



NSU Middle Lab School  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade (entering 6<sup>th</sup>)  
SUMMER READING LIST 2014

May 12, 2014

Dear Rising Sixth Graders (formerly called Fifth Graders),

Reading is a very important part of your experience at NSU Middle Lab, and we hope that each of you will become a life-long pleasure reader. Summer is a time for recreational reading, for exploring new books or reading those that you never had time for during the busy school year. Although we hope that you will read voraciously this summer, we request that each of you read a minimum of three books.

Students are asked to read at least **three** books from the list below or any appropriate book on your reading level. Visit [www.ARbookfind.com](http://www.ARbookfind.com) to check reading levels and AR points. Upon returning to school, you will be asked to share and AR test on your reading of these books in terms of plot, character, setting, conflict, and theme.

Complete **one** activity for **each** of your novel choices. You will be asked to turn these activities in your Reading/ELA teacher by the end of the second week of school. **You should not choose a book that you have previously read!**

- **Note to parents: All parents are encouraged to preview books or read books with their students in order to ensure understanding. Some of these books have more mature content than others. Please be mindful of that when choosing books with your student.**

**Here's the list of activity options to choose from:**

1. Imagine that you are a character in the book, and write a diary entry about your experiences, thoughts, and feelings.
2. Write a letter to a character in the book, giving her or him advice.
3. Imagine that you are the author of the book, and describe what happened to one of the characters years before or years after the time of the book.
4. Write a short composition on one of the themes for the book. For example, if one of the themes is love, you might write a composition about love, using examples from the book.
5. Write a poem, song, or story about character, conflict, theme, symbol, or another element of the book.
6. Draw a picture or diagram based on one of the characters or scenes from the book. (You may do this only once per book.) You should draw with care and purpose, and provide detailed explanations or quotes.
7. Interview one of the characters about the story or about anything your imagination comes up with, asking questions in your voice and giving answers in the character's voice.
8. Review the book. Give your opinions about it; cite examples and quotes from the book to support why you think it is an interesting book or not. Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not?
9. Write about the main problem or conflict in the book. Who is involved and what is it about?
10. Finish the sentence: "I love (hate) the way the author (or a character) . . ." (Remember, 250-300 words!)
11. Design a final examination for your book. The exam must contain 5-10 T/F, 10 multiple choice, 5 short answer, and one essay. Supply a completed answer sheet.
12. Any creative way you can think of to share with your teacher and class what you learned about the book you read.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

### **Realistic Fiction**

*Nothing But the Truth*, Avi  
*Tangerine*, Edward Bloor  
*Frindle*, Andrew Clements  
*Walk Two Moons*, Sharon Creech  
*Seedfolks*, Paul Fleischman  
*The Clique*, Lisi Harrison (series)  
*The View From Saturday*, E.L. Konigsnburg  
*The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nickname Game*, Gordon Korman  
*The Boy Who Saved Baseball*, John Ritter  
*Maniac Magee*, Jerry Spinelli  
*Stargirl*, Jerry Spinelli  
*The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, Tim Angelberger  
*True Legend (and others)*, Mike Lupica  
*Every Soul a Star (and others)*, Wendy Mass  
*Esperanza Rising*, Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Holes*, Louis Sachar  
*One Crazy Summer*, Rita Williams-Garcia  
*After Tupac and D Foster*, Jacqueline Woodson  
*The Call of the Wild*, Jack London  
*Monster* by Walter Dean Myers  
*The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, Ann Brashares (series)  
*Taking Sides*, Gary Soto  
*Football Hero*, Tim Green

### **Mystery**

*Dead End in Norvelt*, Jack Gantos  
*Hoot, Flush, Scat, and Chomp*, Carl Hiaasen  
*Half-Moon Investigations*, Eoin Colfer  
*Dying to Meet You*, Kate Klise (series)  
*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, E.L. Konigsburg  
*The Westing Game*, Ellen Raskin  
*The Lovely Bones*, by Alice Sebold

### **Historical Fiction**

*Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott  
*Inside Out and Back Again*, Thanhha Lai  
*Fever 1793*, Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Crispin: The Cross of Lead*, Avi  
*Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, Eleanor Coerr  
*The Watson's Go to Birmingham – 1963*, Christopher Paul Curtis  
*A Boy at War*, Harry Mazer (series)

*Where the Red Fern Grows*, Wilson Rawls  
*The Wednesday Wars*, Gary Schmidt  
*Mr. Tucket*, Gary Paulsen (series)  
*The Book Thief*, by Marcus Zusak  
*Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko  
*My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier

### **Fantasy/Science Fiction**

*The Wizard of Oz*, Frank L. Baum (series)  
*Masterpiece*, Elise Broach  
*THE Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card  
*Inkheart (series)* and *Thief Lord*, Cornelia Funke  
*The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman  
*Warriors*, Erin Hunter (series)  
*Chronicles of Narnia*, C.S. Lewis  
*Hero*, Mike Lupica  
*Percy Jackson and the Olympians, The Kane Chronicles, and Heroes of the Olympus*, Rick Riordan (series)  
*Harry Potter*, J.K. Rowling (series)  
*The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien  
*A Wrinkle in Time*, Madeline L'Engle  
*The Underneath*, Mary Amato  
*Artemis Fowl*, Eoin Colfer (series)  
*Princess Academy*, Shannon Hale  
*The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins (series)  
*Among the Hidden*, Margaret Peterson Haddix (series)  
*Twilight*, Stephanie Meyer (series)  
*The Devil's Arithmetic*, Jane Yolen  
*Dracula*, Bram Stoker

### **Nonfiction, Biography & Poetry**

*Titanic: Voices from the Disaster*, Deborah Hopkinson  
*My Life in Dog Years*, Gary Paulsen  
*Guts*, Gary Paulsen  
*Knots in My Yo-Yo String*, Jerry Spinelli  
*Love That Dog*, Sharon Creech  
*If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand*, Kalli Dakos  
*Keeping the Night Watch*, Anita Hope Smith  
*The Way a Door Closes*, Anita Hope Smith  
*It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life*, Lance Armstrong  
*The Greatest: Muhammad Ali*, Walter Dean Myers  
*Hoop Dreams*, Ben Joravsky