

# 6th Grade 2021 Summer Work And Reading List

Parents/Guardians,

The purpose of summer reading is to encourage students to read an approved novel that appeals to their own personal interests, instilling a love of reading as well as increasing literacy across the curriculum. The following books were chosen based on many criteria, including reading level, content, interest, and more.

Students should choose **ONE** book to read over the summer from the grade-level list below. Students must fill out the summer reading questions and be ready to take an AR test on the first day of school. These will serve as your first grades, so please make sure to do your best! First impressions are very important! Happy reading!

6th grade

Title	Author	Lexile	AR points
Julie of the Wolves	Jean Craighead George	860	6 points
My Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George	810	6 points
The City of Ember	Jeanne Du Prau	640	9 points
A Long Walk to Water	Sue Park	720	3 points
The Westing Game	Ellen Raskin	750	8 points

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you rate this book? Circle your choice.

Poor

Fair

Average

Good

Excellent

## Theme

Use the space below to describe a possible theme (a moral or lesson that you can learn from the story) for this book. How do you know that this is a theme for your novel? **Please answer in complete sentences and answer BOTH parts of the question.**

## Conflict

**What major conflict or conflicts are occurring in your book?** A conflict can be between two characters (example: an argument between two people), a character and nature (example: a character trying to survive in the wilderness), a character and the rules or traditions of society (example: a character defying the school dress code), or within a character (example: a difficult decision that a character has to make).

## Plot Structure

In the boxes below, describe the different elements of the novel's plot. In order to receive full credit, fill in the boxes thoroughly with complete sentences and refer to specific events in the story.

### Exposition

The background information that you get at the beginning of the story. Who are your main characters?  
What is the story's setting (when and where it takes place)?

### Rising Action

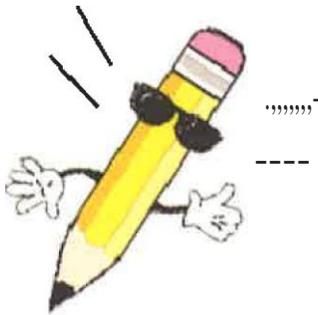
The events that occur in the story leading up to the climax. What happens in the story that leads up to the most important event that occurs in the book?

## Climax

The high point or turning point of the story. What is the BIGGEST or most IMPORTANT thing that happens in your book?


## Assignment Two

### Now for the writing practice activity



Choose **ONE** of the following writing activities to complete on Google Docs. The answer should be at least **ONE** page long and should use details from the story. Be sure to proofread for spelling, punctuation, and complete sentences. Then share this document with me.

- 1) If you were the author of this book, what would you change in the story? Write about a change you would make to this book and how this change would improve the story for the reader.
- 2) Write a journal entry from the viewpoint of one of the book's characters. In your entry, explain a problem or conflict that you encountered and how it was resolved.
- 3) Write a book review about the novel as if you were a book critic. Explain what you liked or disliked about the book and why. Would you recommend this book to middle school students?
- 4) What do you think happens to the main character of your book in the future? Write a letter from the main character to a friend explaining what you have done with your life since the events of the novel took place.
- 5) Turn the events of this book into a song or poem. Summarize the main events and ideas of the book in the lyrics.



## Making Connections

**For assignment THREE:** Choose from the three following choices, and make a connection to the book. (In Google Docs)

- Option 1:** Make a "Life" game for you a main character that represents their journey throughout the story. Be sure to include multiple paths that your character could have taken while on the journey.
- Option 2:** *A week in the life of...* Pick a main character from the book you read and write out the everyday things they do. **Make connections** to everyday things you do. Write them in sequential order.
- Bonus:** Redraw the cover of your book. Make sure to include important symbols and events on the cover. *(You can choose to do this or not, but you have to pick at least one of the options above)*

## Assignment Four

### Ending

For assignment 4, write a different ending to the book.



Include symbols, figurative language, and different sentence types. Make sure that your ending is parallel to the beginning and make sure that the overall theme of the story is the same. This should be the same length of your story's conclusion if not longer.

# Assignment Five

## Awards

Create an award for each of the main characters based on their actions in the novel. One might be awarded "most courageous" for fighting peer pressure, another might be awarded "wisest" for the guidance he or she gave other characters. For each award, write a paragraph that explains why this character deserves this award and provide text evidence.



# Assignment Six

## Critique

Write a letter to the author of the book explaining to him or her why you think he or she wrote the book and what he or she was trying to show through the book. Be sure to explain what you think the moral is and evidence for your reasoning. This should be a well written critique with an effective writing style.

