



June 2017

Dear Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:

Each of you is expected to read two books over the summer and visit one historical site which will serve as a catalyst to our fall curriculum.

**LANGUAGE ARTS – READ TWO BOOKS:**

**BOOK ONE: Choose one of the following novels and complete one of the “Language Arts Summer Reading Book Report Options”**

***The Underdogs*** by Sara Hammel

When a popular teen beauty’s body is discovered by the pool at an elite tennis club, the regulars are shocked—especially twelve-year-old Evie and her best friend, Chelsea. While everyone else is haunted by the teen’s death, Evie and Chelsea jump on the case, dogging the footsteps of the lead detective as he investigates. As temperatures soar over the summer, tensions rise, fingers are pointed, and a heroic act sets in motion a chain of events readers will never see coming. In the tradition of *The Westing Game* comes this debut mystery with a breathtaking twist.

***The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog*** by Adam Gidwitz

On a dark night, travelers from across France cross paths at an inn and begin to tell stories of three children. Their adventures take them on a chase through France: they are taken captive by knights, sit alongside a king, and save the land from a farting dragon. On the run to escape prejudice and persecution and save precious and holy texts from being burned, their quest drives them forward to a final showdown at Mont Saint-Michel, where all will come to question if these children can perform the miracles of saints.

***Where the Red Fern Grows*** by Wilson Rawls

A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart's desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be champion hunters. Together, the three of them experience danger, adventure, love, and sorrow.

***The Truth About Twinkie Pie*** by Kat Yeh

Take two sisters making it on their own: brainy twelve-year-old GiGi and junior-high-dropout-turned-hairstylist DiDi. Add a million dollars in prize money from a national cooking contest and a move from the trailer parks of South Carolina to the North Shore of Long Island. Mix in a fancy new school, new friends and enemies, a first crush, and a generous sprinkling of family secrets. That's the recipe for *The Truth About Twinkie Pie*, a voice-driven middle-grade debut about the true meaning of family and friendship.

***Masterminds*** by Gordon Korman

Eli has never left Serenity . . . why would he ever want to? Then one day, he bikes to the edge of the city limits and something so crazy and unexpected happens, it changes everything. Eli convinces his friends to help him investigate further, and soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known. The kids realize they can trust no one—least of all their own parents.



**BOOK TWO** - Choose a book from the **6th Grade LA Suggested Reading List**.

- A book presentation will be assigned the 2nd day of school.
- **Use the Language Arts Book Report form provided.**

**SOCIAL STUDIES:**

- Choose a historical site to visit.
  - **Use the two-page Historical Site Visit Sheet.**
  - Your historical visit sheet should be brought to school on the first day and turned in to your social studies teacher.

Have a relaxing and pleasant summer.

Sincerely,

6th Grade Team



## Language Arts Summer Reading Assignment Options

### 6th grade Language Arts

**Choose either: *The Underdogs*, *The Inquisitor's Tale*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, *The Truth About Twinkie Pie*, or *Masterminds*.** While reading, make any notes you feel will help you with your summer project. Next, choose one of the projects below to complete which will show your understanding of the novel. This project will be one of your first important grades for the next year, so make sure that it showcases your talent and abilities. Regardless of the project you choose, you should include information relating and showing your understanding of: the *plot* of the story, the *characters* involved, the *themes or big ideas* in the story, and your *opinion* of the book. If you and a friend decide to read the same book, you are allowed to complete one of the following projects together.

1. Design a multimedia presentation (about 1 and a half minutes long) for your novel. Do not use Power-Point, but be creative using technology. The options are endless! Some resources could be iMovie or Windows Movie Maker, or web based programs like Animoto (<https://animoto.com>). Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.
2. Make an illustrated timeline of the novel. You must illustrate 10 different events/scenes from the story you selected. Your illustrations must be put in proper order for your book, and should show the characters and events of importance throughout your story. Be sure to include a written explanation of why you chose each scene and how it relates to the theme of the novel. Illustrations will be graded on quality and must be in color; no stick figures will be accepted. Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.
3. Create a newspaper for the town/city your story takes place in. Have the stories and features of the newspaper be about the characters and events in your novel. Your newspaper should contain information about the characters, setting, plot, and theme(s) of the novel. The newspaper should be informative and must contain text and pictures. You could include editorials, weather reports, sports, reports, feature stories. Be creative! Here is a link for a newspaper template: <http://www.extrane newspapers.com/newspaper-template-pack-word-school/> Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.



## **Language Arts Summer Reading Assignment Options**

### **6th grade Language Arts**

4. Book Jacket: Must be your own design – do not duplicate original book jacket. Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book. Create a colorful, engaging book jacket that includes the following:
- Cover: New cover for the book with illustration, title, author, and student name.
  - Inner Flap: (left side): Summary – Sequential summary of key story events from the reading  
Characters – discuss the major characters in the story and their personalities
  - Inner Flap: (right side): Text Connections ( 1 text to text, 1 text to self, and 1 text to world)
  - Back Flap: Theme – Description of the theme in the novel make sure to support your answer with specific examples from the story.

<http://desktoppub.about.com/od/glossary/g/Book-Jacket.htm>

<http://www.readwritethink.net/files/resources/interactives/bookcover/>

<http://homeworktips.about.com/od/englishhomework/ss/How-To-Design-A-Book-Cover.htm>



### Language Arts Book Report Form

In language arts class, we discuss the evaluative characteristics of literature -- format, characterization, plot, setting, theme, conflict, & style. Please connect the following evaluative characteristics with the two language arts books you read this summer. This information will help you complete your language arts assignment during the first week of school.

**Characterization** -- actions that define character: Please identify a character and then offer an action that helps you understand that character (For example, Romeo is very loyal. He avenges Mercutio's death by killing Tybalt).

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**Plot** -- the novel's sequence of events: Please offer five major plot points of the novel you read.

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**Setting** -- where and when the story takes place: Identify the setting of the story.

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**Theme** -- a lesson or moral about life that is taught through the plot: What lesson did you learn from this novel? (A note: a theme is not one word. For example, "work" is not a theme; something like "Through hard work one can achieve success" would work.)

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**Conflict** -- a struggle between the protagonist and another character against nature or some outside force: Please identify one conflict in the novel (For example, Romeo cannot be with Juliet because their parents are enemies)

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## GRADE 6 – LANGUAGE ARTS SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

(Book Descriptions taken from Amazon.com)

### [Absolutely Normal Chaos](#) by Sharon Creech

A prequel to the Newbery Medal-winning *Walk Two Moons*, this book chronicles the daily life of 13-year-old Mary Lou Finney during her most chaotic and romantic summer ever. Mary Lou's summer journal -- which she begins grudgingly as a dreaded assignment for school -- becomes a hilarious chronicle of the circle of people and events that make her summer. There is Carl Ray, the mysterious and troublesome cousin that comes to visit; Beth Ann Bartels, her best friend who's recently gone boy crazy; Alex Cheevy, the boy that makes Mary Lou's brains "mushy;" and, of course, the Finney clan, her "normally strange family." What follows is the story of a summer filled with lessons and observations on love, death, friendship, and family.

### [All the Earth, Thrown to the Sky](#) by Joe R. Lansdale

When dust storms hit Oklahoma, wiping out farms and families, Jack is no better off than his neighbors Jane and Tony. Suddenly all orphaned, they take a dead neighbor's car and make their way out of the dust bowl. Along the way they get kidnapped by gangsters, caught in a grasshopper storm, enslaved by a crooked cop, meet hobos while hopping trains and good folks who help them out. Jane likens their adventure to Greek Mythology and loves every minute of it, while Jack and Tony are ready for a more stable life. Miss Diane says, "A humdinger of a story, from Jack's point of view but this is really Jane's story with Jack observing and narrating. *All the Earth, Thrown to the Sky* is old-fashioned story telling about friendship at its best.

### [Barn Boot Blues](#) by Catherine Friend

It is NOT Taylor's idea to move from Minneapolis, away from her friends and the Mall of America, to an isolated sheep farm. That is her mother's dream. Can Taylor learn to collect eggs without getting chicken poop in her hair? She doesn't think so. She doesn't fit in at her new school and wants to get off that farm, so her friends devise the TEFF plan—Taylor Escapes From Farm. Miss Kelly says, "Taylor has a great sense of humor, while the school and farm situations ring true. She has perfected her eye-rolling, to her parent's dismay. This is a fun read that also shows the rewarding side of farm life.

### [Belle Prater's Boy](#) by Ruth White

When Woodrow's mother suddenly disappears, he moves to his grandparents' home in a small Virginia town where he befriends his cousin, and together they find the strength to face the terrible losses and fears in their lives.

### [Beyond Lucky](#) by Sarah Aronson

Ari does anything he can to bring himself good luck on the soccer field. After he finds a rare soccer card, his luck improves... and then the card disappears from his backpack. Ari needs that card!

### [Bridge to Terabithia](#) by Katherine Paterson, Donna Diamond

An extraordinarily powerful tribute to friendship, this Newbery Award-winning novel recounts the unlikely friendship of a country boy, Jess, and his neighbor, an uprooted city girl named Leslie. When Leslie is killed during a storm while trying to reach Terabithia, their secret hiding place, Jess must gather all his strength to come to terms with his loss and find a way to heal.



**[The Boy at the End of the World](#)** by Greg Van Eekhout

Asleep for thousands of years, Fisher awakens to discover that he may be the last human on earth. Fisher must elude hostile machines and mutated creatures as he hunts for any signs of human life.

**[Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide](#)** by Tommy Greenwald

Charlie Joe doesn't like to read and he'll do just about anything to avoid it. His summer school assignment is to write a book, so here's his guide to Not Reading.

**[Chaucer's Canterbury Tales](#)** by Marcia Williams

Step back into the Middle Ages for a boisterous, bawdy storytelling session led by the one and only Chaucer. Marcia Williams uses her signature comic-strip format to animate nine Canterbury classics, including "The Clerk's Tale," "The Miller's Tale," and "The Wife of Bath's Tale." Interspersed with her lively narrative and running side-commentary are bits of dialogue from the original Medieval English text, bringing the essence of Chaucer's colorful humor to modern readers in an engaging way.

**[The Complete Chronicles of Narnia](#)** by C. S. Lewis

Enter the magical land of Narnia, where enchanted creatures live and battles are fought between good and evil! The seven volumes of C. S. Lewis's famed fantasy series come boxed in a hardcover case.

**[Dead End in Norvelt](#)** by Jack Gantos

2012 Newbery Award Winner

2012 Scott O'Dell Award Winner

Jack's parents have grounded him for the entire summer for various offenses. He's assigned to help a neighbor type up obituaries for the elderly residents of Norvelt who are quickly dying off. It's going to be a long summer.

**[Echo](#)** by Pam Munoz Ryan

Lost and alone in a forbidden forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each, in turn, become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. And ultimately, pulled by the invisible thread of destiny, their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo. Richly imagined and masterfully crafted, this impassioned, uplifting, and virtuosic tour de force will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.

**[The Egypt Game](#)** by Zilpha Keatley Snyder, Alton Raible (illus.)

Even to Melanie, who knew that you could never predict what a new kid would be like, April Hall was something of a surprise. One look at her stringy upswept hair, false eyelashes, and ragged fox-fur collar, convinced Melanie that April was not going to be easy to integrate into the sixth grade at Wilson School. Within a month, April and Melanie had developed a common interest in ancient Egypt and had begun to develop a land of Egypt in an abandoned storage yard. Complications arose when other people joined the original Egyptians, when a murderer ranged the neighborhood, and when an oracle predicted strange things. But it was all in the game, which gave even April a fall and winter to remember.





**The Girl Behind the Glass** by Kelley, Jane

Their new house is creepy and her sister has a new friend, so Hanna is lonely... but she's not alone. Another girl lives in the house, and she's waited years and years and years for someone to stay with her—forever!

**The Map of Me** by Tami Lewis Brown

When Margie and her little sister Peep come home to an empty house, they know their mom has taken off. Margie thinks she's headed for the International Poultry Hall of Fame, so she takes Peep and her dad's car to go find her.

**I Heard the Owl Call My Name** by Margaret Craven

Amid the grandeur of the remote Pacific Northwest stands Kingcome, a village so ancient that, according to Kwakiutl myth, it was founded by the two brothers left on earth after the great flood. The Native Americans who still live there call it Quee, a place of such incredible natural richness that hunting and fishing remain primary food sources. But the old culture of totems and potlatch is being replaced by a new culture of prefab housing and alcoholism. Kingcome's younger generation is disenchanted and alienated from its heritage. And now, coming upriver is a young vicar, Mark Brian, who has two years to live. Sent to this Indian parish in British Columbia, Mark embarks on a journey of discovery that can teach him -- and us -- about life, death, and the transforming power of love.

**The Island** by Gary Paulsen

Every morning 15-year-old Wil Neuton gets up, brushes his teeth, leaves the house, and rows away from shore. He's discovered the island, a place where he can go to be alone and learn to know nature -- and himself. On the island he watches the loons and the fish in the lake, and he writes and paints. It feels good to get away from the tension rising between his parents -- tension brought on by yet another move to a new town. But Wil can't stay away from the outside world forever. He must face Ray Bunner, the bully determined to challenge him, and his parents, who worry when Wil decides to stay on the island indefinitely. Can Wil bridge the growing gap between himself and the rest of the world?

**Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life** by James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts

Rafe's plan to break every rule in the school handbook is soon out of his control.

**The Midwife's Apprentice** by Karen Cushman

In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she wants most: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.

**Okay for Now** by Gary D. Schmidt

2012 Children's Choice Award Winner-Fifth to Sixth grade

Although Doug is determined to hate his new town, he eventually makes a friend, finds a job, and begins to fit in. But his home life is still a wreck.

**Once Upon a Toad** by Heather Vogel Frederick

When Cat's inept fairy godmother accidentally makes toads appear when Cat speaks and gems fall out of her stepsister Olivia's mouth, the two attract the attention of jewel thieves and a secret government laboratory.

**Once Upon a Marigold** by Jean Ferris

Who knew love could be so amazing—and stupefying? Not Christian. He was clueless when he started spying on the royal family through his telescope. He lives in a cave with a troll for a dad, after all. If his dad had only warned him about all that mind-boggling love stuff, maybe things wouldn't be such a mess. But then, maybe, Princess Marigold would be dead.

**One Came Home** written by Amy Timberlake

2014 Newberry Honor Book. In 1871 Wisconsin, love, betrayal, grief and violence spur 13-year-old Georgie on a gripping adventure full of hardship, heartbreak and terror. As she tries to solve the mystery of her sister's disappearance, Georgie and her brash, humorous voice pull readers along on her journey of self-discovery.

**Paperboy** by Vince Vawter 2014 Newberry Honor Book

Little Man, a sensitive and resilient 11-year-old boy who stutters, ventures beyond the familiar and finds his voice while taking over his best friend's paper route. Set in the summer heat of 1959 Memphis, "Paperboy" is a moving coming-of-age novel.

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor

The Logans, a black family living in the South during the 1930s, are faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand. It takes the events of one turbulent year -- the year of the night riders and the burnings, the year a white girl humiliates Cassie in public simply because she is black -- to show Cassie that having a place of their own is the Logan family's lifeblood. It is the land that gives the Logans their courage and pride, for no matter how others may degrade them, the Logans possess something no one can take away.

**Ruby Redfort Look Into My Eyes** by Lauren Child

Ruby, an ace code-cracker and daring detective, is recruited by a super-secret spy agency that needs her help.

**Shakespeare Stealer** by Gary Blackwood

Widge is an orphan with a rare talent for shorthand. His fearsome master has just one demand: steal Shakespeare's play "Hamlet"—or else. Widge has no choice but to follow orders, so he works his way into the heart of the Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare's players perform. As full of twists and turns as a London alleyway, this entertaining novel is rich in period details, colorful characters, villainy, and drama. "A fast-moving historical novel that introduces an important era with casual familiarity."

**Spy School** by Stuart Gibbs

Ben Ripley's dream comes true when he's recruited by the CIA to attend their Espionage Academy. But when he's attacked by terrorists on his first night at school (a pop quiz), Ben's new dream is just to stay alive.

**Words of Stone** by Kevin Henkes

While exploring the countryside outside of his home, 10-year-old Blaze Werla spots a devastating message on the side of a hill and irresistible. Ultimately, Blaze's summer takes a turn toward mystery and adventure when he meets the boisterous Joselle.

**[The Wild Robot](#)** by Peter Brown

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is—but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

**[Wringer](#)** by Jerry Spinelli

As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.

**[You'll Like It Here \(Everybody Does\)](#)** by Ruth White

Meggie Blue and her family have made a new life for themselves in a small North Carolina town, but rumors of aliens now threaten their safety. They must move on again, to a new planet, a new society, and a whole new set of rules to live by.

**[The Sword in the Tree](#)** (Trophy Chapter Book) by Clyde Robert Bulla

In the days of King Arthur there stood a mighty oak tree within the walls of a castle. Peace reigned in the castle until the fearsome night when Lionel, long-lost brother of Lord Weldon, returned to cause trouble and unhappiness.

It was then that Shan, the son of Lord Weldon, took on the duties of a knight and hid the sword in the hollow of the giant oak. The days that followed were filled with adventures that tried the courage of the young boy.

**[The Minstrel in the Tower](#)** (Stepping Stone) by Gloria Skurzynski

In this gripping medieval page-turner, Roger and his sister Alice are kidnapped and held for ransom in an ancient tower. To escape and find their uncle, the children must summon all their courage and imagination.

"Designed as easy-reading material for middle-graders, this has the virtues of an attractive format and illustrations, a fast plot, and even a feminist fillip: Alice is the more intrepid of the siblings, Roger's gifts are for music and ventriloquism."--Bulletin, Center for Children's Books.

**[Castle Diary: The Journal of Tobias Burgess](#)** by Richard Platt

What was it really like to live in a castle? Step back to the Middle Ages with CASTLE DIARY: THE JOURNAL OF TOBIAS BURGESS. Eleven-year-old Toby's vivid diary entries offer an insider's view of day-to-day castle life, including tips on etiquette (where do you spit at a feast?) and exciting descriptions of hunting, jousting, and harvesting. Complete with glossary, index, and detailed endnotes, this is a rich look at medieval life that informs as much as it entertains.

**[Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village](#)** by Laura Amy Schlitz

Step back to an English village in 1255, where life plays out in dramatic vignettes illuminating twenty-two unforgettable characters. Maidens, monks, and millers' sons — in these pages, readers will meet them all. There's Hugo, the lord's nephew, forced to prove his manhood by hunting a wild boar; sharp-tongued Nelly, who supports her family by selling live eels; and the peasant's daughter, Mogg, who gets a clever lesson in how to save a cow from a greedy landlord. There's also mud-slinging Barbary (and her noble victim); Jack, the compassionate half-wit; Alice, the singing shepherdess; and many more.

**Matilda Bone** by Karen Cushman

Orphaned Matilda is not at all pleased when she arrives at Blood and Bone Alley to become an assistant to Red Peg the Bonesetter. She is a religious, well-educated girl who can't picture herself doing dirty chores or helping sickly patients.

Each day is very different from her former quiet life. Matilda's not used to being around so many people who are coming and going, laughing and eating. Not one of them seems interested in prayer or study. Self-centered Matilda thinks no one understands her. But Peg does, and gives her time to get used to this new way of life and teaches her through kindness and friendship. Matilda is as surprised as anyone when she begins seeing the world around her in a different way.

**Castle** by David Macaulay

Imagine yourself in 13th-century England. King Edward I has just named the fictitious Kevin le Strange to be the Lord of Aberwyvern--"a rich but rebellious area of Northwest Wales." Lord Kevin's first task is to oversee the construction of a strategically placed castle and town in order to assure that England can "dominate the Welsh once and for all." And a story is born! In the Caldecott Honor Book *Castle*, David Macaulay--author, illustrator, former architect and teacher--sets his sights on the creation and destiny of Lord Kevin's magnificent castle perched on a bluff overlooking the sea.

**City: A Story of Roman Planning and Construction** by David Macaulay

City charts the planning and building of an imaginary Roman city, 'Verbonia.' Macaulay focuses on the achievement of efficient and rational city planning. His brilliantly individualistic drawings capture the essential quality of the Roman character, the ability to organize.

**Cathedral: The Story of Its Construction** by David Macaulay

He begins *Cathedral* in 1252, when the people of a fictitious French town named Chutreaux decide to build a cathedral after their existing church is struck by lightning. We first meet the craftspeople, then examine the tools, study their cathedral plans, and watch the laying of the foundation. Week by week we witness the construction of this glorious temple to God. Macaulay intuitively hones in on the details about which we are the most curious: How were those enormously high ceilings built and decorated? How were those 60-foot-high windows made and installed in the 13th century? And how did people haul those huge, heavy bells up into the skyscraper-high towers?

**Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague** by Geraldine Brooks

When an infected bolt of cloth carries plague from London to an isolated village, a housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes we follow a story of the fateful year of 1666, as she and her fellow villagers confront the spread of the disease and superstition.

**The Wanderings of Odysseus: The Story of the Odyssey** by Rosemary Sutcliffe

A master storyteller and an award-winning illustrator evoke the golden age of mythical Greece in this spirited retelling of *The Odyssey*.

**Castaways of the Flying Dutchman** by Brian Jacques

The legend of the wind-tattered ghost ship and its mad sea captain, cursed to sail the seas forever, has been passed down throughout the centuries. But what of 15-year-old Ben and his dog Ned, who was trapped aboard that ship?

**[I Am the Great Horse](#)** by Katherine Roberts

Part historical fiction, part fantasy, this action-packed war novel tells the story of Alexander the Great from the viewpoint of his beloved horse, Bucephalus, who carries the conquering hero from Greece and Persia to India around 330 BCE.

**[Atticus of Rome, 30 B.C.](#)** by Barry Denenberg

Atticus, a young boy who has been torn from his family and home and sold as a slave to a Roman aristocrat, quickly learns that not all is as it seems in the republic of Rome. Murder and lies fill his new life as a spy for Lucius Opimius

**[The Golden Goblet](#)** by Eloise Jarvis McGraw

Ranofer struggles to thwart his evil brother's plot so he can become a master goldsmith like their father. An exciting tale of ancient Egyptian mystery and intrigue.

**[Pandora of Athens, 399 B.C.](#)** by Barry Denenberg

Pandora is trapped in the roles laid out for Greek women by her narrow-minded father. But one day, when Pandora goes to fetch water, she meets the Wise One, Socrates. During his famed trial, Pandora finds herself caught up in the intrigue and turbulent politics of ancient Athens.

**[Song of the Magdalene](#)** by Donna Jo Napoli

Tells the story of Miriam, a young girl being raised by her widowed father in ancient Israel who grows up to be Mary Magdalene.

**[The Golden Fleece](#)** by Padraic Colum

Students will be thrilled with this adventure of Jason, destined to rule, who must first retrieve the famous Golden Fleece.

**[Shadow Spinners](#)** by Susan Fletcher

Retelling of the story of Sharazade, Middle East

**[The Midwife's Apprentice](#)** by Karen Cushman – Newberry Award

From the author of "Catherine, Called Birdy" comes another spellbinding novel set in medieval England. The girl known only as Brat has no family, no home, and no future until she meets Jane the Midwife and becomes her apprentice. As she helps the sharp-tempered Jane deliver babies, Brat-who renames herself Alyce-gains knowledge, confidence, and the courage to want something from life: "A full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world."

**[King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table](#)** by Roger Lancelyn Green

King Arthur is one of the greatest legends of all time. From the magical moment when Arthur releases the sword in the stone to the quest for the Holy Grail and the final tragedy of the Last Battle, Roger Lancelyn Green brings the enchanting world of King Arthur stunningly to life. One of the greatest legends of all time, with an inspiring introduction by David Almond, award-winning author of "Clay", "Skellig", "Kit's Wilderness", and "The Fire-Eaters".



[The Odyssey](#) by Homer

[Adventures of Ulysses](#) by Homer

[Gilgamesh](#) by Herbert Mason – Mentor Books - Epic poem of Mesopotamia

[The Bronze Bow](#) by Spear - Jerusalem during the time of Christ

[Stowaway](#) by Karen Hesse

[Cleopatra VII: Daughter of the Nile, Egypt, 57 B.C.](#) by Kristiana Gregory

[Isabella: Jewel of Castilla, Spain, 1466](#) by Carolyn Meyer

**Here are a few links for more suggested reading book lists.**

<http://imaginationsoup.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/6th-grade-summer-reading-list-3.pdf>

<http://greatkidbooks.blogspot.com/2010/05/great-books-for-6th-graders.html>

<http://www.gp.lib.mi.us/>

Go to the heading “Kids, Teens, Parents” and click on “Teens”, “Suggested Reading Lists” , then click on “Middle School”.

[http://www.educationworld.com/summer\\_reading/6th\\_grade.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/6th_grade.shtml)



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **SUMMER HISTORICAL SITE VISIT**

Your challenge this summer is to visit a historical location of your choice. Take a picture of yourself at the location or bring back a brochure. After your visit respond to the questions below.

If your location is in Michigan look for a green historical marker (like the one located in front of GPA). This would be a great spot for your picture, and will contain helpful information that could be used in your responses. There are over 20 historical markers in Grosse Pointe alone!

If your travels this summer take you outside of Grosse Pointe, or Michigan, all the better! Make sure to take a picture and research your site.

I hope you have an adventure filled summer!

**DATE OF VISIT** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPORTANT EVENT(S) THAT HAPPENED IN THIS LOCATION(S)**

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**WHAT KNOWLEDGE DID YOU GAIN FROM VISITING THIS LOCATION?**

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**DESCRIBE ONE FACT ABOUT THIS LOCATION THAT CONNECTED TO YOUR PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE/LEARNING**

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**DESCRIBE ONE THING YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT IN REGARDS TO THIS LOCATION OR THE EVENT(S) THAT TOOK PLACE HERE**

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**WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THAT OTHERS VISIT THIS SITE? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

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