

My Name _____

My 6th Grade ELA Teacher _____

Rising 6th Graders Summer Assignment

Summer Reading Assignment:

Step 1: Read one book from the attached list.

Step 2: Complete the Cereal Box activity.

The following rubric will be used to grade your Summer Reading assignment:

100%- Exemplary/Exceeds Standard: Student demonstrated that he/she read one book from the 6th Grade Summer Reading List and completed the Cereal Box activity showing evidence of DEEP understanding of the book from presentation.

85%- Proficient/Satisfactory: Student demonstrated that he/she read one book from the 6th Grade Summer Reading List and completed the Cereal Box activity showing evidence of BASIC understanding of the book from presentation..

75%- Developing/Needs Improvement: Student demonstrated that he/she read one book from the 6th Grade Summer Reading List and completed some of the Cereal Box activity showing evidence of BASIC understanding of the book from presentation.

60%- Insufficient/Unsatisfactory: Student demonstrated that he/she read one book from the 6th Grade Summer Reading List and completed (FEW or NO parts of) the Cereal Box activity showing evidence of LITTLE to NO understanding of the book from presentation.

50%- No Evidence of any summer reading or project.

- A list on the last page covers some of the books you will study in your ELA class this year. You may use this as a guide for choosing which of the summer reading books you may like to read. You may read any book on the summer reading list.

Incoming 6th Graders Summer Reading List

<p><i>The Mighty Miss Malone</i> by Christopher Paul Curtis (companion book for <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>) 750L</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Deza Malone has a close and loving family, and she's the smartest girl in her class. But, times are tough in Gary, Indiana during the Great Depression. Deza's father leaves to find work and Deza and her family set out in search of him. Along the way they experience many hardships while never giving up hope.</p>
<p><i>You Wouldn't Want to be an American Colonist</i> by Jacqueline Morley (companion book for <i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>) 780-790L</p>	<p>What was it like to be one of the first colonists in Jamestown in the 17th century? This title illustrates the hardships and labor of early settlers in America.</p>
<p><i>The Salem Witch Trials</i> by Jane Yolen (companion book for <i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>)</p>	<p>In 1692 Salem, Massachusetts, witnessed one of the saddest and most inexplicable chapters in American history. When a group of girls came down with a horrible, mysterious bout of illness, the town doctor looked in his medical books but failed to find a reasonable diagnosis. Pretty soon everyone in town was saying the same thing: The girls were ill because they were under a spell, the spell of witchcraft! And still, the question remains: Why did the hysteria occur?</p>
<p><i>The Bitter Side of Sweet</i> by Tara Sullivan (companion book for <i>Boys Without Names</i>) 810L</p>	<p>Fifteen-year-old Amadou counts the things that matter. For two years what has mattered are the number of cacao pods he and his younger brother, Seydou, can chop down in a day. The higher the number the safer they are. The higher the number the closer they are to paying off their debt and returning home. Maybe. The problem is Amadou doesn't know how much he and Seydou owe, and the bosses won't tell him. With no hope of escape, all they can do is try their best to stay alive—until Khadija comes into their lives.</p>
<p><i>Playing Atari with Saddam Hussein</i> by Jennifer Roy (companion book for <i>I Am Malala</i>) 560L</p>	<p>It is in January of 1991 when Iraq goes to war against 34 other countries, including the United States. Eleven-year-old Ali Fadhil and his family must survive in their Basra neighborhood, finding food, suffering through bombings, and hoping Ali's medic father will return from the war. Based on a true story, Roy's book shows how a kid's ordinary life, once filled with video games, soccer, and American TV, can change instantly.</p>
<p><i>Amal Unbound</i> by Aisha Saeed 600L</p>	<p>Amal lives in Pakistan where she's been pursuing her dream of becoming a teacher. But as the eldest daughter, she must stay home from school to take care of her siblings. After an incident with a member of the Khan family, her village's corrupt landlords, Amal must work as a servant at the Khan estate to pay off a debt. While there, she makes enemies and learns just how deceptive the Khans really are.</p>
<p><i>The Secret Garden</i> by Frances Hodgson Burnett 710L</p>	<p>When orphaned Mary Lennox comes to live at her uncle's great house on the Yorkshire Moors, she finds it full of secrets. The mansion has nearly one hundred rooms, and her uncle keeps himself locked up. And at night, she hears the sound of crying down one of the long corridors. The gardens surrounding the large property are Mary's only escape. Then, Mary discovers a secret garden, surrounded by walls and locked with a missing key. With the help of two unexpected companions, Mary discovers a way</p>

	in—and becomes determined to bring the garden back to life.
<i>Blue Jasmine</i> by Kashmira Sheth 740L	Twelve-year-old Seema Trivedi learns that she and her family must move from their small Indian town to Iowa City, she realizes she'll have to say good-bye to her home, her family, and her best friend. Everything is different in America and she struggles with a bully in school. But when Seema's grandmother becomes ill, she returns to India for a visit and is given a precious gift that helps her understand the meaning of 'home' and 'family'. As she begins to plant roots in the foreign soil, Seema is able to build a bridge between two homes.
<i>Calling All Minds</i> by Temple Grandin 1060L	Grandin explores the ideas behind why people tinker and invent. She looks at the science behind inventions, the steps various people take to create and improve on ideas, and the ways inventors can continue to think about and understand what it means to tinker, to fiddle, and to innovate.
<i>Betty Before X</i> by Ilyasah Shabazz 810L	Eleven-year-old Betty lives in Detroit in 1945. She keeps a secret in her heart, which is this weird feeling she has that her mother doesn't really want her. When Betty is in church, she feels better, and she is inspired by the preaching and the speeches from people, such as Thurgood Marshall, to stand up for the rights of African Americans. Through her time as a young activist and a volunteer for organizations, Betty gains confidence and a sense of purpose. In this book, written by her daughter, readers learn how the American civil rights icon we now know as Dr. Betty Shabazz came to be.
<i>From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler</i> by E. L. Konigsburg 700L	When suburban Claudia Kincaid decides to run away, she knows she doesn't just want to run <i>from</i> somewhere she wants to run <i>to</i> somewhere—to a place that is comfortable, beautiful, and preferably elegant. She chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing that her younger brother, Jamie, has money and thus can help her with the serious cash flow problem she invites him along.
<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan 750L	Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico, and that she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstance; Mama's life and her own depend on it.
<i>The Crossover</i> by Alexander Kwame 750L	Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

Books covered in 6th grade during the school year:

Mr. Carlino

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick
The Cay by Theodore Taylor
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate
Warriors Don't Cry by Melba Pattillo Beals

Mrs. Eaton

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare
I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick
Boys Without Names by Kashmiri Sheth
Selected short drama
Selected short stories
Variety of Selected Poetry

Mrs. Herlihy and Mrs. Slowinski

Variety of texts from Read 180 Program