

St. George's Episcopal School

2026 Summer Reading for Students Entering Sixth Grade

You will read **TWO** books this summer, one required text and one chosen from the list below.

There is no required written assignment to complete during the summer itself. We will, however, be using these titles as the basis for graded literature activities during the first quarter of 6th grade, so please complete the required books before the first day of school.



REQUIRED READING: *OUT OF MY MIND* BY SHARON DRAPER

ALL RISING 6TH GRADERS SHOULD READ THIS BOOK BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

WE WILL BE USING IT AS A JUMPING-OFF POINT FOR OUR LANGUAGE ARTS STUDIES

DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 6TH GRADE.

THERE IS NO WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE DURING THE SUMMER.

READING HELP: If you would like to complete an activity to accompany your reading and keep the book fresh in your mind, you may be interested in one of the following. **This is not in any way required. It will not be collected or graded!**

- Create a scrapbook for Melody. Include pictures and key phrases to depict a minimum of five scenes. Write the chapter number of each scene you include on your drawings. For each scene, write 2 sentences explaining why that scene is important to the story.
- Write a one-sentence summary for each chapter. Also, choose one character who stood out to you the most, and write a paragraph describing what the character is like and why they caught your attention. Use at least 2 examples from the book to show what you mean.

CHOICE TITLES: CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO READ.

You are required to read a second book this summer. Your chosen title will serve as the basis for an introductory literature assignment during the first quarter of 6th grade. You may choose from the following list. Parents are encouraged to preview any titles their kids may wish to read.

Note: Books with a parental content guide on [commonsensemedia.org](https://www.commonsensemedia.org) are marked as CSM Reviewed.

Julie of the Wolves George, Jean Craighead CSM Reviewed
Common sense and courage enable a young Eskimo girl to survive when she becomes lost in the Arctic wild.

The Mysterious Benedict Society Stewart, Trenton Lee CSM Reviewed
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where their mission is to stop the plan of the evil Ledroptia Curtain. Book #1

Esperanza Rising Ryan, Pam Muñoz CSM Reviewed

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to work in the labor camps of Southern California on the eve of the Great Depression.

The Secret Garden (Unabridged) Burnett, Frances Hodges CSM Reviewed

Mary moves to a huge estate to live with her mysterious uncle, his ailing son, the servants--and a secret garden.

Everything on a Waffle Horvath, Polly

Eleven-year-old Primrose, living in a small fishing village in British Columbia, recounts her experiences and all that she learns about human nature and the unpredictability of life in the months after her parents are lost at sea.

The Higher Power of Lucky Patron, Susan CSM Reviewed

Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life. Book #1

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon Lin, Grace CSM Reviewed

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish and then joins a dragon on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of discovering how to change her family's fortune.

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club CSM Reviewed

Thrilling true story of teenagers who stood up to the Nazis. (Nonfiction)

Call it Courage Sperry, Armstrong

An inspiring youth overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe.

Ginger Pye Estes, Eleanor

The disappearance of a new puppy named Ginger and the appearance of a mysterious man in a mustard yellow hat bring excitement into the lives of the Pye children.

Al Capone Does My Shirts Choldenko, Gennifer CSM Reviewed

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Elijah of Buxton Curtis, Christopher Paul CSM Reviewed

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah, the first freeborn child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American South, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive (Young Adult Version)

Hillenbrand, Lauren CSM Reviewed

This adaptation of *Unbroken* tells the story of Olympic runner Louie Zamperini's odyssey during World War II and the courage, cunning, and fortitude he found to endure and overcome. Make sure you get the Young Adult version if you choose to read this book. (Nonfiction)

Greenglass House Milford, Kate CSM Reviewed

At a smuggler's inn, 12-yr-old Milo, the innkeepers' adopted son, plans to spend his holidays relaxing, but soon guests arrive with strange stories about the house, sending Milo and his new friend on an adventure.