

## THE ALTAMONT SCHOOL

### SUMMER READING LIST – 6th Grade

*Hello upcoming 6th Graders, and Happy Summer! My name is Ms. Huffman, and I am looking forward to working with you in English next year.*

As part of our English journey, we will begin the year having read FOUR books. Please read over the Summer Reading Assignment below carefully, as we will jump right into discussing these books at the start of the school year. My expectation is that you will read for 20–30 minutes each day—but more importantly, I hope you will come to enjoy this time. Research shows that good readers become great readers simply by reading, and every page you turn helps build your understanding, imagination, and confidence.

I encourage you to read with a pencil in hand. Mark passages and words that you find interesting, strange, unfamiliar, or especially meaningful. Those of you who know me know that I LOVE annotations! For those who are new, annotations will help you remember what you read and give you great talking points as we begin our discussions.

Feel free to use audiobooks as you read, but please keep in mind that the purpose of summer reading is to maintain and strengthen your reading skills over the break. Listening can be helpful support, but students should always follow along in the text while using an audiobook to ensure they are actively engaging with the material.

**Note:** Kerry Madden-Lunsford, a local author, will be visiting with Middle School students in October to share her book *Werewolf Hamlet*, which is included on the Curated Choice List.

---

This is the link to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Summer Reading: <https://canva.link/eumhpm1n0ynvu88>

**For each book you read, write a book review that includes the following information:**

1. Explain whether you would or would not recommend the book
2. Support your opinion with specific reasoning or evidence
3. What was the author's purpose in writing the book?
4. Identify the intended audience
5. Include the correct title and author name within the review

**All reviews should be handwritten in your best handwriting.**

#### **EXAMPLE:**

*Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanh Hà Lai is a great book. I would recommend this book because it provides a look at a young girl's experience during the Vietnam War that I could relate to, especially the part where she comes to Alabama. Through the main character, Hà, the author shows what it feels like to lose your home, adapt to a new country, and struggle to find a sense of belonging. One moment that stood out to me was when Hà describes how different and

frustrating school in America feels, which helps the reader understand her confusion and isolation. I also really enjoyed her description of eating fried chicken for the first time in contrast to the fresh chicken she ate back in Vietnam. I believe the author's purpose is to help readers build empathy for refugees and better understand the challenges of immigration and cultural change. The target audience seems to be middle school readers. Overall, this book is worth reading because it teaches important lessons about resilience, identity, and compassion.

---

**Required:** Global.by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin

**Required: Author study on Erin Entrada Kelly (Choose 2)**

*Hello Universe*

*The First State of Being*

*The Last Resort*

*Blackbird Fly*

*At Last She Stood*

*We Dream of Space*

*Those Kids from Fawn Creek*

*The Second Life of Snap*

*Fatal Glitch: Camp Zero (release date 7/21)*

*The Land of Forgotten Girls*

**Curated Choice Books: Choose 1**

*Trouble with Heroes* by Kate Messner

*No Summit Out of Sight* by Jordan Romero and Linda J. LeBlanc

*Restart* by Gordon Korman

*The Running Dream* by Wendelin van Draanen

*Gregor the Overlander* by Suzanne Collins

*The Telling Pool* by David Clement-Davies

*Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rundell

*When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller

*The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

*Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan

*The Mona Lisa Vanishes* by Nicholas Day

*Rain Reign* by Ann Martin

*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson

*Daniel's Story* by Carol Matas

*The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George

*One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams Garcia

*Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson

*Thirst* by Varsha Bajaj

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle

*Running on the Roof of the World* by Jess Butterworth

*Zach's Lie* by Roland Smith

*No More Dead Dogs* by Gordon Korman

*A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga

*Call of the Wild* by Jack London

*The Lions' Run* by Sara Pennypacker (fan fave)

**\*\**Werewolf Hamlet*** by Kerry Madden-Lunsford