

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Reading 2020

All 6<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read three books total over the summer. Read one fiction of the two listed below and one nonfiction book listed below. The third book is a book of choice. A suggestion is listed below.

Required books for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders:

(Fiction) ***Tiger, Tiger* by Lynne Reid Banks:** Discover what happens when two tiger cub brothers are taken from the wild to Ancient Rome. One to be the pampered pet of Emperor Caesar's daughter and the other becomes a man-eating "entertainment act" at the Colosseum. (*SLJ* and *Booklist* Reviews, *Publisher's Weekly* Starred Review)

**OR**

(Fiction) Any book in the ***The Roman Mysteries Series* by, Caroline Lawrence:** Travel back to ancient Roman Empire during the reign of the Emperor Titus. Follow the adventures of four children who solve mysteries and have adventures in Rome, Greece, and beyond. Read all 17! (Classical Association Prize, *Jr. Library Guild* Selection, International bestseller, *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, *SLJ* Reviews)

**AND**

(Nonfiction) ***Bodies From The Ash* by, James Deem:** the year A.D. 79, an eruption of Mount Vesuvius effectively wiped Pompeii and Herculaneum. Hundreds of years later excavators were able to cast plaster molds in air pockets formed by bodies encased in lava and hardened ash. (VOYA Honor List, Bank Street College Best of the Best, *SLJ*'s Best Children Book, CCBC Choice Award)

**OR**

(Nonfiction) Any ***DK Eyewitness*** Book on: Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient China, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome.

In addition we suggest students read ***The Hate U Give* by, Angie Thomas.** This book contains mature themes and is rated for age 13+ on Common Sense Media. Parents should use their discretion in deciding its appropriateness for their child. <https://www.common Sense Media.org/book-reviews/the-hate-u-give>

***The Hate U Give* by, Angie Thomas:** Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban school she attends. Her world is shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. What Starr does or does not say could upend her community, and could also endanger her life. (Printz Honor, Coretta Scott King Honor, William C Morris Award, National Book Award Nominee, Goodreads Best of the Best Award, *New York Times* Bestseller List, 8 starred reviews from literary review journals)

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Reading 2020

All 7<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read three books total over the summer. Read one fiction of the two listed below and one nonfiction book listed below. The third book is a book of choice. A suggestion is listed below.

### Required two books for incoming 7th graders:

(Fiction) ***Shooting Kabul* by, N.H. Senzai:** Escaping from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, Fadi and his family immigrate to the San Francisco. Fadi then schemes to return to the Pakistani refugee camp where his little sister was accidentally left behind. (Asian/Pacific American Award, Middle East Book Award, Bank Street Best Book of the Year, IRA's Teacher Choice, Booklist, *SLJ*, *Kirkus*, Reviews, NPR's Backseat Bookclub)

**OR**

(Fiction) ***The Shakespeare Stealer* by, Gary Blackwood:** An orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty. Read the whole trilogy! (ALA Best Book for Young Adults, *SLJ* Starred Review, *Kirkus* and *Publisher's Weekly* Reviews)

**AND**

***Twelve Days in Summer: Freedom Ride 1961:*** On May 4, 1961, a group of black and white civil rights activists launched the Freedom Ride, aiming to challenge the practice of segregation on buses in the South, with their peaceful protest. As the Riders traveled deeper into the South, they encountered increasing violence and opposition. Noted civil rights author Larry Dane Brimner relies on archival documents to tell the riveting story. (Sibert Award, *SLJ* Starred review, *Booklist* Starred review, *Kirkus* Review)

**OR**

(Nonfiction) Any ***DK Eyewitness*** Book on the following topics: Renaissance, Medieval, Knight, Castle, Arms and Armor. Or read any book in the ***Medieval World*** series by, Kay Eastwood.

In addition we suggest students read ***The Hate U Give* by, Angie Thomas.** This book contains mature themes and is rated for age 13+ on Common Sense Media. Parents should use their discretion in deciding its appropriateness for their child. <https://www.commonensemedia.org/book-reviews/the-hate-u-give>

***The Hate U Give* by, Angie Thomas:** Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban school she attends. Her world is shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. What Starr does or does not say could upend her community, and could also endanger her life. (Printz Honor, Coretta Scott King Honor, William C. Morris Award, National Book Award Nominee, Goodreads Best of the Best Award, *New York Times* Bestseller, 8 starred reviews from literary review journals)

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Reading 2020

All 8<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read three books total over the summer. Read one fiction of the two listed below and one nonfiction book listed below. The third book is a book of choice. A suggestion is listed below.

### Required two books for incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders:

***The Hate U Give* by, Angie Thomas:** Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban school she attends. Her world is shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. What Starr does or does not say could upend her community, and could also endanger her life. (Printz Honor, Coretta Scott King Honor, William C. Morris Award, National Book Award Nominee, Goodreads Best of the Best Award, *New York Times* Bestseller, 8 starred reviews from literary review journals)

### **AND**

(Nonfiction) ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by, James Swanson:** This young adult version of Swan's best selling *Manhunt*, is an account of Lincoln's assassination and the 12-day search for his killer. (*NYT* Bestseller List, YALSA Best Book for Young Adults, *SLJ* and *Kirkus* Starred Reviews)

**OR *The President Has Been Shot!*** This dramatic account, by the same author, of the 35th president's assassination is presented in the author's signature style and imparts the urgent pace and riveting details of the key events. (YOYA, *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, *SLJ* and *The Horn Book* Reviews)

### **OR**

(Nonfiction) ***The Freedom Summer Murders* by, Don Mitchell:** Coinciding with the fiftieth anniversary of the Freedom Summer murders, traces the events surrounding the KKK lynching of three young civil rights activists who were trying to register African Americans for the vote. (YOYA, *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, *SLJ* and *The Horn Book* Reviews)

In addition we suggest students read this documentary fiction book as their third choice.

(Fiction) ***Nothing But The Truth* by, Avi:** In this thought-provoking examination of freedom, patriotism, and respect, ninth-grader, Philip Malloy, is kept from joining the track team by his failing grades in English class. Convinced that the teacher just doesn't like him, Philip concocts a plan to get transferred out of her class. Breaking the school's policy of silence during the national anthem, he hums along, and ends up in a crisis at the center of the nation's attention. (Newbery Honor, ALA Best Book, ALA Notable, Boston *Globe-Horn* Award, *NY Times* Review)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer Reading Graphic Organizer  
for Nonfiction Books**

**Purpose (Why did the author write this book?)**

<b>Main Idea</b>	<b>Main Idea</b>	<b>Main Idea</b>
<b>Supporting Detail/Text Evidence</b> 1)  2)	<b>Supporting Detail/Text Evidence</b> 1)  2)	<b>Supporting Detail/Text Evidence</b> 1)  2)
<b>Interesting Facts</b>		

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Summer Reading Graphic Organizer for Fiction

Title/Author	
Main Characters	Brief Description of Main Characters: physical and personality traits
Describe the setting (time and place). Be sure to include at least one supporting detail from the text.	
Explain briefly the main conflict in the story and how was it solved or resolved. Be sure to include at least one supporting detail from the text.	
Explain the theme of the story. Be sure to include at least one supporting detail from the text.	