



Summer Reading 2009

Students entering 6th grade in 2009

All students entering 6th grade for the 2009-2010 school year are required to participate in summer reading. You **will read two texts** before you come to school in August.

You need to read one of the following books before coming to school next year.

Schooled by Gordon Korman

A story of a nerdy student who unexpectedly becomes president of his school after having to leave the home he has known to live with a school guidance counselor and her family.

OR **Among the Hidden** by Margaret Peterson Haddix

A story of a 12 year old boy who has spent his life hiding from the Population Police. He learns he is not the only hidden child and tries to break free of his situation to meet the girl hiding next door.

When you get back to school next year, you will have to answer a **Text- Based writing prompt** about the book during the first week of school. You **can take notes** on the book as you are reading and **use those notes** to answer the writing prompt. Your teachers have given you some sample types of note taking to use when you are reading. You can **choose one of these tools, or create one of your own** to organize your notes on the book. You will not know the exact writing prompt until you get to school, but there will be **two topics to choose from**.

The important topics of the story are **setting, character changes** and the **importance of the problem or conflict**. Some questions to consider while reading are – how is the setting (time and place) important to the story? Or what is the problem/conflict of the story? Or how does the character change over time?

Here are some sample note taking tools- remember you can create your own too!

| Character | Trait/ changes | Page # | Setting | Why is this time or place important? |
|-----------|----------------|--------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |

| Problem/ Conflict | Importance to story |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| | |

You also have to read a second piece of text before coming back to school in August. This second text can be a **short story, poem, magazine, novel or another type of text that interests you.** You will **be required** to get in a small group next year and explain your text to your group during the first week of school. We have included some titles as ideas below, but **you can choose any text to read for your second reading** that you like and interests you.

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Maniac Magee | Jerry Spinelli | After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries. |
| Souder | William H. Armstrong | Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding by learning to read and with the help of the devoted dog Souder. <i>Newbery Winner</i> |
| The Report Card | Andrew Clements | Fifth-grader Nora Rowley has always hidden the fact that she is a genius from everyone because all she wants is to be normal, but when she comes up with a plan to prove that grades are not important, things begin to get out of control. |
| Joey Pigza Loses Control | Jack Gantos | Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known and tries to help the baseball team he coaches win the championship. |
| Shoeless Joe and Me | Dan Gutman | Joe Stoshack travels back to 1919, where he meets Shoeless Joe Jackson and tries to prevent the fixing of the World Series in which Jackson was wrongly implicated. |
| A Single Shard | Linda Sue Park | Tree-Ear is a 13-year-old orphan living under a bridge in medieval Korea. He wants, more than anything, learn the art of throwing delicate and treasured ceramics. A broken piece of pottery, however, sets off events as the boy struggles to repay his master. |
| The Gold Cadillac | Mildred Taylor | Two African-American girls living in the North are proud of their family's beautiful new Cadillac until they take it on a visit to the South and encounter racial prejudice for the first time. |
| Summer Reading Is Killing Me | Jon Scieszka | At the beginning of summer vacation Joe, Sam, and Fred find themselves trapped inside their summer reading list, involved in a battle between good and evil characters from well-known children's books |

Magazine Titles for Teens:

Dogs for Kids Magazine

Sport's Illustrated for Kids

Cricket Magazine