

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Dear **Rising 6th Graders**,

This summer you will be responsible for reading **2 books**, chosen from the attached list below. Please 1) select your 2 books from different genres/categories, 2) choose books that you haven't read before, and 3) come prepared at the beginning of the school year to discuss and write about the books you chose.

After reading, choose ONE of the two books you read to create a "**postcard**" using a **4 x 6"** **notecard** (a 4 x 6 in. piece of paper is fine!).

1. On the blank side, illustrate one of the **settings** from the book.
2. On the lined side, write a short **letter** addressed to Ms. Hazelton
3. Be sure to begin your letter with an **opening** ("Dear Ms. Hazelton,") and end it with a **closing** ("Sincerely," etc.).
4. In the body of your mini-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?
5. Please bring your postcard to our **first English class meeting** on the first week 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!). 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 – Contemporary & Adventure

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Becoming Naomi León by Pam Muñoz 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
Counting by 7’s by Holly Goldberg Sloan
Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate
The Extra Yard by Mike Lupica
Fast Break by Mike Lupica
**Feathers* by Jacqueline Woodson
**Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
The Incredible Journey by Sheila Bumford
The Length of a String by Elissa Brent Weissman
**Listen, Slowly* by Thanh Hà Lai
**Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George
Okay for Now by Gary Schmidt
**Patina* by Jason Reynolds
**The Red Pencil* by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Savvy by Ingrid Law
**The Science of Breakable Things* by Tae Keller
**The Season of Styx Malone* by Kekla Magoon
**See You in the Cosmos* by Jack Cheng
Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
**The Stars Beneath Our Feet* by David Barclay Moore
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett
The Tiger Rising by Kate DiCamillo
**Tight* by Torrey Maldonado
**The House That Lou Built* by Mae Respicio
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
Wish by Barbara O’Connor
When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Wonder by Rael J. Palacio

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
**Becoming Muhammad Ali* by James Patterson & Kwame Alexander
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
**It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* (Adapted for Young Readers) by Trevor Noah
**Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina* (Young Readers’ Edition) by Misty Copeland
Lincoln’s Grave Robbers Steve Sheinkin
How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity’s Greatest Adventure by John Rocco
**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 Dream of Space* by Erin Entrada Kelly
We’ve Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children’s March by Cynthia Levinson

Graphic Novels

**American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang
Awkward by Svetlana Chmakova
Be Prepared by Vera Brosgol
Becoming Brianna by Terri Libenson
**Class Act* by Jerry Craft
**Dragon Hoops* by Gene Luen Yang
Drama by Raina Telgemeier
Guts by Raina Telgemeier
The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
Invisible Emmie by Terri Libenson
**Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
The Marvels by Brian Selznick
**New Kid* by Jerry Craft
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
**Stargazing* by Jen Wang
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
**They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott, & Harmony Becker
Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick

Poetry / Books in Verse

All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg
Amber & Clay by Laura Amy Schlitz
**Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson
**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
Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate
House Arrest by K. A. Holt
**Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson
Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
**Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Planet Middle School by Nikki Grimes
**Rebound* (Crossover series) by Kwame Alexander

Science-Fiction & Fantasy

Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
**Aru Shah and the End of Time* by Roshani Chokshi
Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson
Cinder (Lunar Chronicles) by Marissa Meyer
The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau
Divergent (Divergent series) by Veronica Roth
The Dragonet Prophecy (Wings of Fire) by Tui T. Sutherland
Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine
Gregor the Overlander (The Underland Chronicles) by Suzanne Collins
The Giver by Louis Lowry
**The Gilded Ones* by Namina Forna
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (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
**Last Gate of the Emperor* by Kwame Mbalia & Prince Joel Makonnen
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
Redwall (Redwall series) by Brian Jacques
Renegades (Renegades series) by Marissa Meyer
Scythe (Scythe series) by Neal Shusterman
Shadow and Bone (Shadow and Bone series) by Leigh Bardugo
**Shuri: A Black Panther Novel* by Nic Stone
The Red Pyramid (Kane Chronicles) by Rick Riordan
The Secret of Platform 13 by Eva Ibbotson
The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel by Michael Scott
The Tower of Nero (Trials of Apollo) by Rick Riordan
**When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller
**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin
**A Wish in the Dark* by Christina Soontornvat
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
The York Series: The Shadow Cipher by Laura Ruby

* indicates books by diverse authors

Historical Fiction

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
Chains (*Seeds of America* series) by Laurie Halse Anderson
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
Ground Zero by Alan Gratz
Hiroshima by Laurence Yep
**Luck of the Titanic* by Stacey Lee
Lyddie by Katherine Paterson
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
**The Mighty Miss Malone* by Christopher Paul Curtis
My Brother's Secret by Dan Smith
A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Night Witches by Kathryn Lasky
No Promises in the Wind by Irene Hunt
Refugee by Alan Gratz
**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
A Separate Peace by John Knowles
**A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth G. Speare

Mystery

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie
Book Scavenger (*Book Scavenger* series) by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett
City Spies by James Ponti
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