

Dear Fifth and Sixth Graders,

As the 2025-2026 school year comes to an end, the 5/6 teachers would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer. We would also like to see you exercise your brain, while enjoying fun in the sun. This Summer Packet will enrich your vacation and help you to prepare for your upcoming classes this fall.

There are several activities in this packet that you can do. Please read the directions very carefully and be prepared to present your final products when we return to school.

This packet includes the following activities:

☐ Independent Reading (Required)

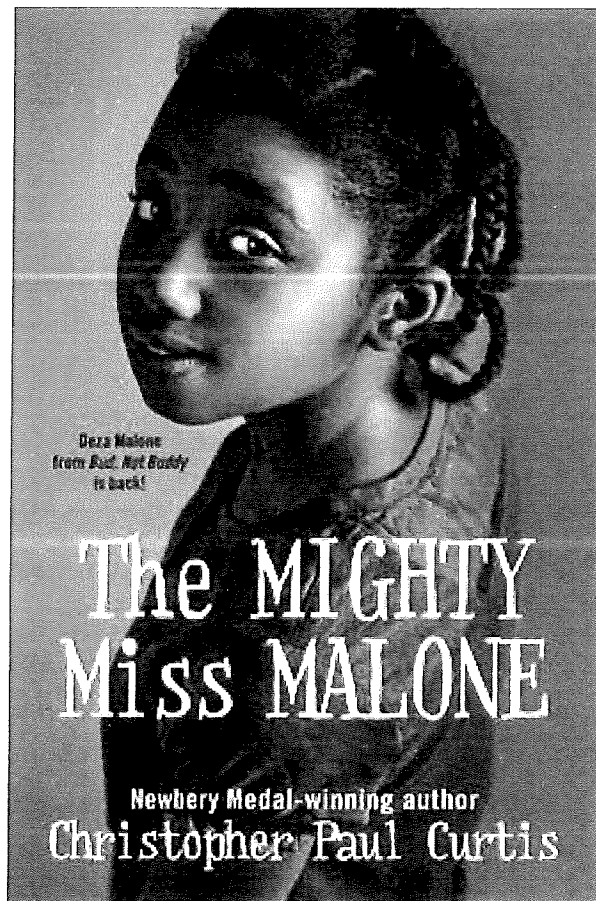
☐ Math Review (4 Weeks Required)

Details of these assignments are given in the following pages.

Please read the directions carefully and we look forward to seeing you again so we can continue to learn and grow together.

5th & 6th Grade

Summer Reading!



INDEPENDENT READING

(Required)

The Mighty Miss Malone

-Christopher Paul Curtis

We want you to develop a love of reading throughout your time on the 5/6 team. We encourage you to Read! Read! Read! Summer is a great time to snuggle up with a good book and we want you to read as many books as you can. Read at the beach, read under a tree, read in a blanket fort on a rainy day.

The 2026-2027 school year will begin with a focus on the Great Depression in Language Arts. To frontload this topic, we are **requiring** students to read *The Mighty Miss Malone* by Christopher Paul Curtis. You may choose to check this book out from a local library or purchase it for your child to use in the fall. This novel is the **required read** for the summer. This winner of the Newberry Medal & The Coretta Scott King Award follows 12-year-old Deza Malone and her family in 1936 Indiana as they navigate poverty during the Great Depression. After a boating accident leaves her father traumatized and unable to find work, the family struggles, eventually separating to find work before reuniting, with Deza clinging to hope and education. While reading, please complete the activities provided below.

When we come back in the fall, we will focus on these activities and continue to work with the text as well as other works from The Great Depression.

The Mighty Miss Malone Assignments:

- ☐ Evidence of the Great Depression: Complete the sheet included in the packet
- ☐ Visual Images of The Great Depression: Create a collage of visuals from The Great Depression-1 sheet (This collage will be shared in class to help understand The Great Depression through visuals.)
- ☐ What is the theme of the book?: Identify themes that occur throughout the book.

Evidence of the Great Depression

Identify text evidence of The Great Depression as you read *The Mighty Miss Malone*.

[illegible]

Identify the Theme

Identify the themes that come up in the book *The Mighty Miss Malone*. A list of topics/themes have been included to support this assignment.

[illegible]

Theme Examples: This is a list of examples you may use. There may be several themes in the book, so use the examples or ones you come up with on your own.

Topic: Friendship **Theme:** True friends stand by you even when times are hard.

Topic: Courage **Theme:** Standing up for what's right takes courage, even when you're afraid.

Topic: Appearances **Theme:** You can't judge people by how they look on the outside.

Topic: Choices **Theme:** The choices we make have consequences we must face.

Topic: Teamwork **Theme:** Working together accomplishes more than working alone.

Topic: Jealousy **Theme:** Jealousy can destroy relationships if we let it.

Topic: Home **Theme:** Home is where you feel loved and accepted, not just a place.

Topic: Greed **Theme:** Wanting too much can cause us to lose what we already have.

Topic: Growing up **Theme:** Growing up means learning to take responsibility for yourself.

Topic: Fear **Theme:** Facing your fears is the only way to overcome them.

Topic: Second chances **Theme:** Everyone deserves a second chance to make things right.

Topic: Wealth **Theme:** True wealth is measured by love and relationships, not money.

Topic: Nature **Theme:** We have a responsibility to protect and respect nature.

Topic: Trust **Theme:** Trust is earned slowly but can be broken in an instant.

Topic: Perseverance **Theme:** Success comes to those who don't give up after failure.

Theme vs. Topic Examples for Grades 6-8: These examples explore abstract topics and nuanced themes suitable for literary analysis. Students can examine how authors develop complex messages about society, identity, and human nature.

Topic: Identity **Theme:** Discovering who you are is a lifelong journey, not a destination.

Topic: Conformity **Theme:** Society often pressures people to fit in at the cost of their true selves.

Topic: Power **Theme:** Power can corrupt even those who start with good intentions.

Topic: Truth **Theme:** The truth is often more complicated than it first appears.

Topic: Prejudice **Theme:** Prejudice prevents us from seeing humanity in others.

Topic: Hope **Theme:** Hope can survive even in the darkest of circumstances.

Topic: Justice **Theme:** Staying silent in the face of injustice makes us part of the problem.

Topic: The Past **Theme:** Our past shapes us, but it doesn't have to define our future.

Topic: Freedom **Theme:** True freedom requires responsibility and sometimes sacrifice.

Topic: Love **Theme:** Love can inspire both great sacrifice and terrible destruction.

Topic: Revenge **Theme:** The desire for revenge often harms the seeker more than the target.

Topic: Loneliness **Theme:** Isolation can change a person in profound and lasting ways.

Topic: War **Theme:** War affects everyone—not just those who fight.

Topic: Ambition **Theme:** Unchecked ambition can lead to a person's downfall.

Topic: Innocence **Theme:** Loss of innocence is a painful but necessary part of growing up.

MATH

(4 weeks required)

Please complete and return to your math teacher the first week of school. Four weeks of math practice are required for the summer. There are 11 weeks this summer, you can easily take a few weeks off for vacation, camps, relaxation, etc. Each practice has about 10 questions per day for Monday-Thursday. The Review Quiz is for Friday. Complete the section for the math class you will be entering in the fall. This material is a review of content from the previous year to make sure your skills are sharp and ready for a new school year. If you get stuck on any problem, please do not spend more than 5-10 minutes trying to solve it. It is OK if you have a few incomplete problems if you honestly put forth your best effort.

Good Luck. If you need help just ask an adult or older sibling. When in doubt, you can search [Khan Academy](#) for video assistance.

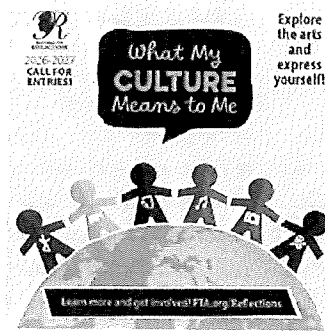
Entering 5th Grade Math and 5/6 Math 	Entering Accelerated 6 and 6th Grade Math 	Entering 7/8 Math 
Week 1 Practice Review Quiz	Week 1 Practice Review Quiz	Week 1 Practice Review Quiz
Week 2 Practice Review Quiz	Week 2 Practice Review Quiz	Week 2 Practice Review Quiz
Week 3 Practice Review Quiz	Week 3 Practice Review Quiz	Week 3 Practice Review Quiz
Week 4 Practice Review Quiz	Week 4 Practice Review Quiz	Week 4 Practice Review Quiz
		Volume of Prisms
		Rational Numbers
		Analyzing Statistics
		Converting Units of Measure

Additional Resources

Looking for more math practice?

[Common Core Sheets](#)- Printable worksheets sorted by topic or grade

[IXL](#)- Digital practice by grade level or skill. No need to sign up, you are allowed 7-10 daily problems.



PTA National Reflections Art Program

The 2026-2027 Reflections program theme is **"What My Culture Means to Me."**

Artists, photographers, dancers, composers, filmmakers, and authors are invited to enter the PTA Reflections Art Program. This program offers all BCS students to create works of art for fun and recognition. Reflect on the theme, create an original work, for a chance to win and be recognized.

Reflect on the theme and submit an original work in any of these categories:

Visual Arts

Photography

Literature

Music Composition

Film Production

Dance Choreography

*Students may submit multiple entries, but only one per category

Collection instructions to be announced by the PTSA chairperson in September 2026.

See <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections/awards> for more information about awards and events.

Questions? Please contact your BCS PTA Reflections Chairs