



BayView ACADEMY

St. Mary Academy - Bay View Sixth Grade Summer Reading List 2017

You will be required to read three books this summer. The summer reading requirement is designed to encourage you to become avid, life-long readers and learners by inviting you to take pleasure in reading substantial, thought-provoking books. We hope you will find reading a pleasure in itself and that reading more than the required number of self-selected reading choices is encouraged! Although the majority of these novels are recommended by the American Library Association, we encourage parents and students to investigate and discuss book options together in order to make appropriate choices.

Sign the reading contract at the end of this document and bring all documents to your first English class. You will need to print out **two copies** of the summer reading fiction notes and **one copy** of the biography pyramid.

Book List Fiction and Biography

Choose **one book** from the biography list and complete the biography pyramid, both posted under grade 6 summer learning.

Choose **two books** from the following fiction list and complete the summer reading notes, posted under grade 6 summer learning.

FICTION LIST:

- ***When You Reach Me*** by Rebecca Stead
Shortly after sixth-grader Miranda and her best friend Sal part ways, for some inexplicable reason her once familiar world turns upside down. Maybe it's because she's caught up in reading *A Wrinkle in Time* and trying to understand time travel, or perhaps it's because she's been receiving mysterious notes which accurately predict the future. Rebecca Stead's poignant novel, *When You Reach Me*, captures the interior monologue and observations of kids who are starting to recognize and negotiate the complexities of friendship and family, class and identity.
- ***The Thing About Jellyfish*** by Ali Benjamin
After her best friend dies in a drowning accident, Suzy is convinced that the true cause of the tragedy must have been a rare jellyfish sting--things don't just happen for no reason. Retreating into a silent world of imagination, she crafts a plan to prove her theory--even if it means traveling the globe, alone. Suzy's achingly heartfelt journey explores life, death, the astonishing wonder of the universe...and the potential for love and hope right next door.
- ***Absolutely Normal Chaos*** by Sharon Creech.
Mary Louis is keeping a journal as an English class assignment. Through the entries, the events of her summer come alive.
- ***The Underneath*** by Kathi Appelt

A calico cat, about to have kittens, hears the lonely howl of a chained-up hound deep in the backwaters of the bayou. She dares to find him in the forest, and the hound dares to befriend this cat, this feline, this creature he is supposed to hate. They are an unlikely pair, about to become an unlikely family. Ranger urges the cat to hide underneath the porch, to raise her kittens there because Gar-Face, the man living inside the house, will surely use them as alligator bait should he find them. But they are safe in the Underneath...as long as they stay in the Underneath.

- ***Scat*** by Carl Hiaasan

While on a field trip in a Florida wildlife preserve, Nick and Marta decide to investigate when a mysterious fire starts and their unpopular teacher disappears. There's a lot more going on in Black Vine Swamp than any one player in this twisted tale can see. And Nick and Marta will have to reckon with an eccentric eco-avenger, a stuffed rat named Chelsea, a wannabe Texas oilman, a singing substitute teacher, and a ticked-off Florida panther before they *really* begin to see the big picture.

- ***The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*** by John Boyne

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence. This novel tells the bystander story of the Holocaust from the viewpoint of an innocent nine-year-old boy.

- ***Firegirl*** by Tony Abbott

A middle school boy's life is changed when Jessica, a girl disfigured by burns, starts attending his Catholic school while receiving treatment in a hospital. Tom exhibits empathy and understanding to a needy peer and finds a friendship that brings him out of his own shell.

- ***Project Mulberry*** by Linda Sue Park

While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia Song, a Korean-American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more.

- ***Julie of the Wolves*** by Jean Craighead George

Miyax runs away from home toward San Francisco, toward her pen pal, who calls her Julie. Miyax becomes lost in the Alaskan wilderness. She is accepted by a pack of Arctic wolves. She struggles to survive with help from the wolves and training from her father.

- ***Island of the Blue Dolphins*** by Scott O'Dell

This is a story of Karana, the Indian girl who lived alone for years on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. Year after year she watched one season pass into another and waited for a ship to take her away. But while she waited, she kept herself alive by building shelter, making weapons, finding food, and fighting her enemies, the wild dogs. Here is not only an unusual adventure of survival, but also a tale of natural beauty and personal discovery.

- ***The Misfits*** by Howard James

Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.

- ***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio

After being home-schooled for years, Auggie Pullman is about to start fifth grade, but he's worried: How will he fit into middle school life when he looks so different from everyone else?

- ***The Door in the Wall*** by Marguerite De Angeli

This Newbery Medal winning story, set in medieval times, is about a boy who learns his own strength when he saves the castle and discovers there is more than one way to serve his king.

- **Chomp** by Carl Hiaasen

Carl Hiaasen takes on reality TV in his latest novel (Knopf, 2012). Wahoo Cray is the assistant to his wild animal wrangler father. Their property holds everything from alligators to Bobcats that appear in TV shows and films. However, after Wahoo's father suffers a serious injury, debts pile up and his mother takes a temporary job in China. It also forces Wahoo and his father to accept a lucrative but questionable gig with the reality show, "Expedition Survival." James Van Der Beek's narration captures the cast of colorful characters in this fast-paced, humorous story.

- **Red Pyramid: The Kane Chronicles (Book One)** by Rick Riordan

Since their mother's death, Carter and Sadie have become near strangers. While Sadie has lived with her grandparents in London, her brother has traveled the world with their father, the brilliant Egyptologist, Dr. Julius Kane. One night, Dr. Kane brings the siblings together for a "research experiment" at the British Museum, where he hopes to set things right for his family. Instead, he unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes him to oblivion and forces the children to flee for their lives. Soon, Sadie and Carter discover that the gods of Egypt are waking, and the worst of them, Set, has his sights on the Kanes. To stop him, the siblings embark on a dangerous journey across the globe - a quest that brings them ever closer to the truth about their family and their links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.

READING CONTRACT

I have read the following assigned and self-selected books this summer vacation:

BOOK 1 _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

BOOK 2 _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

BOOK 3 _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____