



# Summer Reading Assignment 2026

## Class Six

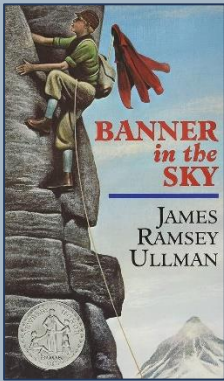
### Welcome to Class Six!

Listed below are the required books for summer reading. You will read each novel, then answer the accompanying study questions in this packet. Please note that all questions should be answered in neat, *cursive* handwriting. You will submit this assignment to your English teacher on the first day of school.

**DUE DATE:** Wednesday, August 19, 2026

**QUESTIONS?** Miss Watson, [kwatson@pcstx.org](mailto:kwatson@pcstx.org)

### REQUIRED READING

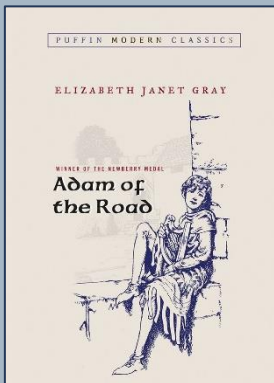


*Banner in the Sky*  
by James  
Ramsey Ullman

ISBN:  
978-0064470483

Paperback

*Banner in the Sky* is a fabulous story about a sixteen-year-old boy with an almost impossible dream. Rudi wants to pay tribute to the father he never knew by completing his father's last mission: conquering the Citadel. Climb with Rudi as he seeks to claim the peak in his father's honor.



*Adam of the Road*  
by Elizabeth  
Janet Gray

ISBN:  
978-0142406595

Paperback

Set in the Middle Ages, this story relates the journey of Adam, who finds himself lost and alone. Without his father and his dog—who usually accompany him on his travels—Adam has to fend for himself and learns lessons of independence as he does.

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### Character Qualities in *Banner in the Sky*

As you read *Banner in the Sky*, make observations about Rudi, the main character, recording meaningful quotations from the text on the chart provided. These quotes might focus on something Rudi says, does, or thinks; they might also include what another character says about Rudi or comments the narrator makes. **Remember that the quotes you select should reveal Rudi’s character qualities, and you should not repeat any of these qualities. Remember, too, that not all aspects of a person’s character are positive. Choose examples that show both positive and negative characteristics. Each quote should reveal something different about Rudi.**

Be sure to put quotations in quotation marks, indicate the speaker of a direct quotation, and include the page number for each quote. In the “Commentary” section, offer your own thoughts about what the quote reveals about Rudi’s character. **Record a minimum of ten (10) quotes from the text.** Select quotes from various chapters rather than from only one part of the book.

**EXAMPLE:**

PAGE	MEANINGFUL QUOTATION
36	“Rudi talked on. About the north face, about the west ridge, the southwest ridge. He talked quietly and thoughtfully, but with deep inner excitement, for this was the first time in his life that he had been able to speak to anyone of these things which he had thought and studied for so long...”
<b>COMMENTARY</b>	
Here the author demonstrates Rudi’s passion. Although he does not seem to be interested in some of the things other boys care about, he is deeply passionate about climbing the Citadel, which illustrates his fervor for his life’s mission.	

**NOTE:** Please see the last page of the packet for information on how the assignment will be evaluated.

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### Character Qualities in *Banner in the Sky*

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## Culture of the Middle Ages in *Adam of the Road*

As you read *Adam of the Road*, pretend you are a historian on the hunt for historic details that tell you about life in thirteenth-century England. As you find meaningful quotes in the text that point to these details, record them on the chart provided. **Remember that the quotes you select should reveal various aspects of the culture of the Middle Ages, and you should not repeat any aspects of culture. Each quote should reveal something different about the Middle Ages.** These aspects of culture may include occupations, apparel, housing arrangements, religious preferences and practices, beliefs, superstitions, and major events.

Be sure to put quotations in quotation marks, indicate the speaker of a direct quotation, and include the page number for each quote. In the “Commentary” section, offer your own thoughts about what that quote reveals about the culture of the Middle Ages. **Record a minimum of ten (10) quotes.** Select quotes from various chapters rather than from only one part of the book.

### EXAMPLE:

PAGE	MEANINGFUL QUOTATION
14	“Roger Quartermayne was no ordinary minstrel, picking up an uncertain penny, telling rough yarns in inn-yards and market places, filling in gaps in his memory with juggling and tumbling and piping as the poorer sort did.”
COMMENTARY	
As the author’s description of Roger implies, evidently there were different classes of minstrels in the Middle Ages, some poorer than others.	

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## Culture of the Middle Ages in *Adam of the Road*

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**Class Six Summer Reading 2025  
Grading Rubric**

CRITERION	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
Neatness	5	
Grammar/Spelling	5	
<b>Completeness:</b> 10 meaningful quotations with commentary for <i>Banner in the Sky</i> ; 10 meaningful quotations with commentary for <i>Adam of the Road</i>	40	
<b>Appropriateness:</b> Quotations and commentary from <i>Banner in the Sky</i> focus on Rudi's character; quotations and commentary from <i>Adam of the Road</i> focus on the culture of the Middle Ages	40	
<b>Variety:</b> Each commentary from <i>Banner in the Sky</i> reveals a different trait about Rudi's character; each commentary from <i>Adam of the Road</i> reveals a different aspect of the culture of the Middle Ages	10	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	100	