

## Pajama/Book Drive

Mrs. Martin is looking to help children in need this holiday season! For the past several years, she organized a Pajama/Book Drive that brought in an overwhelming number of NEW pajamas and books from the community to be donated locally. She would like to do this again this year. Most of the collected pajamas and books will be donated locally, while some may be going to nearby areas, such as Syracuse and Binghamton. All books/pajamas will need to be donated by 12/18/15 so they can be counted, sorted, and delivered to the local receiving organizations.

Further information can be found at <http://www.scholastic.com/pajamadrive/>

October 29, 2015

To: Homer Central School  
Board of Education

Dear Board Members,

I am writing today to request permission from the Board for my 4<sup>th</sup> grade class to "adopt" a manatee as part of our TEAM time project.

Over the past month we have been reading the story *Manatee Blues*, which recounts a story about a group of girls who visit a manatee rescue center, which is facing financial hardship and may have to close. As the story continues one of the characters convinces a baseball player to donate money to the center to keep it open. As a result of this story the students in my class have taken an intense interest in the manatees, and helping to keep these endangered species safe. I related to my students my personal experiences with manatees (visiting different locations to see them) and how when I was in 4<sup>th</sup> grade our class "adopted" a manatee.

The students have since inquired about us "adopting" a manatee for our class. I have looked into the matter further and found that for \$20, we can adopt a manatee, with the adoption fee funding rescue centers like the one from our book. In return, we as a class would get to pick one manatee to become our own. We would receive a picture of the manatee and informational updates about the manatee. As a culminating project after reading our book, students are going to complete a research project and will then share what they have learned about that animal to their peers and anyone else who would like to join the presentations.

I would ask that students bring in \$1 each to put towards the cause and I would cover the charge for any student who may not be able to contribute. We are looking for your approval to be able to be able to complete our "adoption" process.

Thank you for your time and all that you do for our school,

Ms. Erika Sherman  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade