

Summer Reading Packet for Students Starting English 6 2019-2020

This packet includes the book lists for English summer reading and the related assignments. All Sixth grade students will read *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya as our Sixth Grade English Community Read. In addition to this, they will read another book on The Choice List. This second book should be a book that is new to you. Each student should have access to paper copies of both books so that they can refer to them in English class. Happy reading!

Summer Reading Checklist to Complete for the First Day of School

| | |
|---|--|
| Read <i>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</i> by Pablo Cartaya (available for purchase and at all local libraries) | |
| Complete Assignment #1: Prepare for Book Club Meeting | |
| Read a Book from The Choice List | |
| Complete Assignment #2: | |
| Bring Paper Copies of BOTH Books to English Class | |

*"Reading brings us unknown friends."
-Honore de Balzac*

English 6 Summer Reading Community Read

Read *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya and complete Assignment #1 (Prepare for a Book Club Meeting) before the first day of school. Bring your paper copy of the book with you to English Class!

***The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya (750L)**

For thirteen-year-old Arturo, summertime in Miami means playing basketball until dark, sipping mango smoothies, and keeping cool under banyan trees. And maybe a shift as a junior dishwasher at Abuela's restaurant. Maybe. But this summer also includes Carmen, a cute and funny girl who turns his stomach into a deep fryer. Save the restaurant. Save the town. Get the girl. Make Abuela proud. Can Arturo Zamora do it all, or is he in for a big, epic fail?

Name _____

Grade 6 Summer Reading Assignment #1

**Prepare for a Book Club Meeting based on
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya**

3: Write 3 discussion questions that start with how or why about the book. These questions are to get your group members to think deeply about the book.

1.

2.

3.

2: Write 2 connections (text to self, text to world, or text to text) about characters, setting, events.

1.

2.

1: Big Idea (What is the author's message about people, life, or the world?)

1.

English 6 Summer Reading: The Choice List

Read ONE of these books and complete Assignment #2 (Create a Book Review). Bring your **paper** copy of the book with you to English Class!

Adventure

***Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story* by Sandra Wallace (1050L)**

Lead by Commander George Washington De Long, thirty-three men set out on the USS Jeannette on July 8th, 1879. As well-prepared as they were in terms of supplies and crew, there was one thing in which they were utterly unprepared: the maps they based their plans on were incomplete at best, completely wrong at worst.

***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen (1020L)**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

***Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk (770L)**

Twelve-year-old Crow has no memory of her mother. Her life with Osh, the man who found Crow as an infant washed ashore in a small boat near his island home, is all she's ever known. But when Crow spots a fire across the sea on the nearby Penikese Island, it ignites a flame inside of her that propels Crow on a journey to discover her roots

Dystopian Fiction

***Dream Bender* by Ronald Kitt (470L)**

Jeremy Finn is a dreambender. His job is to adjust people's dreams. He and others like him quietly remove thoughts of music and art to keep people in the City from becoming too focused on themselves and their own feelings rather than on the world. They need to keep the world safe from another Warning.

***The Last Wild* by Piers Torday (820L)**

Twelve-year-old Kester Jaynes, who has been locked away at a school for troubled children, is called upon to save the last animals living in a post-apocalyptic world where disease has killed most living things.

***Uglies* by Scott Westerfield (770L)**

Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.

Fantasy

The Adventurer's Guild by Zack Clark (790L)

Conscripted into the dangerous Adventurers Guild, best friends Zed and Brock must defend what is left of humanity against terrible monsters in this epic fantasy.

The Last Dragonslayer by Jasper Fforde (850L)

Fifteen-year-old Jennifer Strange runs Kazam, an employment agency for soothsayers and sorcerers. Trouble starts when Jennifer has a vision that predicts the death of the last dragon at the hands of a dragonslayer.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien (1000L)

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

The Glass Town Game by Catherynne Valente (810L)

Whisked away to a magical historical land of their own invention as they are about to depart for boarding school, sisters Charlotte and Emily Bronte find themselves fighting Napoleon to obtain a potion that raises the dead, a situation that is complicated by the abduction of their siblings.

Historical Fiction

Castle in the Stars: The Space Race of 1869 by Alex Alice (Graphic Novel 420L)

A year after his mother disappeared in her hot air balloon, Seaphin and his father receive a clue that sends them to a Bavarian castle where a force that would stop at nothing to conquer the stars lurks.

The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Bradley (580L)

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis (950L)

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool (800L)

Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

Realistic Fiction

***Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (770L)**

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

***Garvey's Choice* by Nikki Grimes (620L)**

Preferring science and reading to the sports his father wants him to play, Garvey comforts himself with food and endures bullying before joining the school chorus, where he learns how to accept himself and bond with his father.

***The Stars Beneath our Feet* by David Barclay Moore (650L)**

Unable to celebrate the holidays in the wake of his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting, 12-year-old Lolly Rachpaul struggles to avoid being forced into a gang himself while constructing a fantastically creative LEGO city at the Harlem community center.

***The Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson (810L)**

Ten-year-old Jesse Aarons, who has lived all his life on a farm in Virginia, becomes friends with Leslie Burke, a "city girl" who has moved into a farmhouse down the road and opens doors to culture and imaginative play. But then tragedy strikes.

***As Brave as You* by Jason Reynolds (750L)**

When 11-year-old Genie and his older brother Ernie are sent away from their home in Brooklyn to spend a month with their estranged grandfather in rural Virginia, Genie finds himself facing the perplexity of what it means to become a man. Surprised by his grandfather's ability to function so well despite his blindness, Genie thinks his grandfather might be the bravest man he's ever met. But when he realizes his grandfather never leaves his home, he wonders what bravery truly is.

***Boys Without Names* by Keshmira Sheth (670L)**

Eleven-year-old Gopal and his family leave their rural Indian village for life with his uncle in Mumbai, but when they arrive his father goes missing and Gopal ends up locked in a sweatshop from which there is no escape.

Memoirs (Nonfiction)

***Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* by Laura Atkins (Graphic Novel- Lexile Not Available)**

Highlights the life and accomplishments of the man who challenged the legality of imprisoning Japanese Americans during World War II, describing the prejudice he and other Japanese Americans experienced and his long struggle for justice.

***The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani (700L)**

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

Science Fiction

Felix YZ by Lisa Bunker (940L)

Thirteen-year-old Felix Yz chronicles the final month before an experimental procedure meant to separate him from the fourth-dimensional creature, Zyx, with whom he was accidentally fused as a young child.

The Shadow Cipher by Laura Ruby (780L)

Twins Tess and Theo Biedermann and their friend Jaime Cruz live in an apartment designed by the Morningstarrs (the architects from 1800 who created a fantastical city in the 1800's with technology no one had seen before). The Morningstarrs also left behind "The Old York Cipher," a puzzle laid into the city that promised the solver treasure beyond imagining. When Tess, Theo, and Jaime's family/neighbors are evicted from their apartment by a nefarious developer, the kids know their only hope at saving their home is solving the cipher. What they find is nothing they could have ever imagined.

Name _____

Grade 6 Summer Reading Assignment #2

Paragraph 1: Write a paragraph that summarizes the main events of the book.

- Your summary must include the beginning, middle, and end of the book.
- For each part, write 2-3 sentences. (Beginning: 2-3 sentences, Middle: 2-3 sentences, End: 2-3 sentences)
- Be sure to use transitional words such as first, next, then, finally to connect your sentences.

Paragraph 2: Write a paragraph that identifies and supports your opinion about why we should or should not read this book - like a book review. Your paragraph must be structured as follows:

- Your first sentence or two must state why a specific literary element (character, setting, or conflict) makes this book worthy of reading or not. (1-2 sentences)
- You must use a specific example from the text that shows how the author uses this literary element effectively or not. (1-2 sentences)
- You must explain how your example from the text proves your first sentence. (2-3 sentences)

**Assignment #2 should be typed in separate document, proofread,
and ready to be handed in on day 1 of school.**

Which book did you read?

Plan for Paragraph 1--What are 5 of the most important events from the book and why?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Collect Ideas for Paragraph 2

| Literary Elements | Pages where you found important examples |
|-------------------|--|
| Characters: | |
| Setting(s): | |
| Conflict(s): | |

| RUBRIC | Does Not Meet | Meets | Exceeds |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Paragraph 1 Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summary is too long and includes many unimportant events from the book. Or <input type="checkbox"/> Summary is too short and doesn't include enough important events from the book. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summary has important events and may have a few lesser important events from the book. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summary has only significant events from the book. |
| Paragraph 2 Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review does not have a sufficiently clear point. <input type="checkbox"/> Review is missing quotes or quotes are not relevant to point. <input type="checkbox"/> Explanation does not sufficiently prove the first sentence. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review makes a clear point about why/why not a literary element makes this book a worthy read. <input type="checkbox"/> Review uses quotes from the book to prove point. <input type="checkbox"/> Explanation proves the first sentence. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review makes a clear and compelling point about why/why not a literary element makes this book a worthy read. <input type="checkbox"/> Review uses thoughtfully selected example from the book to prove point. <input type="checkbox"/> Explanation skillfully proves the first sentence. |
| Organization | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs do not demonstrate adequate understanding of paragraph structure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs demonstrate a solid understanding of paragraph structure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of paragraph structure. |
| Style and Language | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs have many errors in sentence structure, grammar, and spelling. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs use mostly complete, accurate sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs are mostly free from grammatical and spelling errors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs use complete, accurate sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs are free from grammatical and spelling errors. |