

Dear **Rising 6th Graders**,

This summer you will be responsible for reading 3 books, chosen from the attached list below. Please select your three books from at least two different genres/categories, choose books that you haven't read before, and come prepared at the beginning of the school year to discuss and write about the books you chose.

After reading, choose ONE of the three books you read to:

1. Create a "**postcard**" using a 4 x 6" notecard (a 4 x 6 in. piece of paper is fine!).
2. On the blank side, illustrate one of the **settings** from the book.
3. On the lined side, write a **letter** addressed to Ms. Hazelton
4. Be sure to begin your letter with an **opening** ("Dear Ms. Hazelton,") and end it with a **closing** ("Sincerely," etc.).
5. In the body of your letter, write a short review and tell your **opinion(s)** about the book.
Some questions to get you started:
Did you enjoy it? Was it interesting? Boring? Strange? Funny? What do you like about it? What do you wish the author had done differently?
6. Please bring your postcard to our first English class meeting on the first day of classes.

Parents, please aid your child in selecting books that you feel are appropriate for both your child's reading level and maturity, and try to encourage them to make reading a consistent habit this summer. [*Common Sense Media*](#) is a great online resource for checking out the content & maturity of books (and other media!), and [*PBS.org's Great American Read website*](#) has an extensive list of quality literature for a variety of ages if you are trying to help your child find additional reading material this summer. There are also several free reading apps available on smartphones and mobile devices that your child may find useful to track their reading. I personally recommend one called [*Bookly*](#), because it is kid-user-friendly, and can track reading time, progress, and habits.

I am so excited to meet you all this coming August!
Have a wonderful summer break, and happy reading!

Ms. Hazelton

Fiction – General & Adventure

A Separate Peace by John Knowles
Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery
Bailey's Story by W. Bruce Cameron
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Munoz Ryan
Black Beauty by Anna Sewell
The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis
Brian's Winter by Gary Paulsen
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
Chomp by Carl Hiaasen
Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate
The Extra Yard by Mike Lupica
Fast Break by Mike Lupica
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Heidi by Johanna Spyri
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
The Incredible Journey by Sheila Bumford
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
Just Ella by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Last Man Out by Mike Lupica
Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds
Miracles on Maple Hill by Virginia Sorensen
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George
Okay for Now by Gary Schmidt
The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Reformed by Justin Weinberger
Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
The Hate U Give, Angie Thomas
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Tiger Rising by Kate DiCamillo
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
Wish by Barbara O'Connor
Wishtree by Katherine Applegate
When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
White Fang by Jack London
Wonder by Raquel J. Palacio

Poetry / Books in Verse

Booked (Crossover series) by Kwame Alexander
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
Emmy in the Key of Code by Aimee Lucido
Hate That Cat by Sharon Creech
Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate
Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Planet Middle School by Nikki Grimes
Rebound (Crossover series) by Kwame Alexander
Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein

Mystery

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie
Book Scavenger (Book Scavenger series) by
Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett
The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
Detectives in Togas by Henry Winterfeld
The Diamond of Drury Lane by Julia Golding
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris
Grabenstein
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E.
Frankweiler by E. L. Konigsburg
Frozen Charlotte: A Ghost Story by Alex Bell
Greenglass House (Greenglass House series) by
Kate Milford
Holes by Louis Sachar
The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee
Stewart
The Pharaoh's Secret by Marissa Moss
The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood
Spy School by Stuart Gibbs
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
Three Times Lucky by Sheila Turnage

Historical Fiction

A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Ashes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch
Between Shades of Grey by Ruta Sepetys
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare
Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two by Joseph Bruchac
The Darkest Hour by Caroline Tung Richmond
Fever, 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
Hiroshima by Laurence Yep
Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
Lyddie by Katherine Paterson
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
The Mighty Miss Malone by Christopher Paul Curtis
My Brother's Secret by Dan Smith
Night Witches by Kathryn Lasky
No Promises in the Wind by Irene Hunt
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth G. Speare

Graphic Novels

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
Awkward by Svetlana Chmakova
Drama by Raina Telgemeier
Ghosts by Raina Telgemeier
The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
Invisible Emmie by Terri Libenson
The Marvels by Brian Selznick
Mighty Jack by Ben Hatke
The Odyssey by Gareth Hinds
Pashmina by Nidhi Chanani
Real Friends by Shannon Hale & LeUyen Pham
Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson
Sisters by Raina Telgemeier
Smile by Raina Telgemeier
Sunny Side Up by Jennifer L. Holm
Sunny Rolls the Dice by Jennifer L. Holm
The Storm in the Barn by Matt Phelan
Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick

Science-Fiction & Fantasy

Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson
Cinder (Lunar Chronicles) by Marissa Meyer
The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau
Cress (Lunar Chronicles) by Marissa Meyer
Divergent (Divergent series) by Veronica Roth
The Dragonet Prophecy (Wings of Fire series) by Tui T. Sutherland
Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine
Gregor the Overlander (The Underland Chronicles series) by Suzanne Collins
The Giver by Louis Lowry
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (Harry Potter series) by J.K. Rowling
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (Harry Potter series) by J.K. Rowling
Heartless by Marissa Meyer
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke
The Keeper by David Baldacci
The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson series) by Rick Riordan
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien
The Lost Hero (Heroes of Olympus) by Rick Riordan
Mark of the Thief (Mark of the Thief series) by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Percy Jackson's Greek Gods by Rick Riordan
Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
Redwall (Redwall series) by Brian Jacques
Renegades by Marissa Meyer
Savvy by Ingrid Law
Supernova (Renegades series) by Marissa Meyer
The Red Pyramid (Kane Chronicles) by Rick Riordan
The Secret of Platform 13 by Eva Ibbotson
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
The Tyrant's Tomb (Trials of Apollo) by Rick Riordan
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle

Nonfiction

- A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story*** by
Linda Sue Park
- Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream***
by Tanya Lee Stone
- Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia
Earhart*** by Candace Fleming
- The Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the
World’s Most Dangerous Weapon*** by Steve
Sheinkin
- The Boys Who Challenged Hitler*** by Phillip Hoose
- Chasing Lincoln’s Killer*** by James L. Swanson
- Chasing King’s Killer*** by James L. Swanson
- Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting it Done***
by Andrea Gonzales & Sophie Houser
- Hidden Figures*** (Young Readers’ Edition) by Margot
Lee Shetterly
- Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina*** (Young
Readers’ Edition) by Misty Copeland
- Lincoln’s Grave Robbers*** Steve Sheinkin
- I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education
and Changed the World*** (Young Reader’s Edition)
by Malala Yousafzai
- Irena’s Children: A True Story of Courage*** (Young
Readers’ Edition) by Tilar J. Mazzeo
- No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the
Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits*** by
Jordan Romero
- The Playbook: 52 Ways to Aim, Shoot, and Score in
This Game Called Life*** by Kwame Alexander
- The Plot to Kill Hitler*** by Patricia McCormick
- Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed
America*** by Sharon Robinson
- Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You (Young Readers
Edition)***, Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi
- Trapped*** by Marc Aronson
- We’ve Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children’s
March*** by Cynthia Levinson