



May 2017

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students,

Summer break is an excellent opportunity to read for fun. ***Reading is also a wonderful workout for your brain and the best way to prepare for 6<sup>th</sup> grade!*** Therefore, over the summer, please read a minimum of ***two books of your choice***. Ideally, select books that are within a Lexile range of 665-1000. Lexile levels can be found using the search bar in the upper right corner of the site [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com). Most importantly, please select books that appeal to you! Talk with family and friends, browse the Kirtland Library, or visit a local bookstore for suggestions. I've also attached a list of recommendations on behalf of the current 6th graders.

As you read, complete a total of ***eight reading activities*** (four activities per book, for example) and ***four WordMaps***. The menu of reading activities is on the back of this sheet. Select your favorite activities, but please note that you **cannot complete the same activity more than twice**. Each reading activity is designed to encourage *original* thought and *individual* connections, so please take your time and show your best work! The reading activities can be typed or handwritten. The WordMaps are attached, and they should be used to help you understand unfamiliar words. Please see the attached example for help completing your own WordMap. **During the first week of school, I will collect your eight reading activities and WordMaps.** We will also refer to the activities and WordMaps in our small group discussions.

Have fun, and use this assignment as an opportunity to explore a new series, author, or genre. I look forward to having you in class, and I hope you have a wonderful summer! Happy reading!

Sincerely,

*Ms. O'Donnell*

[andreha.odonnell@kirtlandschools.org](mailto:andreha.odonnell@kirtlandschools.org)

## 6th Grade Summer Reading General Expectations:

- ❖ Please read your independent book for **approximately 20 minutes each day**.
- ❖ Students are expected to read at least **two** grade level appropriate texts **over the course of the summer**.
- ❖ Complete a total of **eight activities**. **Please do not complete the same activity more than two times**.
- ❖ Please use a separate sheet of paper for each activity. Be sure to include: **your name, the book's title, date** and the **activity name** in the upper left corner of each activity.

Activity	Description & Requirements
<b>Symbols</b>	Draw/sketch 3 pictures or symbols that represent the book in some way. Strive to use symbols that represent ideas or themes. Then, in one well-written paragraph (6 sentence minimum), describe how your drawings or symbols relate to the text.
<b>Line Lighter</b>	Select a striking, thought-provoking or significant line(s) from the text. Then, in one well-written paragraph (6 sentence minimum), explain why you feel the words are important. Please be sure to include the line and page number. *The quote/line from the book does not count toward the minimum 6 sentence requirement.
<b>Character Journal</b>	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. (8 sentence minimum)
<b>Advice Column</b>	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 frame the question. Then, provide the character with detailed advice. (total of 8 sentences, minimum)
<b>Connections</b>	Close readers make connections with books as they read. During or after reading, describe 3 connections you have in a well written paragraph (8 sentences minimum). Types of connections are: <b>Text-to-Text:</b> Your book reminds you of another book/article. <b>Text-to-World:</b> Your book reminds you of a world/local event. <b>Text-to-Self:</b> Your book reminds you of an aspect of your life.
<b>Talk Show</b>	Suppose a major character from your book is a guest on a TV or radio show, and YOU are the host. Write a script of the show. Your script should introduce the character, and ask questions that reveal the character's beliefs, motivations (reasons for doing certain actions), conflicts, future goals, etc. (12 sentences minimum written as a script)
<b>Alternative</b>	Rewrite a specific event, or the ending of your book, to reflect a different outcome. Your alternative event or ending should be thorough and include details. (12 sentence minimum)
<b>Reflection</b>	During or after reading, please take a moment to reflect on the questions below. Answer at least 3 of the 4 questions in a well written paragraph. (10 sentence minimum) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) At the end of the novel, what has the main character learned based on his/her experiences? How has he/she changed from the beginning of the novel to the end?</li> <li>2) You may have learned something really interesting that you never knew before; explain this.</li> <li>3) What are you learning about YOURSELF from the reading? (Your own values, attitudes, and beliefs)</li> <li>4) Do you think the story has a theme, or something the author wants you to know? Explain what you think the theme is.</li> </ol>

## 6th Grade Summer Reading Suggestions

Below are some titles recommended by the current 6th grade students. Enjoy!

- Touch Blue by Cynthia Lord
- Spy School, Spy Camp by Stuart Gibbs
- Out of the Dust, The Music of Dolphins, A Light in the Storm, Letters From Rifka by Karen Hesse
- Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Warrior Cats Series by Erin Hunter
- The BFG; Matilda; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
- Fantasy League; One Million Dollar Arm by Mike Lupica
- Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling
- The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
- Switched at Birthday: A Wish Novel by Natalie Standiford
- Breakaway: Beyond the Goal by Alex Morgan
- Call It Courage by Armstrong Sperry
- Wonder by R.J. Palacio
- The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate
- Percy Jackson & the Olympians by Rick Riordan
- Old Yeller by Fred Gibson
- A Clatter of Jars by Lisa Graff
- The Magisterium Series by Holly Black and Cassandra Clare
- Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
- The Last Apprentice Series by Joseph Delaney
- The Beyonders Series by Brandon Mull
- Threatened, Endangered by Eliot Schrefer
- Losers Take All by David Klass
- A Dog's Purpose by W. Bruce Cameron

# MODEL

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Word Map

1

forlorn

unknown vocabulary word from your book

Source (book title)

Weedflower

2

3

page # and sentence from book that uses the word

pg. 4 He looked a little forlorn over the thought that she might have forgotten what she promised him.

4

What do you think this word means? (Predict)

I think forlorn means mad.

6

adjective

part of speech

5

dictionary definition of the word.

pitifully sad, abandoned or lonely

9

my association, example or sketch of the word



7

synonym

unhappy

8

antonym/non-example

happy

10

My own sentence using the new word:

The forlorn look on his face proved he was sad about losing the game.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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