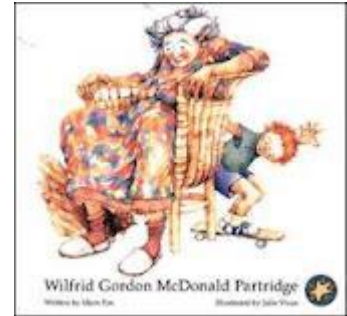


Dear Fourth Grade Students and Families,

In Reading Workshop we read *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, by Mem Fox about a boy who helps a woman suffering from Alzheimer's remember by giving her a collection of objects that jolt her memory. A shell reminds her of a trip to the beach when she was young, a medal reminds her of her brother that died in the war, and a puppet reminds her of the one she showed to her younger sister to make her laugh.



Writers also remember special small moments in their life in order to gather and collect great ideas for their own writing. Many of the best writers write about what they know most and include real experiences from their own lives. To help students find significant moments in their lives to write about, I would like each student to create a **Memory Collection**.

Over the next few days, students should look at home for objects or images that remind them of moments and memories from their lives. Students can cut out pictures from magazines, look through photographs, or find small objects to put in their zip-lock bag. Rather than a collection of favorite objects, I want students to search for things that connect them with stories from their lives.

When looking for things, choose ones that . . .

- make you laugh
- make you cry
- changed your life
- make you proud
- scared you
- remind you of a special relative or friend
- remind you of challenges you overcame

Please bring your Memory Collection to school on or before **Wednesday, September 14th**. Students will keep their Memory Collections at school for the rest of the year.

Happy memory hunting!