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## 2020 Summer Reading Requirements

For Students Entering Grade 6


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& \text { MIDDLE SCHOOL } \\
& \text { Foxborough, MA }
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Summer is here and many students are looking forward to a break from schoolwork, but summer is not a time to take a break from reading! Research tells us that when students don't read for two months their skills regress. Research done at Harvard University by James Kim has shown that even reading 4 or 5 books over the summer helps to prevent the summer slide. Reading is a skill which requires practice, just like baseball or playing an instrument. Summer reading helps students of all ages keep their skills sharp so they are ready when school begins again in the fall.

All students are expected to read a minimum of AT LEAST TWO BOOKS over the summer, ONE OF WHICH IS A REQUIRED TITLE FOR THEIR GRADE LEVEL. The required read is tied to the theme of treating others with respect and accepting differences. This minimum requirement of two books will count as a homework grade. In addition, during the first full week of school, all ELA classes will have a graded assignment based on the required summer reading book.

However, we are encouraging all students to read beyond the minimum requirement and double their efforts by reading four or more books. Any student who doubles their efforts will have their name entered into a raffle to win $\$ 50$ in free books during the first Scholastic Book Fair of the year which will be held in November. One student from each grade level will be selected to win.

Wherever your summer days take you, bring along a good book, and read, read, read!


## Requirements

## 1. Students entering grade 6 in September are required to read RULES by Cynthia Lord.

2. After reading RULES, students are to complete the story chart response page in their reading log.
3. Next, students need to select at least one other book to read during the summer. We have included a list of suggested authors and titles as a guide, but feel free to select books that may not appear on the list.
4. For each book read, students will record the title and author, as well as a brief response.

The response can take any one of the following forms:

* Write a brief summary of the book (Who? Where? When? Why? How? So, what?).
* Write a book recommendation/critique, describing why someone may or may not be interested in reading that book.
* Share your thoughts, a reaction, or a connection you made to a character or event in the story, or to the information you may have learned.
* Draw or sketch a favorite or interesting part of the book with a brief caption below.

5. Parents/adults will sign on the line provided in the reading log for each book your student completes.
6. During the first week of school in the September, students will hand their reading logs in to their ELA teachers.
7. Students who read a minimum of two books will receive full credit for their first homework assignment of $6^{\text {th }}$ grade. Students who read four or more books will also be entered into a drawing to win $\$ 50$ in free books at the first Scholastic Book Fair to be held in November.

## Digital Resources

Although schools and libraries might be closed, students do not have to miss out on new and exciting Summer Reading titles! Click on any of the following links to access a wealth of materials. Happy reading!


Ahern's
Class
Code for
Scholastic:
HLW9P


## If you like fantasy chapter books, you'll like:

Bloom by Kenneth Oppel
Iron Trial (Magisterium series) by Holly Black
Keeper of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger
Dealing with Dragons by Patricia C. Wrede
The Adventures Guild by Zach Loran Clark and Nick Eliopulos
The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill
Snow \& Rose by Emily Winfield Martin
Imperium by Henry H. Neff

## If you like funny books, try:

The Wishmakers by Tyler Whiteside
Strange Case of the Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger
A Whole 'Nother Story by Cuthbert Soup
Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson
The Croc Ate My Homework by Stephan Pastis
The Tapper Twins Go to War (with each other) by Geoff Rodkey

## If you're looking for a good nonfiction book, try:

Fred Korematsu Speaks up by Laura Atkins
Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin
Zombie Makers: True Stories of Nature's Undead by Rebecca L. Johnson
March Forward Girl: From Young Warrior to Little Rock Nine by Melba Beals

## If you like historical fiction, you'll love:

Sweep by Jonathan Auxier
Allies by Alan Gratz
Words on Fire by JenniferA. Nielsen
The Inquisitor's Tale by Adam Gidwitz
The War That Save My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
The Blackbird Girls by Anne Blankman
Indian No More by Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell

## If you enjoy reading realistic books, read:

Can You See Me by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott
Front Desk by Kelly Yang
Wink by Rob Harrell
Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephart
Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams
From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks
Booked by Kwame Alexander
Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper
Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya
As the Crow Flies by Melanie Gillman
The Best Man by Richard Peck
The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson

## If you like mystery and adventure, you'll love:

Alex Rider: Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz
Ranger's Apprentice by John A. Flanagan
To Catch a Cheat by Varian Johnson
Scar Island by Dan Gemeinhart
Jada Sly, Artist \& Spy by Sherri WInson
City Spies by James Ponti
Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation by Stuart Gibb

If you like your stories to be a little creepy, try:
Coraline by Neil Gaiman
100 Cupboards by N.D. Wilson
Lockwood \& Co. The Screaming Staircase by Jonathan Stroud
A Tale of Dark and Grimm by Adam Gidwitz
Doll Bones by Holly Black
The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street by Lindsay Currie
Small Spaces by Katherine Arden

## Summer Reading Assignment for Your Required Book

During the first few weeks of sixth grade, you will have a summer reading project to complete which will be your first ELA (English Language Arts) grade of the year. This assignment will help you prepare for the project.

## Directions:

- Complete the attached Story Chart (Story Arc/Story Mountain) for your required book choice.
- Refer to the completed charts included in this packet for models of expected work.


Put a star next to the main character.
On the arc, under the star, write the main character's wish/goal. What is it that they want, or are trying to do?

On the arc, under the lightning bolt, write the obstacle that is standing in the main character's way from achieving his/her goal.

Write the key events in the plot along the arc. The first event starts at the bottom of the arc. The rest of the events rise up the arc to the turning point. Then list the events in the falling action down the arc.

MODEL STORY CHART \#1:


MODEL STORY CHART \#2:

STORY CHART Name
true Mr. Lincoln's way navy

author Patricia Polacco type Human Interest

Turning Point
Engere opening up to MriLincoln about. what his tather sord and how he missed his grandpa.



Parent/Guardian's Signature: $\qquad$

Title:

Author: $\qquad$

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