June 2019

Dear Rising 6th Grade Students:

Each of you is expected to read two books over the summer and visit one historical site which will serve as a catalyst to our fall curriculum.

**LANGUAGE ARTS – READ TWO BOOKS:**

**BOOK ONE: Choose one of the following novels and complete one of the “Language Arts Summer Reading Book Report Options”**

*Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk
Growing up in the shadows cast by two world wars, Annabelle has lived a mostly quiet, steady life in her small Pennsylvania town. Until the day new student Betty Glengarry walks into her class. Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative, and while her bullying seems isolated at first, things quickly escalate, and reclusive World War I veteran Toby becomes a target of her attacks. While others have always seen Toby’s strangeness, Annabelle knows only kindness. She will soon need to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice as tensions mount.

*The Inquisitor’s Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog* by Adam Gidwitz
On a dark night, travelers from across France cross paths at an inn and begin to tell stories of three children. Their adventures take them on a chase through France: they are taken captive by knights, sit alongside a king, and save the land from a farting dragon. On the run to escape prejudice and persecution and save precious and holy texts from being burned, their quest drives them forward to a final showdown at Mont Saint-Michel, where all will come to question if these children can perform the miracles.

*The Green Ember* by S.D. Smith
Heather and Picket are extraordinary rabbits with ordinary lives until calamitous events overtake them, spilling them into a cauldron of misadventures. They discover that their own story is bound up in the tumult threatening to overwhelm the wider world. Kings fall and kingdoms totter. Tyrants ascend and terrors threaten. Betrayal beckons, and loyalty is a broken road with peril around every bend. Where will Heather and Picket land? How will they make their stand?

*The Truth About Twinkie Pie* by Kat Yeh
Take two sisters making it on their own: brainy twelve-year-old GiGi and junior-high-dropout-turned-hairstylist DiDi. Add a million dollars in prize money from a national cooking contest and a move from the trailer parks of South Carolina to the North Shore of Long Island. Mix in a fancy new school, new friends and enemies, a first crush, and a generous sprinkling of family secrets. That’s the recipe for *The Truth About Twinkie Pie*, a voice-driven middle-grade debut about the true meaning of family and friendship.

*Captain Superlative* by J. S. Puller
"Have no fear, citizens! Captain Superlative is here to make all troubles disappear!" Red mask, blue wig, silver swimsuit, rubber gloves, torn tights, high top sneakers and . . . a cape? Who would run through the halls of Deerwood Park Middle School dressed like this? And why? Janey-quick to stay in the shadows-can't resist the urge to uncover the truth behind the mask. The answer pulls invisible Janey into the spotlight and leads her to an unexpected friendship with a superhero like no other. Fearless even in the face of school bully extraordinaire, Dagmar Hagen, no good deed is too small for the incomparable Captain Superlative and her new sidekick, Janey. But superheroes hold secrets and Captain Superlative is no exception. When Janey unearths what's truly at stake, she's forced to face her own dark secrets and discover what it truly means to be a hero . . . and a friend

*Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly
In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected ways. Virgil Salinas is shy and kind-hearted and feels out of place in his crazy-about-sports family. Valencia Somerset, who is deaf, is smart, brave, and secretly lonely, and she loves everything about nature. Kaori Tanaka is a self-proclaimed psychic, whose little sister, Gen, is always following her around. And Chet Bullens wishes the weird kids would just stop being so different so he can concentrate on basketball. They aren't friends, at least not until Chet pulls a prank that traps Virgil and his pet guinea pig at the bottom of a well.
Choose either: *Wolf Hollow*, *The Inquisitor’s Tale*, *Captain Superlative*, *The Truth About Twinkie Pie*, *Hello Universe*, or *The Green Ember*. While reading, make any notes you feel will help you with your summer project. Next, choose one of the projects below to complete which will show your understanding of the novel. This project will be one of your first important grades for the next year, so make sure that it showcases your talent and abilities. Regardless of the project you choose, you should include information relating and showing your understanding of: the *plot* of the story, the *characters* involved, the *themes or big ideas* in the story, and your *opinion* of the book. If you and a friend decide to read the same book, you are allowed to complete one of the following projects together.

1. Design a multimedia presentation (about 1 and a half minutes long) for your novel. Do not use Power-Point, but be creative using technology. The options are endless! Some resources could be iMovie or Windows Movie Maker, or web based programs like Animoto (https://animoto.com). Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.

2. Make an illustrated timeline of the novel. You must illustrate 10 different events/scenes from the story you selected. Your illustrations must be put in proper order for your book, and should show the characters and events of importance throughout your story. Be sure to include a written explanation of why you chose each scene and how it relates to the theme of the novel. Illustrations will be graded on quality and must be in color; no stick figures will be accepted. Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.

3. Create a newspaper for the town/city your story takes place in. Have the stories and features of the newspaper be about the characters and events in your novel. Your newspaper should contain information about the characters, setting, plot, and theme(s) of the novel. The newspaper should be informative and must contain text and pictures. You could include editorials, weather reports, sports, reports, feature stories. Be creative! Here is a link for a newspaper template: http://www.extranewspapers.com/newspaper-template-pack-word-school/ Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book.
4. Book Jacket: Must be your own design – do not duplicate original book jacket. Remember, your project must include plot events, character analysis and themes from your book. Create a colorful, engaging book jacket that includes the following:

b. Inner Flap: (left side): Summary – Sequential summary of key story events from the reading
   Characters – discuss the major characters in the story and their personalities
c. Inner Flap: (right side): Text Connections ( 1 text to text, 1 text to self, and 1 text to world)
d. Back Flap: Theme – Description of the theme in the novel make sure to support your answer with specific examples from the story.

http://desktoppub.about.com/od/glossary/g/Book-Jacket.htm
http://www.readwritethink.net/files/resources/interactives/bookcover/

**SOCIAL STUDIES:**

- Choose a historical site to visit.
  - **Use the two-page Historical Site Visit Sheet.**
  - Your historical visit sheet should be brought to school on the first day and turned in to your social studies teacher.

Have a relaxing and pleasant summer.

Sincerely,

6th Grade Team
Language Arts Book Report Form

In language arts class, we discuss the evaluative characteristics of literature -- format, characterization, plot, setting, theme, conflict, & style. Please connect the following evaluative characteristics with your free choice language arts book you read this summer. This information will help you complete your language arts assignment during the first week of school.

Characterization -- actions that define character: Please identify a character and then offer an action that helps you understand that character (For example, Romeo is very loyal. He avenges Mercutio’s death by killing Tybalt).

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Plot -- the novel's sequence of events: Please offer five major plot points of the novel you read.

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Setting – where and when the story takes place: Identify the setting of the story.

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Theme -- a lesson or moral about life that is taught through the plot: What lesson did you learn from this novel? (A note: a theme is not one word. For example, “work” is not a theme; something like “Through hard work, one can achieve success”.)

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Conflict -- a struggle between the protagonist and another character against nature or some outside force: Please identify one conflict in the novel (For example, Romeo cannot be with Juliet because their parents are enemies)

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BOOK TWO: Choose one of the novels from the following “6th Grade Language Arts Suggested Summer Reading List”, one of the links provided, or a grade level book of your choice and complete the “Language Arts Book Report Form” provided. (A book presentation will be assigned the 1st week of school.)

(Book Descriptions taken from Amazon.com)

**Absolutely Normal Chaos** by Sharon Creech
A prequel to the Newbery Medal-winning Walk Two Moons, this book chronicles the daily life of 13-year-old Mary Lou Finney during her most chaotic and romantic summer ever. Mary Lou's summer journal -- which she begins grudgingly as a dreaded assignment for school -- becomes a hilarious chronicle of the circle of people and events that make her summer. There is Carl Ray, the mysterious and troublesome cousin that comes to visit; Beth Ann Bartels, her best friend who's recently gone boy crazy; Alex Cheevy, the boy that makes Mary Lou's brains "mushy;" and, of course, the Finney clan, her "normally strange family." What follows is the story of a summer filled with lessons and observations on love, death, friendship, and family.

**All the Earth, Thrown to the Sky** by Joe R. Lansdale
When dust storms hit Oklahoma, wiping out farms and families, Jack is no better off than his neighbors Jane and Tony. Suddenly all orphaned, they take a dead neighbor's car and make their way out of the dust bowl. Along the way they get kidnapped by gangsters, caught in a grasshopper storm, enslaved by a crooked cop, meet hobos while hopping trains and good folks who help them out. Jane likens their adventure to Greek Mythology and loves every minute of it, while Jack and Tony are ready for a more stable life. Miss Diane says, “A humdinger of a story, from Jack’s point of view but this is really Jane's story with Jack observing and narrating. All the Earth, Thrown to the Sky is old-fashioned storytelling about friendship at its best.

**Barn Boot Blues** by Catherine Friend
It is NOT Taylor's idea to move from Minneapolis, away from her friends and the Mall of America, to an isolated sheep farm. That is her mother’s dream. Can Taylor learn to collect eggs without getting chicken poop in her hair? She doesn’t think so. She doesn’t fit in at her new school and wants to get off that farm, so her friends devise the TEFF plan—Taylor Escapes From Farm. Miss Kelly says, “Taylor has a great sense of humor, while the school and farm situations ring true. She has perfected her eye-rolling, to her parent’s dismay. This is a fun read that also shows the rewarding side of farm life.

**Belle Prater’s Boy** by Ruth White
When Woodrow's mother suddenly disappears, he moves to his grandparents’ home in a small Virginia town where he befriends his cousin, and together they find the strength to face the terrible losses and fears in their lives.

**Beyond Lucky** by Sarah Aronson
Ari does anything he can to bring himself good luck on the soccer field. After he finds a rare soccer card, his luck improves… and then the card disappears from his backpack. Ari needs that card!

**Bridge to Terabithia** by Katherine Paterson, Donna Diamond
An extraordinarily powerful tribute to friendship, this Newbery Award-winning novel recounts the unlikely friendship of a country boy, Jess, and his neighbor, an uprooted city girl named Leslie. When Leslie is killed during a storm while trying to reach Terabithia, their secret hiding place, Jess must gather all his strength to come to terms with his loss and find a way to heal.
The Boy at the End of the World by Greg Van Eekhout
Asleep for thousands of years, Fisher awakens to discover that he may be the last human on earth. Fisher must elude hostile machines and mutated creatures as he hunts for any signs of human life.

Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide by Tommy Greenwald
Charlie Joe doesn’t like to read and he’ll do just about anything to avoid it. His summer school assignment is to write a book, so here’s his guide to Not Reading.

Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales by Marcia Williams
Step back into the Middle Ages for a boisterous, bawdy storytelling session led by the one and only Chaucer. Marcia Williams uses her signature comic-strip format to animate nine Canterbury classics, including "The Clerk's Tale," "The Miller's Tale," and "The Wife of Bath's Tale." Interspersed with her lively narrative and running side-commentary are bits of dialogue from the original Medieval English text, bringing the essence of Chaucer's colorful humor to modern readers in an engaging way.

The Complete Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis
Enter the magical land of Narnia, where enchanted creatures live and battles are fought between good and evil! The seven volumes of C. S. Lewis's famed fantasy series come boxed in a hardcover case.

Dead End in Norvelt by Jack Gantos
2012 Newbery Award Winner
2012 Scott O'Dell Award Winner
Jack’s parents have grounded him for the entire summer for various offenses. He’s assigned to help a neighbor type up obituaries for the elderly residents of Norvelt who are quickly dying off. It’s going to be a long summer.

Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan
Lost and alone in a forbidden forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each, in turn, become interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. And ultimately, pulled by the invisible thread of destiny, their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo. Richly imagined and masterfully crafted, this impassioned, uplifting, and virtuosic tour de force will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.

The Egypt Game by Zilpha Keatley Snyder, Alton Raible (illus.)
Even to Melanie, who knew that you could never predict what a new kid would be like, April Hall was something of a surprise. One look at her stringy upswept hair, false eyelashes, and ragged fox-fur collar, convinced Melanie that April was not going to be easy to integrate into the sixth grade at Wilson School. Within a month, April and Melanie had developed a common interest in ancient Egypt and had begun to develop a land of Egypt in an abandoned storage yard. Complications arose when other people joined the original Egyptians, when a murderer ranged the neighborhood, and when an oracle predicted strange things. But it was all in the game, which gave even April a fall and winter to remember.
The Girl Behind the Glass by Kelley, Jane
Their new house is creepy and her sister has a new friend, so Hanna is lonely... but she's not alone. Another girl lives in the house, and she's waited years and years and years for someone to stay with her—forever!

The Map of Me by Tami Lewis Brown
When Margie and her little sister Peep come home to an empty house, they know their mom has taken off. Margie thinks she's headed for the International Poultry Hall of Fame, so she takes Peep and her dad's car to go find her.

I Heard the Owl Call My Name by Margaret Craven
Amid the grandeur of the remote Pacific Northwest stands Kingcome, a village so ancient that, according to Kwakiutl myth, it was founded by the two brothers left on earth after the great flood. The Native Americans who still live there call it Quee, a place of such incredible natural richness that hunting and fishing remain primary food sources. But the old culture of totems and potlatch is being replaced by a new culture of prefab housing and alcoholism. Kingcome's younger generation is disenchanted and alienated from its heritage. And now, coming upriver is a young vicar, Mark Brian, who has two years to live. Sent to this Indian parish in British Columbia, Mark embarks on a journey of discovery that can teach him -- and us -- about life, death, and the transforming power of love.

The Island by Gary Paulsen
Every morning 15-year-old Wil Neuton gets up, brushes his teeth, leaves the house, and rows away from shore. He's discovered the island, a place where he can go to be alone and learn to know nature -- and himself. On the island he watches the loons and the fish in the lake, and he writes and paints. It feels good to get away from the tension rising between his parents -- tension brought on by yet another move to a new town. But Wil can't stay away from the outside world forever. He must face Ray Bunner, the bully determined to challenge him, and his parents, who worry when Wil decides to stay on the island indefinitely. Can Wil bridge the growing gap between himself and the rest of the world?

Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts
Rafe's plan to break every rule in the school handbook is soon out of his control.

The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman
In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she wants most: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world.

Okay for Now by Gary D. Schmidt
2012 Children's Choice Award Winner-Fifth to Sixth grade
Although Doug is determined to hate his new town, he eventually makes a friend, finds a job, and begins to fit in. But his home life is still a wreck.

Once Upon a Toad by Heather Vogel Frederick
When Cat's inept fairy godmother accidentally makes toads appear when Cat speaks and gems fall out of her stepsister Olivia's mouth, the two attract the attention of jewel thieves and a secret government laboratory.

Once Upon a Marigold by Jean Ferris
Who knew love could be so amazing—and stupefying? Not Christian. He was clueless when he started spying on the royal family through his telescope. He lives in a cave with a troll for a dad, after all. If his dad had only warned him about all that mind-boggling love stuff, maybe things wouldn't be such a mess. But then, maybe, Princess Marigold would be dead.

**One Came Home** written by Amy Timberlake
2014 Newbery Honor Book. In 1871 Wisconsin, love, betrayal, grief and violence spur 13-year-old Georgie on a gripping adventure full of hardship, heartbreak and terror. As she tries to solve the mystery of her sister’s disappearance, Georgie and her brash, humorous voice pull readers along on her journey of self-discovery.

**Paperboy** by Vince Vawter 2014 Newbery Honor Book
Little Man, a sensitive and resilient 11-year-old boy who stutters, ventures beyond the familiar and finds his voice while taking over his best friend’s paper route. Set in the summer heat of 1959 Memphis, “Paperboy” is a moving coming-of-age novel.

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor
The Logans, a black family living in the South during the 1930s, are faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand. It takes the events of one turbulent year -- the year of the night riders and the burnings, the year a white girl humiliates Cassie in public simply because she is black -- to show Cassie that having a place of their own is the Logan family's lifeblood. It is the land that gives the Logans their courage and pride, for no matter how others may degrade them, the Logans possess something no one can take away.

**Ruby Redfort Look Into My Eyes** by Lauren Child
Ruby, an ace code-cracker and daring detective, is recruited by a super-secret spy agency that needs her help.

**Shakespeare Stealer** by Gary Blackwood
Widge is an orphan with a rare talent for shorthand. His fearsome master has just one demand: steal Shakespeare's play "Hamlet"—or else. Widge has no choice but to follow orders, so he works his way into the heart of the Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare's players perform. As full of twists and turns as a London alleyway, this entertaining novel is rich in period details, colorful characters, villainy, and drama."A fast-moving historical novel that introduces an important era with casual familiarity."

**Spy School** by Stuart Gibbs
Ben Ripley’s dream comes true when he’s recruited by the CIA to attend their Espionage Academy. But when he’s attacked by terrorists on his first night at school (a pop quiz), Ben’s new dream is just to stay alive.

**Words of Stone** by Kevin Henkes
While exploring the countryside outside of his home, 10-year-old Blaze Werla spots a devastating message on the side of a hill and irresistible. Ultimately, Blaze’s summer takes a turn toward mystery and adventure when he meets the boisterous Joselle.

**The Wild Robot** by Peter Brown
When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a
fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.

**Wringer** by Jerry Spinelli
As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.

**You'll Like It Here (Everybody Does)** by Ruth White
Meggie Blue and her family have made a new life for themselves in a small North Carolina town, but rumors of aliens now threaten their safety. They must move on again, to a new planet, a new society, and a whole new set of rules to live by.

**The Sword in the Tree** (Trophy Chapter Book) by Clyde Robert Bulla
In the days of King Arthur there stood a mighty oak tree within the walls of a castle. Peace reigned in the castle until the fearsome night when Lionel, long-lost brother of Lord Weldon, returned to cause trouble and unhappiness. It was then that Shan, the son of Lord Weldon, took on the duties of a knight and hid the sword in the hollow of the giant oak. The days that followed were filled with adventures that tried the courage of the young boy.

**The Minstrel in the Tower** (Stepping Stone) by Gloria Skurzynski
In this gripping medieval page-turner, Roger and his sister Alice are kidnapped and held for ransom in an ancient tower. To escape and find their uncle, the children must summon all their courage and imagination. "Designed as easy-reading material for middle-graders, this has the virtues of an attractive format and illustrations, a fast plot, and even a feminist fillip: Alice is the more intrepid of the siblings, Roger's gifts are for music and ventriloquism."--Bulletin, Center for Children's Books.

**Castle Diary: The Journal of Tobias Burgess** by Richard Platt
What was it really like to live in a castle? Step back to the Middle Ages with CASTLE DIARY: THE JOURNAL OF TOBIAS BURGESS. Eleven-year-old Toby's vivid diary entries offer an insider's view of day-to-day castle life, including tips on etiquette (where do you spit at a feast?) and exciting descriptions of hunting, jousting, and harvesting. Complete with glossary, index, and detailed endnotes, this is a rich look at medieval life that informs as much as it entertains.

**Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village** by Laura Amy Schlitz
Step back to an English village in 1255, where life plays out in dramatic vignettes illuminating twenty-two unforgettable characters. Maidens, monks, and millers’ sons — in these pages, readers will meet them all. There’s Hugo, the lord’s nephew, forced to prove his manhood by hunting a wild boar; sharp-tongued Nelly, who supports her family by selling live eels; and the peasant’s daughter, Mogg, who gets a clever lesson in how to save a cow from a greedy landlord. There’s also mud-slinging Barbary (and her noble victim); Jack, the compassionate half-wit; Alice, the singing shepherdess; and many more.
Matilda Bone by Karen Cushman
Orphaned Matilda is not at all pleased when she arrives at Blood and Bone Alley to become an assistant to Red Peg the Bonesetter. She is a religious, well-educated girl who can’t picture herself doing dirty chores or helping sickly patients.
Each day is very different from her former quiet life. Matilda’s not used to being around so many people who are coming and going, laughing and eating. Not one of them seems interested in prayer or study. Self-centered Matilda thinks no one understands her. But Peg does, and gives her time to get used to this new way of life and teaches her through kindness and friendship. Matilda is as surprised as anyone when she begins seeing the world around her in a different way.

Castle by David Macaulay
Imagine yourself in 13th-century England. King Edward I has just named the fictitious Kevin le Strange to be the Lord of Aberwyvern—"a rich but rebellious area of Northwest Wales." Lord Kevin's first task is to oversee the construction of a strategically placed castle and town in order to assure that England can "dominate the Welsh once and for all." And a story is born! In the Caldecott Honor Book Castle, David Macaulay--author, illustrator, former architect and teacher--sets his sights on the creation and destiny of Lord Kevin's magnificent castle perched on a bluff overlooking the sea.

City: A Story of Roman Planning and Construction by David Macaulay
City charts the planning and building of an imaginary Roman city, 'Verbonia.' Macaulay focuses on the achievement of efficient and rational city planning. His brilliantly individualistic drawings capture the essential quality of the Roman character, the ability to organize.

Cathedral: The Story of Its Construction by David Macaulay
He begins Cathedral in 1252, when the people of a fictitious French town named Chutreaux decide to build a cathedral after their existing church is struck by lightning. We first meet the craftspeople, then examine the tools, study their cathedral plans, and watch the laying of the foundation. Week by week we witness the construction of this glorious temple to God. Macaulay intuitively hones in on the details about which we are the most curious: How were those enormously high ceilings built and decorated? How were those 60-foot-high windows made and installed in the 13th century? And how did people haul those huge, heavy bells up into the skyscraper-high towers?

Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague by Geraldine Brooks
When an infected bolt of cloth carries plague from London to an isolated village, a housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes we follow a story of the fateful year of 1666, as she and her fellow villages confront the spread of the disease and superstition.

The Wanderings of Odysseus: The Story of the Odyssey by Rosemary Sutcliffe
A master storyteller and an award-winning illustrator evoke the golden age of mythic Greece in this spirited retelling of The Odyssey.

Castaways of the Flying Dutchman by Brian Jacques
The legend of the wind-tattered ghost ship and its mad sea captain, cursed to sail the seas forever, has been passed down throughout the centuries. But what of 15-year-old Ben and his dog Ned, who was trapped aboard that ship?
**I Am the Great Horse** by Katherine Roberts  
Part historical fiction, part fantasy, this action-packed war novel tells the story of Alexander the Great from the viewpoint of his beloved horse, Bucephalus, who carries the conquering hero from Greece and Persia to India around 330 BCE.

**Atticus of Rome, 30 B.C.** by Barry Denenberg  
Atticus, a young boy who has been torn from his family and home and sold as a slave to a Roman aristocrat, quickly learns that not all is as it seems in the republic of Rome. Murder and lies fill his new life as a spy for Lucius Opimius.

**The Golden Goblet** by Eloise Jarvis McGraw  
Ranofer struggles to thwart his evil brother's plot so he can become a master goldsmith like their father. An exciting tale of ancient Egyptian mystery and intrigue.

**Pandora of Athens, 399 B.C.** by Barry Denenberg  
Pandora is trapped in the roles laid out for Greek women by her narrow-minded father. But one day, when Pandora goes to fetch water, she meets the Wise One, Socrates. During his famed trial, Pandora finds herself caught up in the intrigue and turbulent politics of ancient Athens.

**Song of the Magdalene** by Donna Jo Napoli  
 Tells the story of Miriam, a young girl being raised by her widowed father in ancient Israel who grows up to be Mary Magdalene.

**The Golden Fleece** by Padraic Colum  
Students will be thrilled with this adventure of Jason, destined to rule, who must first retrieve the famous Golden Fleece.

**Shadow Spinners** by Susan Fletcher  
Retelling of the story of Sharazade, Middle East.

**The Midwife’s Apprentice** by Karen Cushman – Newbery Award  
From the author of "Catherine, Called Birdy" comes another spellbinding novel set in medieval England. The girl known only as Brat has no family, no home, and no future until she meets Jane the Midwife and becomes her apprentice. As she helps the sharp-tempered Jane deliver babies, Brat-who renames herself Alyce-gains knowledge, confidence, and the courage to want something from life: "A full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world."

**King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table** by Roger Lancelyn Green  
King Arthur is one of the greatest legends of all time. From the magical moment when Arthur releases the sword in the stone to the quest for the Holy Grail and the final tragedy of the Last Battle, Roger Lancelyn Green brings the enchanting world of King Arthur stunningly to life. One of the greatest legends of all time, with an inspiring introduction by David Almond, award-winning author of "Clay", "Skellig", "Kit's Wilderness", and "The Fire-Eaters".
The Odyssey by Homer

Adventures of Ulysses by Homer

Gilgamesh by Herbert Mason – Mentor Books - Epic poem of Mesopotamia

The Bronze Bow by Spear - Jerusalem during the time of Christ

Stowaway by Karen Hesse

Cleopatra VII: Daughter of the Nile, Egypt, 57 B.C. by Kristiana Gregory

Isabella: Jewel of Castilla, Spain, 1466 by Carolyn Meyer

Here are a few links for more suggested reading book lists.

http://imaginationsoup.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/6th-grade-summer-reading-list-3.pdf

http://greatkidbooks.blogspot.com/2010/05/great-books-for-6th-graders.html

http://www.gp.lib.mi.us/ Go to the heading “Kids, Teens, Parents” and click on “Teens”, “Suggested Reading Lists”, then click on “Middle School”.

http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/6th_grade.shtml
SUMMER HISTORICAL SITE VISIT

Your challenge this summer is to visit a historical location of your choice. Take a picture of yourself at the location or bring back a brochure. After your visit respond to the questions below.

If your location is in Michigan look for a green historical marker (like the one located in front of GPA). This would be a great spot for your picture, and will contain helpful information that could be used in your responses. There are over 20 historical markers in Grosse Pointe alone!

If your travels this summer take you outside of Grosse Pointe, or Michigan, all the better! Make sure to take a picture and research your site.

I hope you have an adventure filled summer!

DATE OF VISIT ____________________________________________

LOCATION? ____________________________________________

WHY IS THIS LOCATION SIGNIFICANT? GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPORTANT EVENT(S) THAT HAPPENED IN THIS LOCATION(S)

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WHAT KNOWLEDGE DID YOU GAIN FROM VISITING THIS LOCATION?
DESCRIBE ONE FACT ABOUT THIS LOCATION THAT CONNECTED TO YOUR PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE/LEARNING

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DESCRIBE ONE THING YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT IN REGARDS TO THIS LOCATION OR THE EVENT(S) THAT TOOK PLACE HERE

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WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THAT OTHERS VISIT THIS SITE? WHY OR WHY NOT?

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