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RAGING READERS

On June 1, 2009, both second grade classes and Mrs. Adams' fourth graders held an all-day Read-In. Students brought blankets, pillows, stuffed animals – whatever would fit into their backpacks – and got comfortable reading their books all day!

The day was broken up with their Specials, lunch, face painting, and a water balloon toss to name a few, but the students mostly read. The second graders in Mrs. Rosia's class wore their recently-made tie-dyed shirts and could be found camped out under their desks. Mrs. Krear's second graders took comfort to a new level by not even bothering to get dressed for the school day; they came in their pajamas and found comfortable spots on the floor. Mrs. Adams' fourth grade class brought in their tie-dyed pillows complimented with blankets to make reading forts and lounged around their classroom engrossed in books.

The Read-In emphasized the fun of reading for the second graders, who were the first to participate in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program this year. AR is a computer-based reading management and motivational system designed to complement existing Language Arts curriculum. Jaden Wagner likes AR because, "We get points and it's fun to read!" Jack Pendergrass and Jared McKenna both like the program because they like taking the quizzes. Mrs. Krear summed it up best when she said that she likes AR because, "It gets kids excited about reading for pleasure."

In the closing days of 2008-09 school year, both second grade classes celebrated their achievements with an official AR party.

All students are looking forward to a summer of reading and to seeing Accelerated Reader rolled out to more grades next year. What a great way to start the summer. Go STMS Readers!