



Grade 6 – Summer Work

Students entering sixth grade in the fall are required to read at least **FOUR** books and are encouraged to work on math skills over the summer. Students are expected to arrive at school in September ready to actively engage in discussions about these texts.

Unless noted, families must either purchase or borrow their own copies of books. Digital format (Kindle) is acceptable, as is audiobook accompaniment for readers who benefit from it. Many digital books are accessible through Park's Digital Library: [Sora](#) and [Hoopla](#) via the Boston Public Library, available to all Massachusetts residents. Also, check out the [Summer Reading Ideas](#) page from the Librarians.

To strengthen the home-and-school connection, you are invited (but by no means required) to read these selections alongside your child. Most of all, please join us in promoting reading as a wonderful way to relax, and enjoy the summer.

Our intention for summer reading is to promote a lifelong love of reading, enrich our students' understanding of the world, and prepare them for the Upper Division. These texts will introduce, reinforce, and focus on the theme of courage, an idea that will be woven through the English and Social Studies curriculum for the whole school year. **This summer, we ask that rising sixth grade students read a minimum of four books.**

English

English books should be obtained by families: you may borrow from the library or purchase your own. Kindle/digital or audio recordings are also acceptable.

1 & 2. TWO choices from this list of novels about courageous youths facing obstacles and challenges.

Students are expected to select a book that they have not read before. If students have read all of these books, they are expected to re-read one. As students read, they should actively consider these questions:

- **What is courage?**
- **How is it demonstrated in these books?**

[Amal Unbound](#) by Aisha Saeed

[Bridge to Terabithia](#) by Katherine Paterson

[A Good Kind of Trouble](#) by Lisa Moore Ramée

[So Far From the Bamboo Grove](#) by Yoko Kawashima Watkins

[Nowhere Boy](#) by Katherine Marc

[White Bird](#) by R.L. Pallacio

If you have any questions about reading or obtaining these texts, contact [Susan Bogue Myslik](#).

3. ONE free read from the [Summer Reading Ideas](#)

Social Studies

4. *When Stars Are Scattered*, by Omar Mohamed and Victoria Jamieson

This remarkable graphic novel is about growing up in a refugee camp, as told by a former Somali refugee.

As you read, please think about these questions:

- How and why does the main character demonstrate courage?
- What is life like growing up in a refugee camp?

Questions? Please contact [Chris Beeson](#)

Math

Just as students benefit from reading throughout the summer, regular practice with problem solving, computation, and math facts will maintain and strengthen the mathematical gains made during the school year. For students who would benefit from targeted skill practice, we recommend that families purchase the [Spectrum Math Workbook](#). For students seeking more mixed skill review, we recommend [Summer Math Skill Sharpener](#) workbook. Please purchase the grade level your child just completed. Online resources, such as [IXL](#) and [Khan Academy](#) also offer great practice.

Stretch and Challenge

For additional stretch and challenge, we recommend [Problems of the Week](#) on the MathCounts website, [previous AMC8 contest](#) competitions and [previous Purple Comet competitions](#).

Questions? Please contact [Christy Keblusek](#).