

## Summer reading for students entering grade 7

Dear incoming 7th graders,

The following books represent a range of topics, perspectives, and experiences. All of our units this year will connect in some capacity to the theme of “Living with Nature”. For summer reading, I’d like you to choose two books from the list below that you think you will most enjoy reading. While there is not a written portion of the summer reading assignment, you are encouraged to take notes and annotate your text in preparation for the beginning of the school year. Upon return, students will be expected to write an informative/explanatory essay (in class!) to examine the theme of “Living with Nature”. While reading, make sure to keep an eye out for well-chosen facts, details, quotations, or other information/examples.

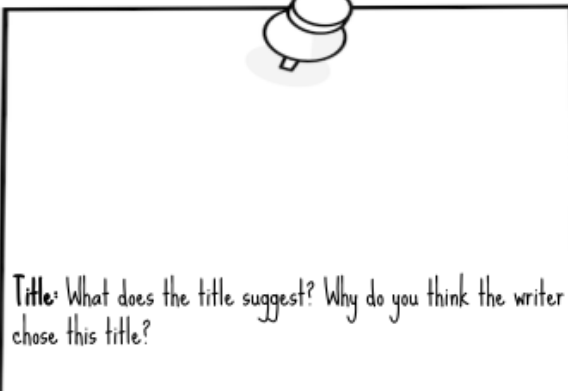
I’m providing graphic organizers that you may use to aid in your note taking and annotating. These are not mandatory, merely a tool. Again, being prepared with notes and annotations will be essential to your success on your in class essay upon your return to school.

 Genre	Title	Author	ISBN-13	Pages	Amazon link
Children's Fiction	Everywhere Blue	Joanne Rossmassler Fritz	978-0823451883	256	<a href="https://a.co/d/cDIS6QE">https://a.co/d/cDIS6QE</a>
Children's Fiction	The Friendship Lie	Rebecca Donnelly and Ramona Kaulitzki	978-1684460618	272	<a href="https://a.co/d/0AMVEIm">https://a.co/d/0AMVEIm</a>
Fiction	The Overstory: A Novel	Richard Powers	978-0393356687	512	<a href="https://a.co/d/4LY3CX2">https://a.co/d/4LY3CX2</a>
Graphic Novel	Lumberjanes Vol. 1: Beware The Kitten Holy (1)	Stevenson, Watters, Ellis & Allen	978-1608866878	128	<a href="https://a.co/d/2SoyBbX">https://a.co/d/2SoyBbX</a>
Non Fiction	Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law	Mary Roach	978-1324001935	320	<a href="https://a.co/d/7QhJsjl">https://a.co/d/7QhJsjl</a>
Verse	The Canyon's Edge	Dusti Bowling	978-0316494670	336	<a href="https://a.co/d/6iSobjC">https://a.co/d/6iSobjC</a>
Young Adult Fiction	Dry	Neil Shusterman	978-1481481977	416	<a href="https://a.co/d/dNEXYEt">https://a.co/d/dNEXYEt</a>
Young Adult Fiction	Peak	Roland Smith	978-0152062682	256	<a href="https://a.co/d/6MODAT2">https://a.co/d/6MODAT2</a>
Young Adult Fiction	The Astonishing Color of After	Emily X.R. Pan	978-0316464017	480	<a href="https://a.co/d/5hPtXAp">https://a.co/d/5hPtXAp</a>
Young Adult Fiction	Endangered	Eliot Schreier	978-0545165778	288	<a href="https://a.co/d/0eJzksI">https://a.co/d/0eJzksI</a>

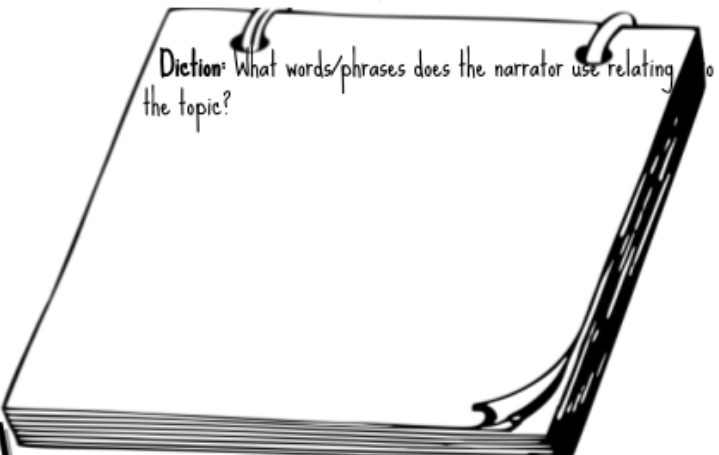
Please feel free to contact Mrs. Wendy Friz ([wfriz@montgomeryschool.org](mailto:wfriz@montgomeryschool.org)) with any questions or concerns

# Theme: Graphic Organizer

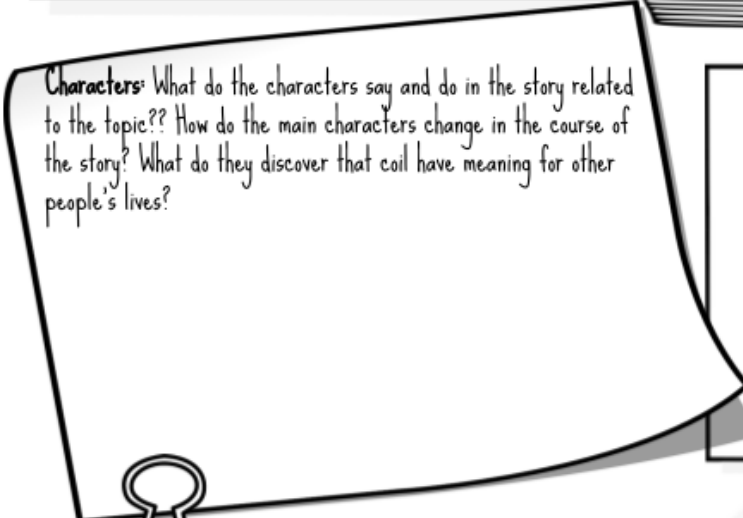
**Theme** is the message the author wants to convey to the reader about life. It goes beyond simply a topic - such as 'friendship' or 'happiness'. When identifying the theme in a piece of literature, ask yourself: What is the author trying to teach me about this topic? A **theme** is arguable - but you must be able to back it up with evidence from the text. Good literature will have multiple themes in one text. Fill out the chart below using direct quotes from the text.



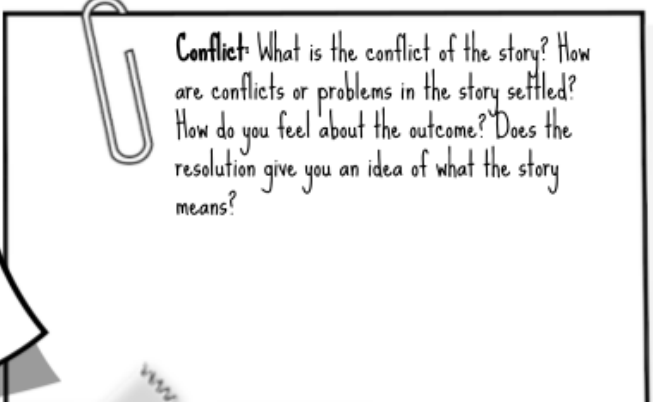
**Title:** What does the title suggest? Why do you think the writer chose this title?



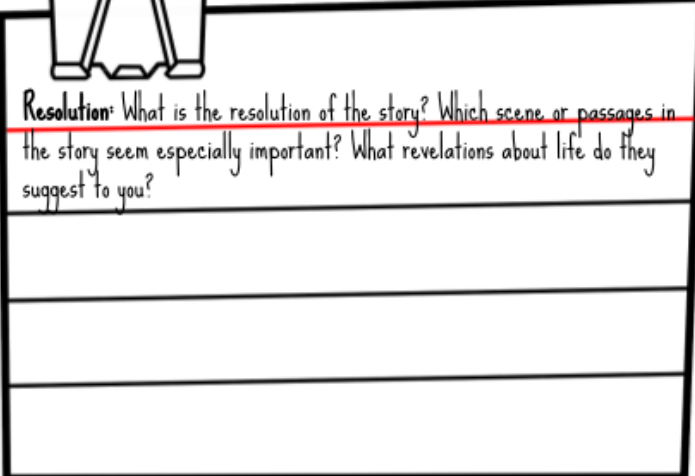
**Diction:** What words/phrases does the narrator use relating to the topic?



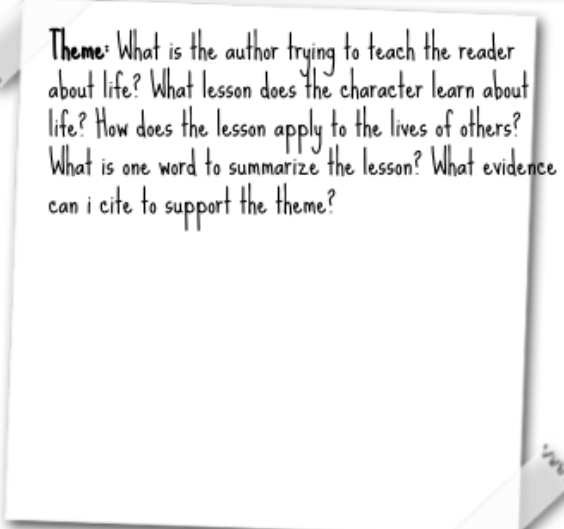
**Characters:** What do the characters say and do in the story related to the topic?? How do the main characters change in the course of the story? What do they discover that coil have meaning for other people's lives?



**Conflict:** What is the conflict of the story? How are conflicts or problems in the story settled? How do you feel about the outcome? Does the resolution give you an idea of what the story means?



**Resolution:** What is the resolution of the story? Which scene or passages in the story seem especially important? What revelations about life do they suggest to you?



**Theme:** What is the author trying to teach the reader about life? What lesson does the character learn about life? How does the lesson apply to the lives of others? What is one word to summarize the lesson? What evidence can i cite to support the theme?

# **THEME: Things to consider**

TO FIND THE THEME, REFLECT ON: WHAT LESSON IS LEARNED FROM THE TEXT?

## **Questions to Consider:**

- HOW DO CHARACTERS RESPOND TO MAJOR CHALLENGES?
- HOW DO CHARACTERS OVERCOME OBSTACLES OR SOLVE THEIR PROBLEM?
- WHAT DO YOU LEARN FROM THE CHANGES THE MAIN CHARACTER UNDERGOES?
- WHAT IDEA DOES THE WRITER WISH TO CONVEY ABOUT THE SUBJECT?