



May 2024

Dear Incoming 6th Grade Students,

I'm thrilled to welcome you to 6th grade ELA! As you enjoy summer break, please *read*. Summer reading is a wonderful way to prepare for middle school and a great way to explore a new series, author, or genre.

This summer, please read **two chapter books of your choice**. Yes, the choice is yours! Talk with family and friends, reach out to the Kirtland Public Library, or view the Newbery Medal winners on the Barnes & Noble website for some great suggestions. As you read, complete:

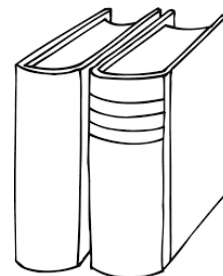
Four Activity Menu Responses (4)	Two Vocabulary Trackers (2)
A menu of activity options is located on the next page. Complete two activities per book . Please do not repeat an activity. Each activity is designed to encourage <i>original</i> thought and <i>individual</i> connections, so take your time and show your best work. These four activities can be typed or handwritten.	These trackers will help you understand new, unfamiliar words that you'll encounter while reading. Use the two tracker charts provided in this packet, or create your own on a separate sheet of paper. To help you, an example using the word "forlorn" is included in this packet.

During the first week of school, I will collect your four reading activities and two vocabulary trackers. You may be asked to share your responses in class or with a partner. Happy summer, and I look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Sincerely,




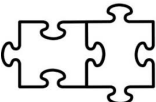



Ms. O'Donnell

6th Grade ELA Teacher




Activity Menu

- ❖ Complete a total of **four activities** from the menu below (two per book). **Please do not repeat an activity.**
- ❖ Use a separate sheet of paper for each activity which can be typed or handwritten.
- ❖ Include: **your name, the book's title, date,** and the **activity name** in the upper left corner of each activity.

Activity	Description & Requirements
Symbols 	Draw 3 pictures or symbols that represent the book in some way. Strive to use symbols that represent big ideas or themes. Then, in one paragraph , describe how each drawing or symbol relates to the text. Requirement: 6 sentences minimum
Character Journal 	Choose a character from the book and write a diary entry from the perspective of that character. The diary entry should reveal the major event(s) in the character's life, as well as some of the character's inner thoughts, feelings, hopes, predictions, concerns and/or frustrations. Requirement: 8 sentences minimum
Advice Column 	Imagine a character from your book is seeking your advice. Write the character's question. Please be sure to include important background information and details from the book to help me understand your question. Then, provide the character with detailed advice. Requirement: 8 sentences minimum
Connections 	Close readers make connections with books. During or after reading, describe 3 connections you have in one well-written paragraph . Types of connections are below. Requirement: 8 sentences minimum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Text-to-Text: Your book reminds you of another book/article. ● Text-to-World: Your book reminds you of a world/local event. ● Text-to-Self: Your book reminds you of an aspect of your life.
Talk Show 	Suppose a character from your book is a guest on a TV show or podcast, and YOU are the host. Write a transcript of the interview. Be sure to introduce the character and ask questions that reveal the character's beliefs, motivations (reasons for doing certain actions), conflicts/struggles, future goals, etc. Write the character's response to each of your questions. Requirement: 12 sentences minimum in a script format
Alternative 	Rewrite a specific event, or the ending of your book, to reflect a different outcome. Your alternative event or ending should be thorough and detailed. Requirement: 12 sentences minimum
Reflection 	During or after reading, please reflect on some of the questions below. Requirement: 10 sentences minimum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By the end of the novel, what has a character learned based on his/her experiences? ● How has the main character changed from the beginning of the novel to the end? ● What are you learning about YOURSELF from reading? (values, attitudes, beliefs, etc.) ● Do you think the story has a theme or message? Explain.

Vocabulary Tracker Example

Unknown Vocabulary Word	Book Title
<i>forlorn</i>	<i>Weedflower</i>
Write the page number and the sentence from the book that uses the word.	<i>Page 4: He looked a little <u>forlorn</u> over the thought that she might have forgotten what she promised him.</i>
Predict: What do you think this word means?	<i>I think forlorn means mad.</i>
Part of Speech & Definition:	<i>adjective</i> <i>pitifully sad, abandoned, or lonely</i>
My own sentence using the word:	<i>The <u>forlorn</u> look on the boy's face proved he was sad about losing the game.</i>
My Image, Sketch or Association of the word:	

Please refer to this example as you complete your two Vocabulary Trackers.

Vocabulary Tracker #1

Unknown Vocabulary Word <hr/>	Book Title <hr/>
Write the page number and the sentence from the book that uses the word.	
Predict: What do you think this word means?	
Part of Speech & Definition:	
My own sentence using the word:	
My Image, Sketch or Association of the word:	

Vocabulary Tracker #2

Unknown Vocabulary Word <hr/>	Book Title <hr/>
Write the page number and the sentence from the book that uses the word.	
Predict: What do you think this word means?	
Part of Speech & Definition:	
My own sentence using the word:	
My Image, Sketch or Association of the word:	