

6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment



Dear Future 6th grade Language Arts Student:

Over the summer, you should take time out to escape in a book. Look for books that may interest you and read as much as you can. Many reading experts have found that in order to prevent a decline in reading skills, students should be practicing daily. Research supports that with a consistent amount of reading each day (30-45 minutes), the benefit can be seen in every subject, including math. Reading is a terrific way to break away from the heat this summer and to travel anywhere a good author can take you. Taking advantage of reading during the summer will also keep your mind sharp and prepare you for your 6th grade classes.

While you are reading the book of your choice from below, be sure you are able to identify text evidence that supports theme (refers to the main idea or moral of the story not directly stated- should be a broad opinion statement) and conflict (a literary element that involves a struggle between two opposing forces). Please take the time and use sticky notes as you read to mark sections of text that would support those areas. Below is an example of theme and conflict.

EXAMPLES:

Theme: The forces of good triumph over the forces of evil.

Conflict (Internal/External): In *The Lion King*, Simba has an external conflict with his uncle Scar, but he also has an internal conflict as he works through his guilt over his father's death.

1. You are required to read one of books from the **recommended reading list** below.

RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Call It Courage by Sperry, Armstrong

One for the Murphys by Hunt, Lynda Mullaly

Al Capone Does My Shirt by Choldenko, Gennifer

Walk Two Moons by Creech, Sharon

The False Prince by Nielsen, Jennifer A.

The Wednesday War by Schmidt, Gary

2. **Annotate** your novel as you read – look for examples that will support theme and conflict.

Use sticky notes to mark the location of these instances as you will need to use this information in an in-class writing assignment.

3. Upon return to school (within the first two weeks) there will be a **writing activity** which will focus on theme and conflict. You will either create a dialectical journal (standard) or write a 5 paragraph essay (advanced) utilizing the annotations you have made while reading.