

## **2017 Summer Reading Assignment Students entering Grade 6**

June 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

This summer reading assignment is designed to encourage our students to read independently and to engage with text through a variety of activities. The assignment allows for choice, taking into account a multitude of learning styles and seeks to develop many of the skills addressed in our Common Core State Standards.

Students are required to read two (2) books and **to complete one “Summer Reading Response Choice Board” for each of the books**. The activities on the choice board are suitable for books of fiction and nonfiction. Please be sure to read the board carefully. You are free to choose your own books! If you need suggestions, please refer to the list provided. Have fun and find books that interest you.

**Please bring your two (2) completed reading response board work to Literacy class by September 12, 2017.** Remember this is a graded assignment for the first quarter. Bring your best work! Enjoy your summer!

Respectfully,

The Grade 6 Literacy Teachers

## Summer Reading Response

# Choice Board

**Choose 3 activities to complete a tic-tac-toe. These activities are suitable for both fiction and nonfiction texts.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Point of View</b></p> <p>Retell a major event from the story from a different character's/person's point of view. <b>(Two paragraph minimum)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Theme</b></p> <p>What is the theme of the story? What is the message the author wants to leave with the reader? Use <b>three pieces of evidence</b> from the text to support your thinking.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Characterization</b></p> <p>Draw a portrait of one of the characters in the book and use captions to explain why they look and dress the way they do. Also, name at least two character traits describing the character. <b>Use three pieces of evidence</b> to support your thinking.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Setting</b></p> <p>Draw a map of the setting and in a list of captions, explain how each landmark affected the plot.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Create a crossword puzzle using 5 words that you either don't know the meaning of or are important to understanding the text. Make sure you also <b>include clues for your puzzle.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plot</b></p> <p>Describe 3 main events in the story. What is the turning point in the story? <b>Use evidence from the text</b> to support your answer.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cause &amp; Effect</b></p> <p>Using specific evidence from the text, describe 2 cause and effect relationships from the story. Sample starters: <b>When</b> _____, <b>then</b> _____ <b>Since</b> _____, _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Comic Strips</b></p> <p>Create a comic strip that retells the story using your own words. Make sure the comic strip includes the <b>main characters/people involved, setting, the problem, two events, and a conclusion.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Questioning</b></p> <p>Create a list of at least 5 interview questions for one of the characters/person discussed in the book and answer each question as you think the character/person would answer it.</p>

## Grading Criteria

- Complete 3 activities (20 points)
- Title is written on the paper for each activity (20 points)
- All of your work should be done using complete sentences (20 points)
- Spelling, grammar, and punctuation is used appropriately (20 points)
- Directions from each activity was followed (20 points)
- Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_/100

## Suggested Book List for Grade 6

- Angleberger, Tom. **DARTH PAPER STRIKES BACK.** (Fiction)

Harvey is upset when his Darth Paper finger puppet brings humiliation and gets Dwight suspended. Origami Yoda asks Tommy and Kellan, now in seventh grade, to make a new casefile to persuade the School Board to reinstate Dwight.

- Angleberger, Tom. **STRANGE CASE OF ORIGAMI YODA.** (Fiction)

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight. They try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future.

- Applegate, Katherine. **THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN.** (Fiction)

Ivan is a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall. When he meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

- Barrett, Tracy. **THE 100-YEAR-OLD SECRET.** (Mystery)

An American brother and sister living in London, discover that Sherlock Holmes was their great-great-great grandfather. They are inducted into the Society for the Preservation of Famous Detectives and given his unsolved casebook. They attempt to solve the case of a famous missing painting.

- Bauer, Joan. **ALMOST HOME.** (Fiction)

Sixth-grader Sugar and her mother lose their beloved house and experience the harsh world of homelessness.

- Black, Holly. **DOLL BONES.** (Fiction)

Zach, Poppy and Alice have been friends for ever. They love playing with their action figure toys, imagining a magical world of adventure and heroism. Just when it looks like the three might be growing up and leaving the game behind, Poppy reveals she is being haunted. Reality and make-believe begin to blend, and the three head out on an adventure they will never forget.

- Choat, Beth. **SOCCERLAND.** (Fiction)

Flora is such a good soccer player that she has been invited to the International Sports Academy to compete for a chance on the U. S. Girls' Soccer team.

- Clements, Andrew. **ABOUT AVERAGE.** (Fiction)

As the end of sixth grade nears, Jordan Johnson, unhappy that she is only average in appearance, intelligence, and athletic ability, reveals her special skills when disaster strikes her central Illinois elementary school.

- Clements, Andrew. **TROUBLE-MAKER.** (Fiction)

When his older brother gets in serious trouble, sixth-grader Clay decides to change his own mischief-making ways, but he cannot seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.

- Connor, Leslie. **WAITING FOR NORMAL.** (Fiction)

Waiting for a "normal" life, Addie is forced to make it on her own when her mother neglects to live up to her responsibilities.

- Cronin, Doreen. **THE TROUBLE WITH CHICKENS.** (Fiction)

J.J. Tully is a former search-and-rescue dog who is trying to enjoy his retirement after years of performing daring missions saving lives. So he's not terribly impressed when two chicks named Dirt and Sugar and their chicken mom show up demanding his help to find their missing siblings. Driven by the promise of a cheeseburger, J.J. begins to track down clues. Is Vince the Funnel hiding something? Are there dark forces at work?

- Curtis, Christopher Paul. **THE MIGHTY MISS MALONE.** (Fiction)

With love and determination befitting the "world's greatest family," Deza Malone, her brother Jimmie, and their parents endure tough times in Indiana and later Michigan, during the Great Depression.

- Draper, Sharon. **OUT OF MY MIND.** (Fiction)

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

- Erskine, Katherine. **MOCKINGBIRD.** (Fiction)

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

- Fleming, Candace. **AMELIA LOST.** (Biography)

This book tells the story of Amelia Earhart's life - as a child, a woman, and a pilot - and describes the search for her missing plane.

- Freedman, Russell. **ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND FREDERICK DOUGLASS.** (Nonfiction)  
Freedman tells the story of a friendship between two men who shared many characteristics. Lincoln and Douglass were both self-educated, born into poverty, and through relentless effort and hard work, reached great success.

- Hiaasen, Carl. **CHOMP.** (Fiction)  
When filming an episode of the reality television show "Expedition Survival" in the Florida Everglades, the difficult star disappears. Wahoo and classmate, Tuna Gordon, set out to solve the mystery.

- Hopkinson, Deborah. **TITANIC: VOICES FROM DISASTER.** (Nonfiction)  
Photographs, telegrams, letters, and first-person accounts from passengers, witnesses, and crew members provide multiple perspectives on the sinking of the Titanic.

- Korman, Gordon. **SCHOOLED.** (Fiction)  
Capricorn Cap Anderson has been homeschooled by his hippie grandmother, Rain. When Rain is injured in a fall, Cap is forced to attend the local middle school. Although he knows a lot about Zen Buddhism, nothing has prepared him for public school.

- Korman, Gordon. **UNGIFTED.** (Fiction)  
After pulling a major prank in school and due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction.

- Lakin, Patricia. **STEVE JOBS: THINKING DIFFERENTLY.** (Biography)  
Everyone knows that Steve Jobs was an entrepreneur and a visionary. This book discusses Jobs' triumphs, but it also lets us see his human side. Readers are reminded that people who dare to dream can change the world.

- Lawlor, Laurie. **RACHEL CARSON AND HER BOOK THAT CHANGED THE WORLD.** (Nonfiction)  
Rachel Carson was an ordinary child who grew up to be a pioneer environmentalist. This biography shows that anyone can make a difference. A detailed epilogue explains more about the lasting impact of her book, *Silent Spring*.

- Lubar, David. **DOG DAYS.** (Fiction)  
Larry has to work hard to try to earn money to buy food to feed three stray dogs. Now his brother has taken him to an alley where another dog is staying. How can he afford to take care of another dog?

- Mills, Claudia. **HOW OLIVER OLSON CHANGED THE WORLD.** (Realistic Fiction)  
Oliver has a problem...his parents are way too protective and to top it off, they won't even let him do school projects by himself. When his teacher proclaims that anyone can change the world with a good idea, Oliver is skeptical but hopeful that it is true.

- Palacio, R. J. **WONDER.** (Fiction)  
Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan. There he endures the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

- Patent, Dorothy Henshaw. **DOGS ON DUTY.** (Nonfiction)  
The invaluable contributions of Military Working Dogs are well documented in this book. Patent discusses their special attributes such as the night vision and sense of smell that help these dogs keep their human partners safe. Patterson, James and Chris Grabenstein.

- Patterson, Nancy Ruth. **Ellie Ever.** (Fiction)  
After losing her father and all their possessions in a hurricane, nine-year-old Ellie and her mother move to a small apartment on a horse farm in Virginia. There her new classmates think that she lives in a mansion and is a princess.

- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. **HAND IN HAND: TEN BLACK MEN WHO CHANGED AMERICA.** (Biography)  
This biography profiles the lives of 10 brave men from different eras of American History. Readers discover that each man left an indelible legacy and that courage and determination can turn ordinary citizens into heroes.

- Selznick, Brian. **WONDERSTRUCK.** (Fiction)  
Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City. There he meets Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

- Scott, Elaine. **BURIED ALIVE.** (Nonfiction)

This book describes the 2010 mining accident in San José, Chile, in which thirty-three men became trapped underground for over sixty days and details the rescue efforts and the worldwide media coverage of the event.

- Silverstein, Shel. **EVERYTHING ON IT.** (Poetry)

This poetry collection, published since Silverstein's death, includes more than one hundred and thirty never-before-seen poems and drawings completed by the cherished American artist.

- Telgemeier, Raina. **SMILE.** (Fiction—Graphic Novel)

Raina trips and severely injures her two front teeth. She copes with a variety of dental problems that affect her appearance and how she feels about herself.