

6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Students will select 1 fiction and 1 non-fiction book.

Students should complete the assignments included at the end of these instructions.

These are merely suggestions; however, parents may help their child select 1 fiction and 1 non-fiction book that is NOT on this list if it meets the following requirements:

1. Must have parent permission signature
2. Must have printed proof of either the recommended grade level or lexile level
3. Minimum of 225 pages and maximum of 400 pages

Fiction Recommendations

1. Buyea, Rob, *Because of Mr. Terupt*

- **Physical Description:** 269 p.
- **Abstract:** Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.

2. Haddix, Margaret Peterson, *Found*

- **Physical Description:** 314 p. **Series:** *Missing* ; book 1.
- **Abstract:** When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time.

3. Mass, Wendy, *Every Soul a Star*

- **Physical Description:** 322 p.
- **Abstract:** Ally, Bree, and Jack meet at the one place the Great Eclipse can be seen in totality, each carrying the burden of different personal problems, which become dim when compared to the task they embark upon and the friendship they find.....

4. Lin, G. (2012). *Dumpling Days (A Pacy Lin Novel)*

Abstract: Pacy's family is going to Taiwan for an entire month to visit family and prepare for their grandmother's 60th birthday celebration. Pacy's parents have signed her up for a Chinese painting class, and at first she's excited. This is a new way to explore her art talent! But everything about the trip is harder than she thought it would be....

5. Whelan, Gloria, *Homeless Bird*

- **Physical Description:** 216 p.
- **Abstract:** When thirteen-year-old Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's tradition or find the courage to oppose it.

6. Creech, S. (2012). *The Great Unexpected*

Abstract: From Newbery Medal winner and bestselling author Sharon Creech comes a grand, sweeping yarn that is a celebration of the great and unexpected gifts of love, friendship, and forgiveness. Humorous and heartfelt, this is a story of pairs—of young Naomi and Lizzie, both orphans in present-day Blackbird Tree, USA, and of Sybil and Nula, grown-up sisters from faraway Rook's Orchard, Ireland, who have become estranged.

7. Pax by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Jon Klassen (2016)

Abstract: This book shattered me into little pieces and then put me back together again. I spent every page hoping that a boy and his pet fox, separated by life circumstances that neither understands, would find each other again. This is the kind of masterful story that captures the wrenching beauty of *Where the Red Fern Grows* and combines it with a searing, truthful writing style.

8. *Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Eagar (Available: March 8, 2016)

Twelve-year old Carol isn't going to spend her summer at the pool with her friends. Instead, she's going to help her family move her grandfather into an assisted living facility for people with dementia. Her summer in New Mexico starts as a chore, but turns into something more magical as her grandfather begins telling her fantastical stories about healing trees, and green-glass lakes, and bees with the power to end a drought.

Nonfiction

- Fleischman, *Sid, Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini*
- Fleischman, John, *Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science*
- Houston, Dick, *Bulu, African Wonder Dog*
- Jiang, Ji-li, *Red Scarf Girl*
- Myers, Walter Dean, *The Greatest: Muhammad Ali*
- Rusch, Elizabeth, *The Mighty Mars Rovers*
- Stone, Tanya Lee, *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Daren to Dream*

Disclaimer: The books listed here have been collected from various sources including other schools/teachers, online book lists of recommended reading, and library lists. It is the responsibility of the parent to help their child select a book that is appropriate for their interests, reading level, and maturity so that it will be a good fit and a productive experience.

To Parents and Students entering 6th grade
Topic: Summer Reading

Welcome! I will be your child's English Language Arts teacher this fall and am very excited to begin our educational journey.

Over the summer, all students entering 6th grade are required to read **two books**.

Please select 1 of your books from the list of choices provided (either fiction or non-fiction). The students will answer the 12 questions on the book report form (see below) over this book. These will be due at the end of the first week of school along with a brief character list and self-generated vocabulary list.

The second book may be of your own selection, but please be sure it is on or above your current grade/lexile level. There are resources available online, and I suggest a visit to: www.lexile.com Students will make a brief 4-5 minute “book talk” over their free choice selection when they return in August and will be given time and instructions on how to prepare their presentations at that time. (No book report form with 12 questions over this 2nd selection.)

“One reason that children do not read enough over the summer is the challenge of finding books at their reading level that really interest them. Young people have to want to read a book and they have to be able to read it. Through more than a decade of research, Harvard University professor Dr. James Kim found that children's reading abilities can actually grow over the summer when they read high-interest books in their Lexile range.

Last year, President Obama made a [call to action](#) for each of us to do our part and address “summer loss” by reading to kids and encouraging them to read on their own. North Carolina did just that. Gov. Bev Perdue launched a statewide summer reading campaign that encouraged all communities to use the free ["Find a Book"](#) search on the www.lexile.com webpage to help the state's 1.4 million students select books at their Lexile level. You can easily replicate this initiative by incorporating ["Find a Book"](#) when helping your child find their free choice book.”

Please visit this website to read more about “lexiles” and get help in choosing the 2nd book!
<http://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/summer-reading/>

For the most part, just enjoy the reading. That's what is most important!

If you have questions, please contact me: jinapesqueda@chaparralstaracademy.com

Mrs. Prajinta Pesqueda
English Language Arts

Please print out the forms below to use on your two books.

Book Report SSR

Fiction

Mrs. Pesqueda 6th Grade ELA

Name: _____

Name of Book: _____ Author: _____

1. What connection does the cover have to this book? What is the significance of the title?
2. What is the setting and how does it affect this book? Use text references for support.
3. Why did you choose this SSR book? Have you read other books by this author? Tell something about the author.
4. Did the book have an interesting beginning? Why or why not?
5. What was the main conflict in the book? How was it resolved?
6. What was the turning point or climax? Use a text reference for support.
7. What was the theme?
8. Identify incidents, ideas, actions, etc... in this book that you could identify with because they reminded you of something in your own life that has happened to you or someone you know.
(Text to Self Connection)
9. Tell about a minor character that was interesting to you.
10. What was the point of view in this literary work?
11. Find three examples of foreshadowing or symbolism.
Use text references for support.
12. Discuss the tone of this book and use text references for support.

Attach the answers to these 12 questions on your own paper, and create a brief character list (with a 1 sentence description) along with a self-generated vocabulary word list (12+ words from your annotations) with definitions.

Book Report SSR

Non-Fiction

Mrs. Pesqueda 6th Grade ELA

BOOK REPORT FOR A NONFICTION INFORMATIONAL BOOK

Be sure to write neatly. Be sure to use complete sentences. Legibility, capitalization, spelling, punctuation and sentence structure will count.

BOOK TITLE _____

OF PAGES _____ AUTHOR _____

Topic (What is the bookabout?) _____

Use complete sentences to explain why you chose to read a book about this particular topic. Give details. I selected this book because

Using complete sentences, explain the author's purpose for writing this book. Give examples from the book to show your knowledge of the content.

Choose FIVE of the most interesting or exciting chapters or events in the book. Describe each one and state why you found each one interesting. USE COMPLETE SENTENCES.

Describe Event #1 (with details)

_____ I found this chapter/event interesting because

Describe Event #2 (with details)

_____ I found this chapter/event interesting because

If you met the author of this book, what are TWO suggestions or compliments you would make about the book? Use complete sentences to explain. i.

Would you recommend this nonfiction book to anyone? Why or why not?

Make 3 text connections (self, text, world)
