

Summer Reading for Students Entering Grade 6

The summer reading for incoming sixth graders includes three novels; one novel will be required for the entire class, and the second and third novels may be individually selected from the attached lists or personal libraries. There will be writing assignments for all three novels. This summer students entering the sixth grade have two options for their required reading; they are listed below.

Under The Blood-Red Sun by Graham Salisbury: Hawaii, December 7, 1941 – Pearl Harbor. “World War II seems far away for Tomi and his friends – they’re too busy playing ball on their eighth-grade team, the Rats. But then Pearl Harbor is attacked by the Japanese.” Tomi, who was born in Hawaii but whose parents and grandfather were born in Japan, has his life turned upside down.

OR

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis: “It’s 1936 in Flint, Michigan. Times may be hard, and ten-year-old Bud may be a motherless boy on the run, but Bud’s got a few things going for him.” He has some flyers his mother gave him, and he hopes that these flyers will lead him to his father.

Each student is responsible for purchasing and reading one of these novels. As you read, highlight and take notes in your novel. As a class, we will be using this novel in language arts class to write a “character sketch.” Keep a “character log” for one character in the novel. **This “character log” should be a list of 10-15 quotations (including page number) that demonstrate any elements of the character’s personality. You must also give a brief explanation of each quote. (See example below.) Remember, quotations do not have to be dialogue.**

1. Bud – “Buddy traveled for two days with only a candy bar and one bottle of water. But he never thought about how tough it was.” **Page 121 – This shows how determined Bud is during his trip to find his father.**

Upon returning from summer vacation, one of our first language arts assignments will be writing a “character sketch.” This writing assignment will be based on the notes students have taken over the major characters in the novel. These notes will also provide excellent input for our class discussions. Students will hand in notes during the first day of class.

Additional Reading:

The second and third novels are individual choices. These novels may be selected from the attached list or a student's own personal library. Students must complete a copy of the attached book summary sheet for each of these two novels. **All summer reading projects must be handed in the first day of class.**

NEWBERY AWARD BOOKS

2010:

Medal Winner: *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead

Honor Books: *Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg Rodman Philbrick

2009:

Medal Winner: *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman

Honor Books: *The Underneath* by Kathi Appelt

Savvy by Ingrid Law

After Tupac and D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson

2008:

Medal Winner: *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village* by Laura Amy Schlitz

Honor Books: *Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

Feathers by Jacqueline Woodson

2007:

Medal Winner: *The Higher Power of Lucky* by Susan Patron

Honor Books: *Penny from Heaven* by Jennifer L. Holm

Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson

Rules by Cynthia Lord

2006:

Medal Winner: *Criss Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins

Honor Books: *Whitinton* by Alan Armstrong

Hitler Youth: Growing up in Hitler's Shadow by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Princess Academy by Shannon Hale

Show Way by Jacqueline Woodson

2005:

Medal Winner: *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadhata

Honor Books: *Alcapone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights by Russell Freedman

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy by Gary Schmidt

2004:

Medal Winner: *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo

Honor Books: *Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes

An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 by Jim Murphy

2003:

Medal Winner: *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi

Honor Books: *The House of Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer

Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

A Corner of The Universe by Ann M. Martin

Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

2002:

Medal Winner: *A Single Shared* by Linda Sue Park

Honor Books: *Everything on a Waffle* by Polly Horvath

2001:

Medal Winner: *A Year Down Under* by Richard Peck

Honor Books: *Hope was Here* by Joan Bauer

Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Joey Pigza Loves Control by Jack Gantos

The Wanderer by Sharon Creech

2000:

Medal Winner: *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis

Honor Books: *Getting Near Baby* by Audrey Coulombis

Our Only May Amelia by Jennifer L. Holm

26 Fairmount Avenue by Tomie dePaola

MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD BOOKS

2010:

Medal Winner: *Going Bovine* by Libba Bray

Honor Books: *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* by Debra Heiligen

The Monstrumologist by Rick Yancy

Punkzilla by Adam Rapp

Tales of the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance, 1973

by John Barnes

2009:

Medal Winner: *Jellicoe Road* by Melina Marchetta

Honor Books: *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Vol 2: The Kingdom of the Waves* by M.T. Anderson

The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks by E. Lockhart

Nation by Terry Pratchett

Tender Morsels by Margo Lanagan

2008:

Medal Winner: *The White Darkness* by Geraldine McCaughrean

Honor Books: *Dreamquake: Book Two of the Dreamhunter Duet* by Elizabeth Knox

One Whole and Perfect Day by Judith Clarke

Repossessed by A.M. Jenkins

2007:

Medal Winner: *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang

Honor Books: *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing: Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 1: The Pox Party* by M.T. Anderson

The Abundance of Katherines by John Green

Surrender by Sonya Hartnett

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

2006:

Medal Winner: *Looking for Alaska* by John Green

Honor Books: *Black Juice* by Marg Lanagan

I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak

A Wreath for Emmett Till by Marilyn Nelson

2005:

Medal Winner: *how I live now* by Meg Rosoff

Honor Books: *Airborn* by Kenneth Oppel

Chanda's Secrets by Allan Stratton

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy by Gary D. Schmidt

2004:

Medal Winner: *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson

Honor Books: *The Northern Light* by Jennifer Donnelly

Keesha's House by Helen Frost

Fat Kid Rules the World by K.L. Going

2003:

Medal Winner: *Postcards from No Man's Land* by Aidan Chambers

Honor Books: *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer
My Heartbreak by Garret Freymann-Weyr
Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos

2002:

Medal Winner: *A Step From Heaven* by An Na
Honor Books: *The Ropemaker* by Peter Dickinson
Art by Jan Greenberg Abrams
Freewill by Chris Lynch
True Believer by Virginia Euwer Wolff

2001:

Medal Winner: *Kit's Wilderness* by David Almond
Honor Books: *Many Stones* by Carolyn Coman
The Body of Christopher Creed by Carol Plum-Ucci
Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman

2000:

Medal Winner: *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers
Honor Books: *Skellig* by David Almond
Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson
Hard Love by Ellen Wittlinger

ADDITIONAL BOOKS ENJOYED BY PREVIOUS 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

The Alex Rider Series by Anthony Horowitz
The On The Run Series by Gordon Korman
Catch by Will Leitch
A Mango Shaped Space by Wendy Mass
Glory Field by Walter Dean Myers
Wringer by Jerry Spinelli
Change Up by John Feinstein
The Big Field by Mike Lupica
Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson
Summer of my German Soldier by Bette Greene
Travel Team by Mike Lupica
The Entitled by Frank Deford
My Brother Sam is Dead by James Lincoln Collier and Chris Collier
Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac
Rifles for Watie by Harold Keith
Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Small Steps by Louis Sachar
Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher

Incantation by Alice Hoffman
Green Angel by Alice Hoffman
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
A Hero Ain't Nothin' but a Sandwich by Alice Childress
Shane by Jack Schaefer
Tangerine by Edward Bloor
Jump Ship to Freedom by James and Christopher Collier
Trouble Don't Last by Shelley Pearsall
Looking for Alaska by John Green
The Boy Who Saved Baseball

