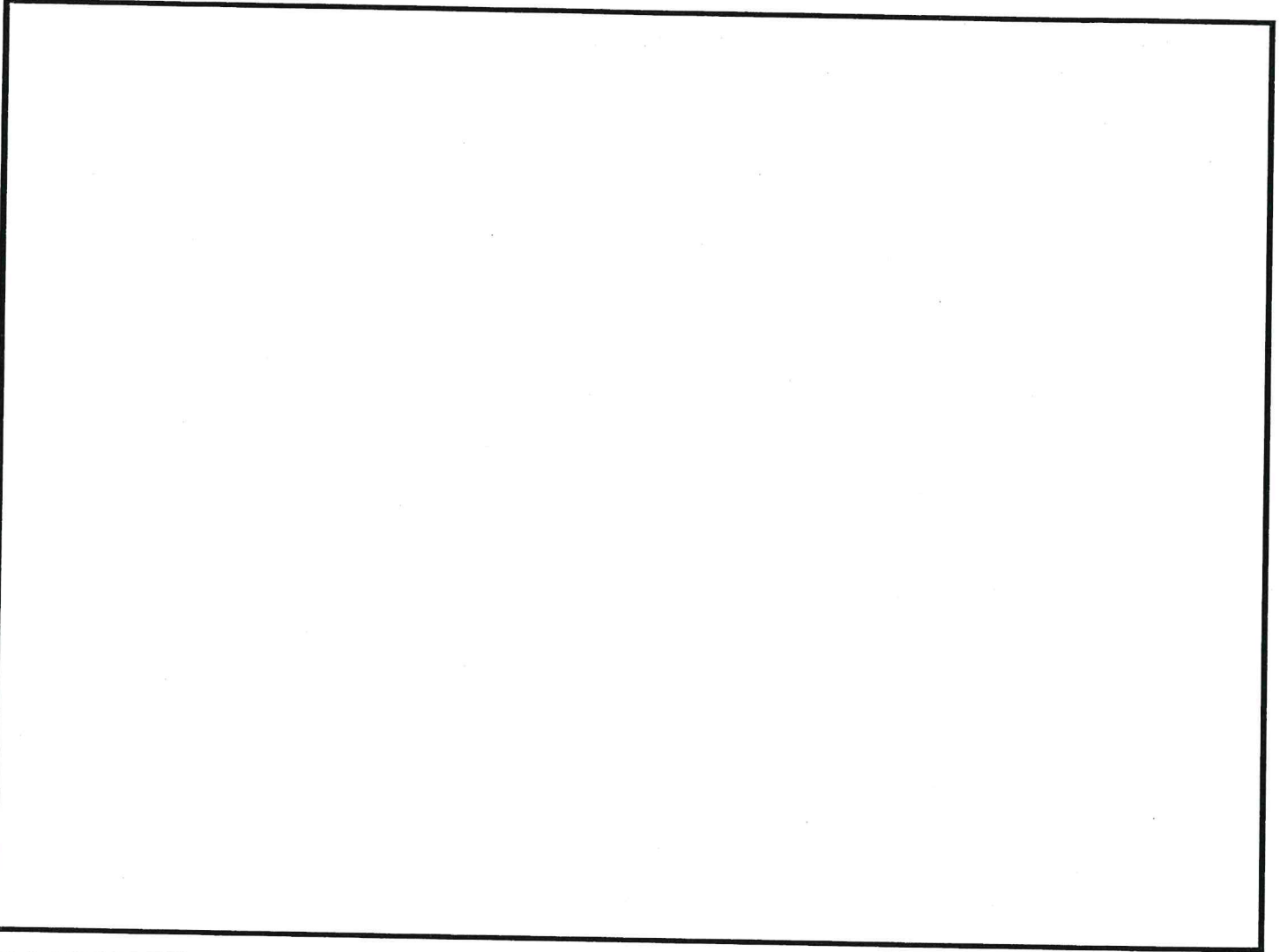
Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

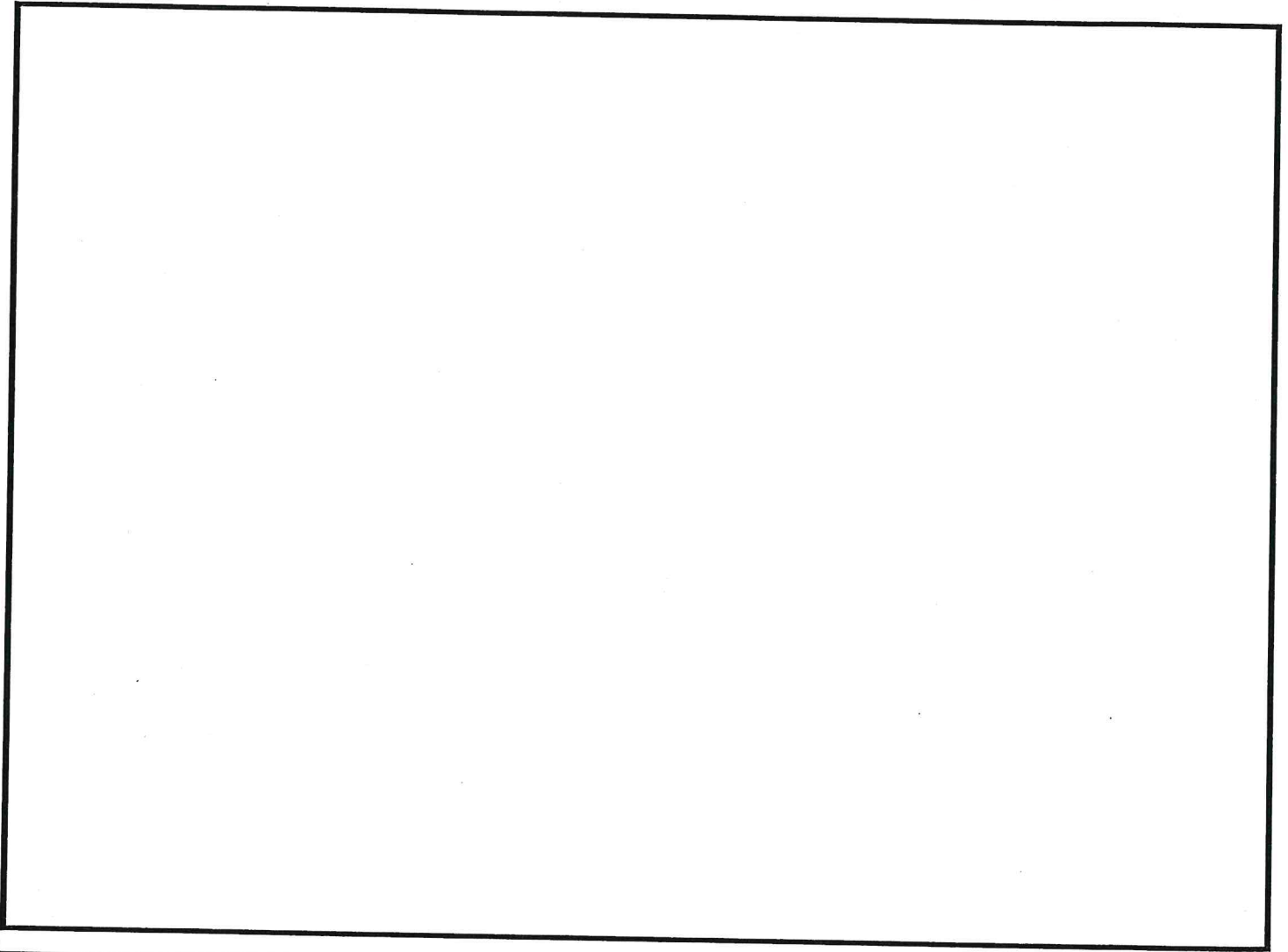
I like summer because...



Four sets of handwriting practice lines. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# My favorite book is...



\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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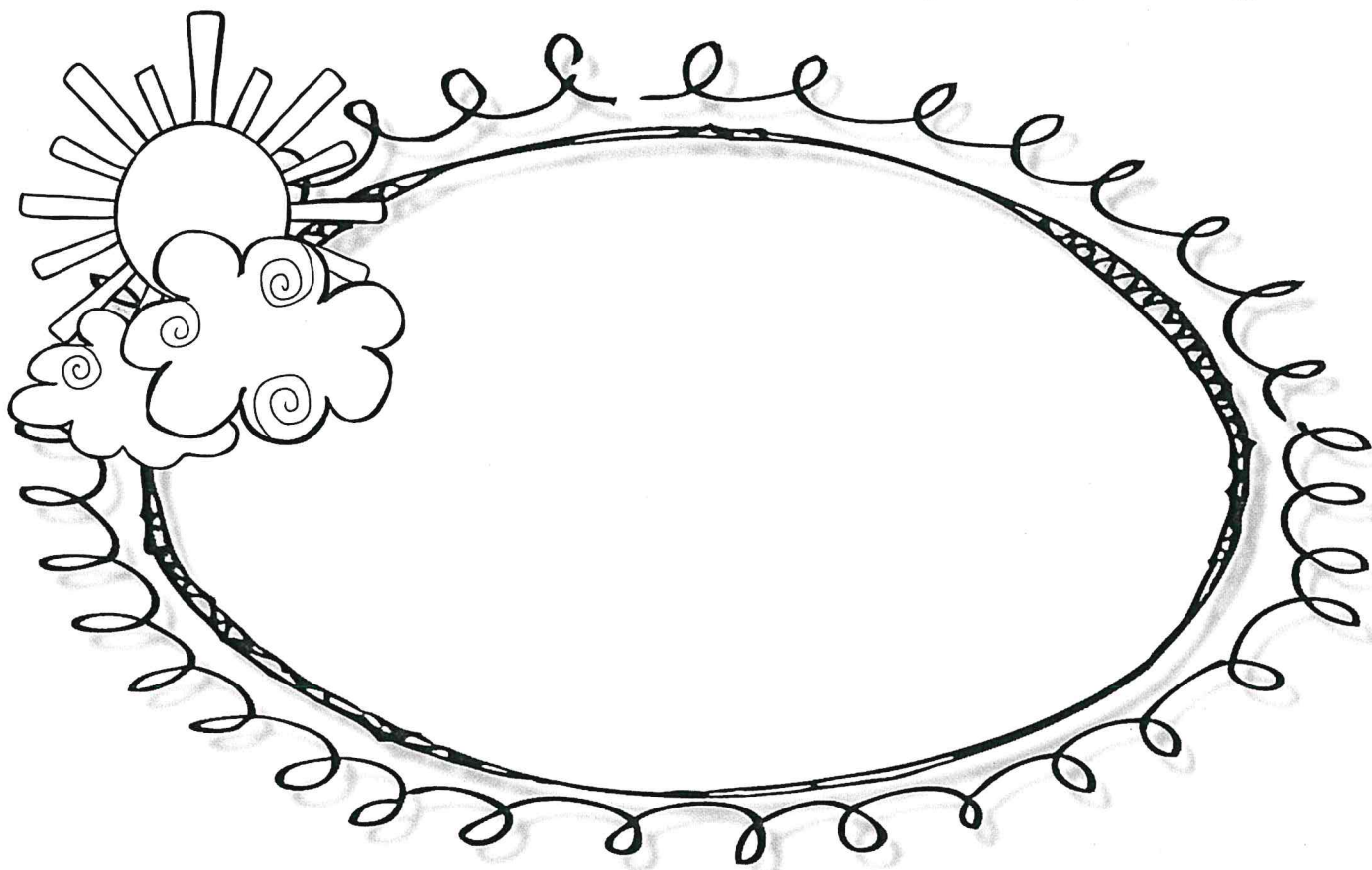
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# What I Love About Summer



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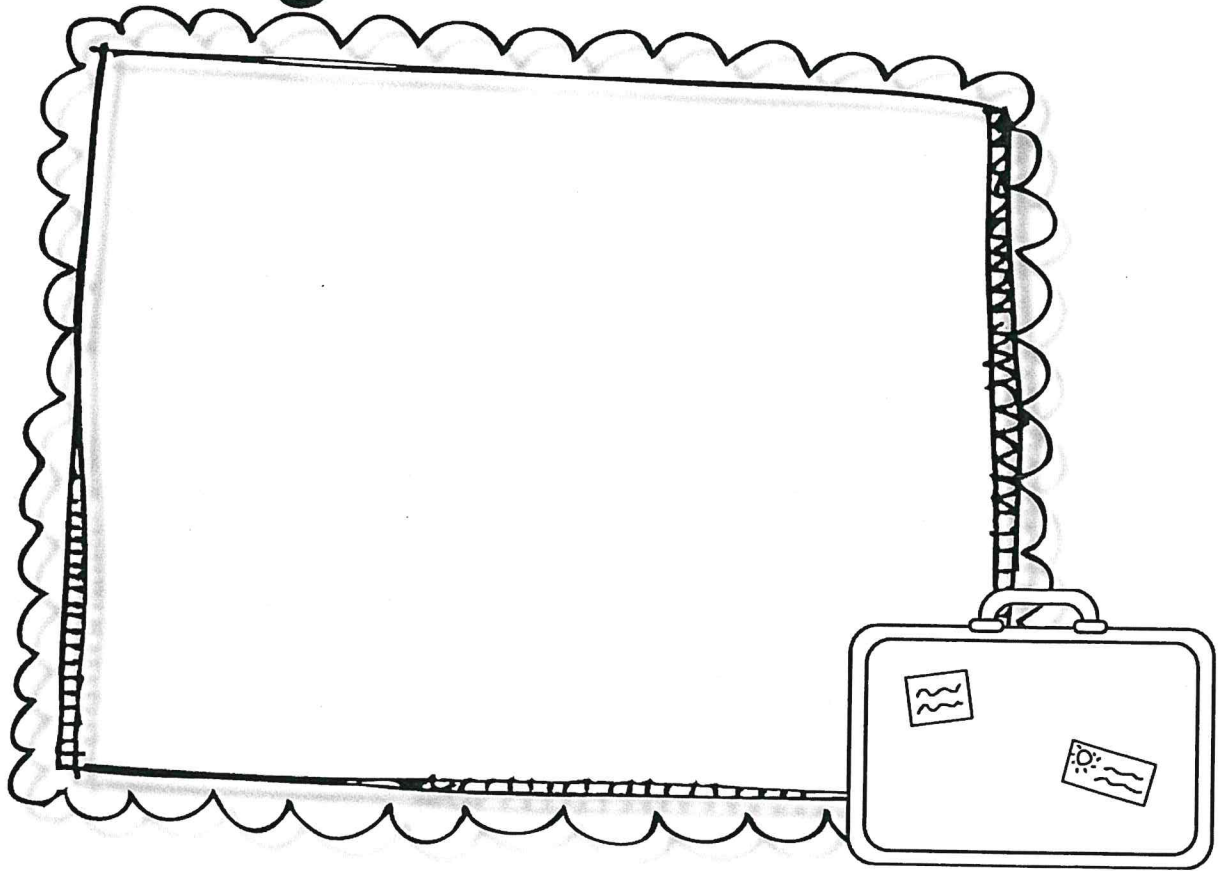
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# My Ideal Trip



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