

6th Grade English Summer Reading

Student Guidelines: Everyone should read at least **SIX books**. The book MUST be at least 150 pgs. You do NOT need to actually purchase any of these books. We encourage you to check them out from your local library. You may also listen to audio books, and you're welcome to read additional books from the categories (ex. two of the social studies books) to get to six. Students should print and fill out the attached reading log and bring it to class the first day of school.

Must Read for English	You must read a book related to immigration (not a book <i>about</i> immigration). This book will partner with our novel study of <i>Esperanza Rising</i> (about a Mexican family forced to flee their home and find work in the fields during the Dust Bowl era of America). Below is a list of some books that might interest you, but there are many more options that a local librarian could recommend. We recommend you read this book AT THE END OF THE SUMMER because this is the first novel unit we'll do in 6th grade. Some suggested titles include but are not limited to:
	<i>Inside Out and Back Again</i> (a novel in free verse) by Thanhha Lai
	<i>It Ain't So Awful, Falafel</i> (novel) by Firoozeh Dumas
	<i>American Born Chinese</i> (graphic novel) by Gene Luen Yang
	<i>Salt to the Sea</i> (novel) or <i>Between the Shades of Gray</i> (novels) by Ruta Sepetys
	<i>Red Scarf Girl</i> by Ji-Li Jiang
Must Read for English	One book should be related to mythology. You will discuss this book next year during in-class activities as we study Greek mythology and read <i>The Adventures of Ulysses</i> . We recommend something like the Percy Jackson series (or almost anything by Rick Riordan), but there are plenty of others from which to choose. C.M. Gray is another young adult author who writes mythological stories. Finally, students may also choose to read the <i>D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths</i> (can be found on Amazon).

Optional Read for English	Next spring, we will be reading a novel called <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> (about an African American family struggling to keep their land and fight racism/oppression in 1930s rural Mississippi). If students are interested in (NOT required) reading a more modern book that partners well with this novel, below are a couple of options:
	<i>One Crazy Summer</i> (novel) by Rita Williams-Garcia
	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> (a novel in free verse) by Jacqueline Woodson
Choice Books for English	The other 3-4 books are the reader's choice. We encourage everyone to explore a variety of genres. Below are some resources for current titles.

Book Recommendations

If you are looking for some book recommendations, check out the links below. Please note that teachers have not necessarily read all of these books, and therefore, we can't speak to the content or appropriateness for all ages. Please read the included descriptions and level-recommendations for further guidance.

Books Suggestions for Sports Fanatics: <https://www.booklistonline.com/Top-10-Sports-Books-for-Youth/pid=7675889>

Book Suggestions for Sci Fi Enthusiasts: <http://bestsciencefictionbooks.com/best-science-fiction-books-for-young-adults.php>

Book Suggestions for the Fantasy Fans: http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/26979.Best_Fantasy_Books_for_Middle_Schoolers

YA Book Suggestions: <http://www.readbrightly.com/ya-books-2017/>

Scholastic Book Suggestions: <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/book-list/favorites-classics/top-picks-middle-schoolers>

Frequently asked questions:

- 1.) Is there a minimum page requirement?
Yes, 150 pages is the minimum for that book to count towards summer reading. However, we encourage students to pay attention to the reading level as well. While we always encourage students to read books that challenge them, more importantly we want students read books they can comprehend.
- 2.) Do graphic novels count as books?
Yes, they still have to be at least 150 pages.
- 3.) Do comic books count as books?
No, they don't.
- 4.) Do magazines count as books?
Not for this kind of assignment
- 5.) Do joke books count?
No, they book much have characters and a plot.
- 6.) Do I have to read every day?
We don't have a way to enforce this, obviously, but we're going to say yes, even if it's just a page. Take advantage of car rides, down time, etc.
- 7.) Do audiobooks count?
Yes, as long as you're reading along in the book. And the actual book still needs to be at least 150 pages.
- 8.) Can I read more than six books?
Yes, please! We are encouraging a book a week, but at a minimum, you are reading six books.
- 9.) Can I read more than one book from the required lists?
Of course, and it will count towards the total of 6.
- 10.) Will I have to do a book report or book talk for these books?
No, you won't have to do a book report or take a quiz on these books. However, you will be expected to participate in activities that require you to talk about the basic plot, main characters, and main theme (lesson learned). If it helps to take a few basic notes on the book, feel free to do that, especially if you're someone who plans to read a lot more than six books. You are welcome to bring those notes to class at the beginning of next year.

Name:

Summer Reading Log

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