

6TH GRADE SUMMER READING

Hello, everyone! I am very excited to work with you this school year as APA's 6th grade reading teacher. ☺ It is my hope that your child will continue to develop a love of reading this summer and throughout the school year. Reading develops important critical thinking skills, helps students gain empathy, and gives students a broader view of the world we all share.

I would like for my students to become habitual, thoughtful, intelligent readers. I believe that summer reading will increase reading proficiency, as well as close the summer learning gap. This summer, students will have several options for their summer reading experience.

REQUIRED for all students- Read and complete the study guide and imagery sheet for the book *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood. ***The imagery assignment and study guide should be turned in the first day of class for a homework grade.***

Option 1 (Extra Credit) - Read two (2) books of your choice that you have not read before. Be sure the books are appropriate in content and reading level for middle school. Parents, librarians, bookstore clerks, and websites like Accelerated Reader can help you with deciding. A parent/guardian will need to verify that you read both books for you to receive extra credit on the summer reading test. Students who read 2 choice books will receive 2 points extra credit on the summer reading test.

Option 2 (Extra Credit) - Students may read 5 books from the 2026-2027 Battle of the Books reading list (on back) to earn 5 extra credit points on their summer reading test plus the opportunity to try out for the 2026-2027 APA Battle of the Books team in the fall! Parental supervision may be necessary with the Battle of the Books reading list since the maturity level of each child is different.

*** Students are advised to select books that are on their reading level. In some cases, parental supervision may be necessary since the maturity level of each child is different.

REQUIRED SUMMER READING- The novel *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood (ISBN: 9481481468831) is our summer reading book. It is about a boy named Ken Sparks who is living through WWII. After bombs drop around his city, his parents make the decision to send him on a large ship to Canada. The ship is torpedoed and Ken has to fight to survive. This book is based on a true story and written in poetry format.

Students will be given a test on *Lifeboat 12* during the first 10 days of school. If your child chooses to participate in either of the extra credit summer reading opportunities, please bring the signed verification sheet from this packet to school **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY** of the first week to receive extra credit. *No late verification forms will be accepted.*

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful summer. I cannot wait to meet you in the fall!

Happy Reading!

Melissa Warren

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2026-2027 MBOB List

NC Middle School Battle of the Books

a program of the North Carolina School Library Media Association

Title	Author
<i>Agent Most Wanted*</i>	Sonia Purnell
<i>All Thirteen</i>	Christina Soontornvat
<i>Blood in the Water</i>	Tiffany D. Jackson
<i>The Fire, the Water, and Maudie McGinn</i>	Sally J. Pla
<i>Island of Spies</i>	Sheila Turnage
<i>The Last Cuentista</i>	Donna Barba Higuera
<i>Long Lost</i>	Jacqueline West
<i>Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish</i>	Pablo Cartaya
<i>Nyxia</i>	Scott Reintgen
<i>Other Words for Home</i>	Jasmine Warga
<i>Restart</i>	Gordon Korman
<i>The Secret Battle of Evan Pao</i>	Wendy Wan-Long Shang
<i>Shark Teeth</i>	Sherri Winston
<i>Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky</i>	Kwame Mbalia
<i>Two Tribes</i>	Emily Bowen Cohen
<i>When We Flew Away**</i>	Alice Hoffman

*young readers adaptation of *A Woman of No Importance*

**student choice selection

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IMAGERY

Imagery is created when words and phrases are used specifically to help the reader

imagine each of the 5 senses: smell, touch, sight, hearing, and taste.

Examples of Each Imagery Type

- **Auditory imagery-** *from "Dover Beach"*
"Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling,
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin, and cease, and then again begin;
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in."
- **Gustatory imagery** - *from "To Earthward"*
"I craved strong sweets ... now no joy but lacks salt"
- **Olfactory imagery-** *from "Out, Out"*
"the sticks of wood sweet scented stuff"
- **Tactile imagery** - *from "The Witch of Coos"*
"the bed linens might just as well be ice and the clothes
snow"
- **Visual imagery** - *from "The Widow's Lament in Springtime"*
"masses of
flowers load the
cherry branches
and color some
bushes yellow and
some red..."

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Imagery Assignment

Imagery is created when words and phrases are used specifically to help the reader imagine each of the 5 senses: smell, touch, sight, hearing, and taste. Define each type of imagery using the blanks below. Give **two** examples of imagery from the book *Lifeboat 12*. For example- you could find one example from the book that uses visual imagery and one that uses auditory imagery.

- Visual- When the author uses the sense of _____ to help the reader imagine the story.
- Auditory- When the author uses the sense of _____ to help the reader imagine the story.
- Tactile- When the author uses the sense of _____ to help the reader imagine the story.
- Gustatory- When the author uses the sense of _____ to help the reader imagine the story.
- Olfactory- When the author uses the sense of _____ to help the reader imagine the story.

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Lifeboat 12 Study Guide

Please answer all questions on a separate piece of paper to be turned in on the first day of class. Please note- many of these questions are your test questions.

Question:
1. What is the setting at the beginning of the book? (time/place)
2. Who is the main character? Please describe him.
3. Describe the main character's family.
4. What is the Ken's hobby? (pg. 25)
5. Where does Ken's family decide to send him? Why?
6. Who is Ken's best childhood friend? What is his hobby?
7. How is the ship different from what the children experience at home?
8. What happens to the boat on pg. 96?
9. Why does Ken end up in Lifeboat 12 instead of an earlier boat?
10. Describe Peard. Name at least two other people on Lifeboat 12.
11. How much water is on Lifeboat 12? How much do they get everyday? How many days can they survive? (pg 135)
12. Describe Mary Cornish. What does she do to help the children in the boat?
13. How long do the passengers stay on Lifeboat 12? Describe at least 2 of the problems the people face on the boat.
14. How do Ken's parents react when he comes home? How about the town he is from?
15. How has Ken changed from the beginning to the end of the book?
16. What does Ken decide to do in the end?
17. Did you like this book? Why or Why not?

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EXTRA CREDIT VERIFICATION FORM

MUST be turned in to Mrs. Warren by Friday of the first week back to school for credit.

Student Name: _____

OPTION 1 Extra Credit Reading (2 books you have not read before): In addition to the required book, my son/daughter has read the following 2 selections for +2 extra credit:

1. _____

2. _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Student's Signature: _____

OPTION 2 Extra Credit Reading (5 books from the BOB list): In addition to the required book, my son/daughter has read the following 5 selections from the Battle of the Books list for +5 extra credit PLUS qualification to try out for the team in the fall:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Student's Signature: _____