

INCOMING SIXTH GRADE

## Summer Reading!

**What better way to increase brain power and maintain skills over the summer than reading a few great books! Students are assigned a book list and literacy activities.**

**Then when you return in September, bring your assignments to your new teacher and you will earn your first three "A's" of the new school year!**

**Your new teachers are excited to have this opportunity to see your ideas and get to know you a little better the first week of school.**



**\*Visit our website @ [dces.info](http://dces.info) for suggested book lists for each grade level**

(Book List is on next page)

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List**

Alexander, Lloyd	Time Cat
Avi	Something Upstairs
Avi	S.O.R. Losers
Babbitt, Natalie	Tuck Everlasting
Christopher, Matt	Sports Novels*
Coville, Bruce	Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher
Dahl, Roald	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Kerr, Judith	When Hitler Stole the Pink Rabbit
Kerr, P.B.	Children of the Lamp
Korman, Gordon	Titanic Unsinkable
L'Engle, Madeleine	A Wrinkle in Time
Lewis, C.S.	The Chronicles of Narnia*
Lowry, Lois	Number the Stars
London, Jack	White Fang
Lupica, Mike	Sports Novels*
Naylor, Phyllis, R.	Shiloh
Pevsher, Stella	The Night the Whole Class Slept
Raskin, Ellen	The Westing Game
Rawls, Wilson	Where the Red Fern Grows
Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson Series*
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter Series*
Sacher, Louis	Holes
Snyder, Zilphia, K.	The Egypt Game
Tolkien, J.R.	The Hobbit

\*Any book in this category or series

## Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Please read three of the following suggested books and choose from the following list of projects to do after you read each book. Remember, you can always use your child's lexile number when choosing books over the summer. You must do a different project for each book, so you will end up with *three different projects*.

### Project option #1

A book report (one page minimum) handwritten in cursive. The report will summarize the events of the story that you read.

### Project option #2

Book Jacket

Create a colorful, engaging book jacket that includes the following:

Cover: New cover for the book with illustration, title, author, and student name.

Inner Flap (left side):

Summary – Sequential summary of key story events from the reading.

Inner Flap (right side):

Text connections (text to text, text to self or text to world)

Back Flap: Theme – Description of the theme supported with examples from the story.

Rubric:

The summary is detailed and well written, the jacket is colorful, neat, and eye catching, the text connection is meaningful and purposeful, careful proofreading is evident, and the theme is thoughtful and clearly explained.

### Project option #3

Discover the Book's Relevance for You

This project will be one page minimum. Using one of the books you read, you will discuss any connections between the events and characters in the book to your own life. You also need to include things that the book helped you learn about yourself and/or about the world. Did the plot inspire you to want to do something or to become a better person? In this project, please share your opinion about the book as well.

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**Parents,**

**Please note that if your child is struggling to complete these books on their own, it is appropriate to use the *Paired Reading* technique (see attached directions). For some children audiobooks are beneficial and appropriate. Remember, the goal is to have your child engaged in literacy throughout the summer.**

**Have Fun!**

## PAIRED READING: HOW TO DO IT

### Reading Together

1. You and your child both read the words out loud together. Read at the child's speed. You are modeling good reading for your child.
2. As you read together, your child must read every word. To make sure your child is looking at the words, it will help if one of you *points* to the word you are both reading with a finger or card. It's best if your child will do the pointing.
3. When a word is *read incorrectly* you just say the word and then your child immediately repeats the word.
4. Show interest in the book your child has chosen. Talk about the pictures. Talk about what's in the book as your child goes through it. It's best if you talk at the end of a page or section, or your child might lose track of the story. Ask what things might happen next. Listen to your child – don't do all the talking.

### Time

1. Try very hard to do Paired Reading every day for 5 minutes. If the student wants to read longer, a total of 15 minutes is long enough.
2. Select a time that's good for both you and your child. Don't make your child do Paired Reading when he/she really wants to do something else.
3. For days when you are not available, you may want to train someone else to be a substitute. Grandparents, older brothers and sisters, aunts, baby-sitters can be excellent reading role models, too.

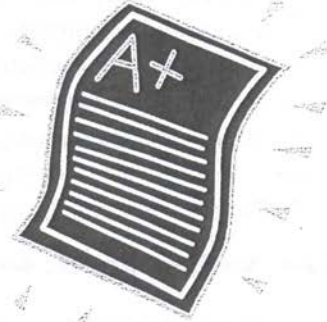
### Place

1. Try to find a place that's quiet. Children are easily distracted by noise. Turn off the T.V., radio, and stereo.
2. Try to find a place that's private. No one else should be in the room. Many families find this is a great opportunity for one parent to spend time with just one child.
3. Try to find a place that's comfortable so both readers can concentrate on the story without having to shift around. Try to associate warm and snuggly feelings with reading.

## English/Language Arts Sites

### Grammar Reference Sites:

- Chompchomp: <http://www.chompchomp.com/menu.htm>
- Capital Community College Foundation: <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/>
- Easy Grammar Plus by Wanda C. Phillips (amazon.com)
- Super Grammar: <http://www.supergrammar.com/>
- Worksheet Works: <http://www.worksheetworks.com/>



### Writing Reference Sites:

- Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab): <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
- EasyBib (citation generator): <http://www.easybib.com/>

### Interactive English Sites:

- Funbrain (parts of speech games): <http://www.funbrain.com/grammar/>
- Sheppard Software (grammar games, grammar tutorial, commas, capitalization): [http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web\\_games\\_vocab.htm](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games_vocab.htm)
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade English site (grammar game links, "Schoolhouse Rock" lyrics, sort simple/compound/complex sentences): <http://site.ecfs.org/hornik/stories/storyReaders8>
- Fun English Games (reading, grammar, writing, spelling): <http://www.funenglishgames.com/games.html>
- Houghton Mifflin (grammar quizzes for grades 6-8; units & cumulative reviews): [http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hme/6\\_8/grammar/](http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hme/6_8/grammar/)
- Grammar Untied (explanations of parts of speech, phrases, and clauses, interactive quizzes, worksheets with answers): <http://www.grammaruntied.com/toc.html>
- Voyages in English (grammar games for grades 3-8): <http://www.loyolapress.com/voyages-in-english-2011-student-games.htm?ftm=la#sthash.AbNHHBTb.dpbs>
- BrainPop (short animated video clips on grammar, writing, and reading topics; some include activities, quizzes, and games): <http://www.brainpop.com>
- A collection of English/Language Arts resources (grammar, proofreading, spelling, composition, writing, literature): <http://www.alline.org/euro/mla.html>

### Textbook Sites:

- Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary: <http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/vocabulary/vocabularyworkshop.cfm>
- Pearson/Prentice Hall Literature: [http://www.phschool.com/atschooli/txtbk\\_res\\_ia.html](http://www.phschool.com/atschooli/txtbk_res_ia.html)

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### **Finding New Literature:**

- American Library Association Booklist Online:  
<http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>
- International Reading Association Choices Reading Lists: <http://reading.org/Resources/Booklists.aspx>
- Children's Literature Assembly: <http://childrensliteratureassembly.org/notables.html>
- Good Reads: <http://www.goodreads.com/>
- New York Public Library: <http://kids.nypl.org/book-lists>
- Teachers First: <http://www.teachersfirst.com/read-sei.cfm>

### **Book Reading Levels, Content, & Reviews:**

- Accelerated Reader: <http://www.arbookfind.com/default.aspx>
- Good Reads: <http://www.goodreads.com/>
- Level it App: <http://levelitbooks.com/>

### **Nonfiction Research:**

- Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>
- Smithsonian: <http://smithsonianeducation.org/>
- NASA: <http://www.nasa.gov/>
- The White House: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/>
- American Museum of Natural History: <http://www.amnh.org/>
- Discovery: <http://dsc.discovery.com/>
- The National Archives: <http://www.archives.gov/>
- Kids Computer Lab: <http://www.kidscomputerlab.org/>