

Grade 6 2021 Summer Reading List

Required Reading for all students:

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Students will select one or more other texts from the reading list.

Recommended Summer Reading:

Fiction:

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick

Leviathan by Paul Westerfield

What I Saw and How I Lied by Judy Blundell

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Countdown by Deborah Wiles

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

Contemporary Fiction:

When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

Liar and Spy by Rebecca Stead

Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers

A Mango Shaped Space by Wendy Mass

Smiles to Go by Jerry Spinelli

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonneblick

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang

Half Brother by Kenneth Oppel

Every Soul a Star by Wendy Mass

Chomp by Carl Hiaasen

Fantasy/Science Fiction:

The Alchemyst by Michael Scott

Impossible by Nancy Werlin

The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Beddor

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to a Nation: Volume One by M.T. Anderson

Graceling by Kristen Cashore

Ship Breaker by Paola Bacigalupi

Watership Down by Richard Adams

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

War of the Worlds by H.G. Wells

The Little Prince by Antoine De Saint-Exupery

The False Prince by Jennifer Nielson

Classics:

The Red Pony by John Steinbeck

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

Non-Fiction:

The Real Benedict Arnold, by Jim Murphy

Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith by Deborah Heiligman

Mao's Last Dancer by Li Cunxin

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95 by Phillip Hoose

Poetry:

Swan: Poems and Prose Poems by Mary Oliver

Delights and Shadows: Poems by Ted Kooser

Boris by Cynthia Rylant

Grade 6 Summer Reading Essay Assignment

Please write a five-paragraph essay and outline in which you explore and analyze one of the themes you have encountered in *Wonder* (for example, themes include: family, appearances, isolation, friendship, kindness, courage, coming of age, etc.).

Please take some time to organize your thoughts and write the outline first. Make sure the outline contains your thesis, main points, and evidence. The outline must be stapled to your essay.

Your essay must include:

An introduction with:

1. A clear hook/lead
2. The title and author of the book you are discussing
3. A well formulated thesis statement: the thesis statement must state the theme you wish to analyze and explore.

Three Body Paragraphs with:

1. Topic Sentences
2. Explanation and logic
3. Textual evidence in MLA format “.....” (Palacio 12)
4. Explanation of the evidence
5. Transitional Words
6. Concluding statements

A Conclusion with:

1. A restatement of the thesis in different words
2. Implications/Observations/Questions

This essay format may look familiar to all you. Take this opportunity to think about the text, formulate a clear argument, and utilize strong textual evidence for support. I look forward to reading your analysis in September!

Grade 6 Secondary Reading Assignment

Please write 3-4 paragraphs in which you present a summary and opinion of the book you selected from the reading list (five sentences per paragraph).

This second piece of writing should be formatted as follows:

An introduction with:

1. A clear topic/leading sentence.
2. The title and author of the book.
3. A brief summary of the book.

One or two supporting paragraphs with:

1. Your opinion/reflection on the book – likes, dislikes, commendations, critiques, etc.
2. Evidence from the book to support your opinion.

A conclusion with:

1. A statement reinforcing your topic sentence from your introduction.
2. Any reflections or conclusions you have made throughout reading the book that you would like to reinforce to your reader.