

East Lake Middle School 6th Grade Reading List

Choose **ONE** of the following novels to read over the summer. Complete the novel study essay and be prepared to turn this in the second week of school.

Double Identity, by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Ender's Game, by Orson Scott Card

Flipped, by Wendelin Van Draanen

Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell

The Boy Who Saved Baseball, by John H. Ritter

The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963, by Christopher Paul Curtis

Heat, by Mike Lupica

Al Capone Does My Shirts, Gennifer Choldenko

The Great Wide Sea, by M. H. Herlong

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Sixth Grade Reading Activity

Do's:

- Write your full name and period on the assignment
- Fasten your project **before** you turn it in. Cover sheet, written work, printed rubric.
- Use project materials
- Must show the effort of a student in 6th grade
- Check your spelling and grammar
- The assignment, **typed or written in pen**, should be assembled as follows:

Page 1: Cover Page

A. Book cover design: Redesign the book cover in an original format using an important setting, a main character involved in a major conflict, or symbols that represent main ideas in the story. This can be done with markers, pencils, or digitally. Clip art, memes, etc. are not original. This is your cover sheet and should be on standard 8x10 sheet of paper or construction paper. Make sure it is **colorful!** Be creative. This needs to have your first AND last name and period number on the bottom right hand corner.

This cover sheet will be stapled in the upper left corner to the front of your writing.

Body Pages:

B. How to organize your writing:

- Introduction: Paragraph 1
 - Introduce the book you read. Include the title, author, and background information about the author. Offer interesting facts about the author, how many novels written, background, etc.
 - In this introduction, express your personal opinions on the book and why. "I liked this book it was really good," is not specific. Use vivid language. You will clearly state the basic plot and genre.
- Body: Paragraphs 2, 3, and 4
- Write three paragraphs (an acceptable paragraph is 10 or more sentences) to explain how the author expresses the theme, conflict, and characterization in this book. Use text evidence for support. Text evidence should be in quotes if taken directly from the text. Tell why your evidence is important and what it reveals about the paragraph topic.
- Body paragraph 1: Discuss the theme of the book. What is the lesson, message, or moral of the story? How does the plot tie into the major themes of the book? For example, a theme in the Harry Potter series is that even an ordinary child can overcome great obstacles and grow into an exemplary student and Theme is not a word, but a sentence. The plot of the story provides the vehicle for enabling the theme to be established.

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- Body paragraph 2: What are the major conflicts in the novel? Explain the conflict and how it was resolved. Many novels have more than one conflict. Choose a major inner conflict the major character is struggling with and how it resolved. Also choose a major external conflict that the character faced and how he/she overcame this obstacle.
- Body paragraph 3: Choose two major characters and use three adjectives to describe the characters based on his/her reaction to a problem. For example, Harry Potter can be described as creative. In the story, he had to use his imagination to devise a way to overcome the obstacles he faced while playing quidditch. In the novel it states, "xxxxxxx," and this shows xxxxxxxx. In addition, he is loyal. He told Hermione, "xxxxxxx," and this further shows that he puts his friends over his own safety. Etc.
- Conclusion
 - Overall, how likely would you be to recommend this book to a friend and why? What specifically about this book made you think about how YOU would handle being in a character's place? What advice would you give the author about creating a sequel and what would you like to see happen. What personal connections can you make to this novel? Explain in detail.

<u>6th Grade</u> <u>Summer</u> <u>Reading</u> <u>Project Rubric</u> <u>Category</u>	4	3	2	1
Introduction Purpose (4 pts.)	The introduction includes a precise statement regarding your personal opinion(s) on the subject of the book. Specific knowledge is given in a skillful manner and detailed. Vocabulary is excellent/vivid.	The introduction includes a statement regarding your personal opinion(s) on the subject of the book and good information is provided. Vocabulary is good. All elements present, but not well-developed.	The introduction includes a weak statement regarding your personal opinion(s) on the subject of the book. Very little specific information shared. Missing key elements.	There is no clear introduction. All required information is not present, and the information is not accurate, correct or vague.
Content Purpose and Focus & Elaboration (4 pts.)	Specific, detailed text-based examples are used to support claims. Two pieces of text evidence are present that strongly support the claim stated with analytical depth (how and what is revealed through this evidence) and is consistent throughout the writing.	Specific examples are used and are text-based to support claims. Information is provided but may not be thoroughly elaborated or used consistently for each example.	Examples are used but they are unclear or not specific. Only one statement or piece of text evidence is used or weakly supported without proper elaboration.	Examples are weak or inadequate in supporting text evidence. Minimal elaboration or personal insight.
Conclusion (4 pts.)	The conclusion is brief, strong, and leaves the reader with a feeling that they have a great understanding of the novel.	The conclusion is brief and leaves the reader with a feeling that they have a good understanding of the novel.	The conclusion is brief but does not leave the reader with a feeling that they have an understanding of the novel.	There is no clear conclusion provided.

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<p>Conventions (2 pts.)</p>	<p>Exhibits extensive control of grammatical conventions appropriate to the writing task.</p>	<p>Exhibits control of grammatical conventions appropriate to the writing task; few errors may be present but does not inhibit understanding</p>	<p>Exhibits some control of grammatical conventions appropriate to the writing task; some errors may be present</p>	<p>Lack of control of grammatical conventions appropriate to the writing task; many errors may be present</p>
<p>Overall Effort and Presentation (4 pts.) Total Points: ____/18+2 (cover sheet)</p>	<p>Project was turned in and completed in a timely manner; project exhibits superior effort, a work ethic that goes beyond standard requirements</p>	<p>Project was turned in and completed in a timely manner; project shows effort in its completion and most to all requirements are met.</p>	<p>Project was turned in late; project shows overall minimal effort in its completion</p>	<p>Project was turned in late; project shows little to no effort in its completion</p>