

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

Dear Sixth Grader and Parents,

We are all looking forward to summer, and I am sure that we will have such wonderful experiences to share when we return! One of those experiences is summer reading! In the Summer Reading List you will discover many options!

You may go to [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com) to get more good ideas for books as well as the important information about reading levels and age-appropriateness. This is from the company *Renaissance Learning*, the creators of Accelerated Reader. To learn more you can go to [www.renlearn.com](http://www.renlearn.com).

Here is a code to help you understand the symbols below:

**IL** means Interest Level. *This is very important.*

**LG** means the book is appropriate in content for Grades K-3.

**MG** means the book is appropriate in content for Grade 4-8.

**UG** means the book is appropriate in content for Grades 9-12.

**BL** means Book Level. Try to choose books that really match your reading level. Consider the level you were reading at the end of the school year. Read at a level that you feel is right for YOU. If you are new to our school and not sure of your level, use this rule of thumb: If you do not know 5 words on a page, you should try to move that level down a bit. You'll get there a lot faster if you read at a level that is just right for you. **AR Points** mean how many points you will earn if you get 100% on the AR quiz after reading the book. You can review the books right before school starts to take the AR tests.

- 1) You will need to **read ONE of the three required books on Greek Mythology.** (I recommend one of the shorter ones, but it is up to you.) You will then **COMPLETE TWO** of the Greek Mythology Report Forms for two of your favorite myths.
- 2) You will then also need to choose **AT LEAST TWO BOOKS FROM the CHOICE LIST** and complete the attached Summer Reading Book Report forms for those books. Feel free to read much more! Most of the books on these lists really fit in beautifully with our upcoming World History studies, our continuing studies of American History, or with our everyday lives.

**HAPPY READING!**

**Ms. Caldwell**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

**1)REQUIRED : CHOOSE ONEof the following three books and complete TWO of the attached Greek Mythology Report Forms for two of your favorite myths. Choose the one that you think best suits your reading level. The subject matter is the same in all.**

### Mythology: The Gods, Heroes, and Monsters of Ancient Greece (Recommended)

Evans, Hestia

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.6** - AR Pts: **2.0**

This book introduces **Greek mythology**, exploring the creation of the gods, the origins of humankind, the war against Troy, monsters and beasts, and provides information on Zeus, Aphrodite, Apollo, and other gods and goddesses. A classic and a gorgeous book to love!

### Tales of the Greek Heroes (Unabridged)

Green, Roger Lancelyn

IL: **MG** - BL: **8.2** - AR Pts: **9.0**

The reading level is actually very readable for some of you. This is the retelling of some of the oldest and most famous stories in the world. The introduction is by Rick Riordan who is the author of the Percy Jackson series! It is the book he read and used as his guide to write *Lightning Thief* and the other books in the series. This book is for those who really love a great read!

### Book of Greek Myths (Recommended)

Ingri & Edgar D'Aulaire

IL: **MG** – BL: **5.9** At present there is no AR level for this book but Scholastic gives it a **5.9** level. All the great gods and goddesses of ancient Greece are depicted in this big, beautiful classic, lovingly illustrated and skillfully told. Beautiful book with lots of illustrations!

**3)CHOICES: Choose TWO from the following list. (The first book is highly recommended; keep in mind that there is still much to learn about the Western Movement of American History! If you can read more than one book from this list, it would be super! You can take AR tests when you return!)**

### The Captain's Dog (Highly Recommended)

Smith, Roland

IL: **MG+** - BL: **5.8** - AR Pts: **8.0**

Captain Meriwether Lewis's dog Seaman describes his experiences as he accompanies his master on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to explore the uncharted western wilderness.

### These Happy Golden Years (or any of the Little House on the Prairie books!)

Wilder, Laura Ingalls

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **10.0**

Fifteen-year-old Laura begins teaching and is courted by her future husband, Almanzo.

### [The Birchbark House](#)

Erdrich, Louise

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.1** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

### [Streams to the River, River to the Sea](#)

O'Dell, Scott

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **7.0**

A fictionalized version of the life of Sacagawea, the Shoshone guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition.

### [The Journal of Jesse Smoke: A Cherokee Boy](#)

Bruchac, Joseph

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.2** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Jesse Smoke, a sixteen-year-old Cherokee, begins a journal in 1837 to record stories of his people and their difficulties as they face removal along the Trail of Tears.

### [Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison](#)

Lenski, Lois

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **10.0**

Authentic reconstruction of Mary Jemison's capture and life with the Seneca Indians.

### [Land of the Buffalo Bones: The Diary of Mary Elizabeth Rodgers, an English Girl in Minnesota](#)

Bauer, Marion Dane

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Fourteen-year-old Polly Rodgers keeps a diary of her 1873 journey from England to Minnesota as part of a colony of eighty people seeking religious freedom, and of their first year struggling to make a life there, led by her father, a Baptist minister.

### [Anpao: An American Indian Odyssey](#)

Highwater, Jamake

IL: **UG** - BL: **5.7** - AR Pts: **9.0**

This book contains tales from North American Indian tribes woven into one story that relates the adventures of one boy as he grows to manhood.

### [Sing down the Moon](#)

O'Dell, Scott

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **4.0**

The forced migration of Navahos from their homeland, is described from the Native American point of view.

### Out of the Dust

Hesse, Karen

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **3.0**

In a series of poems, fourteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm.

### Caddie Woodlawn

Brink, Carol Ryrie

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **8.0**

This is a story of a spirited pioneer girl's adventures on the Wisconsin frontier.

### I Walk in Dread: The Diary of Deliverance Trembley, Witness to the Salem Witch Trials

Fraustino, Lisa Rowe

**MG** - BL: **6.3** - AR Pts: **8.0**

Twelve-year-old Deliverance Trembley writes in her diary about the fears and doubts that arise during the 1692 witch hunt and trials in Salem Village, Massachusetts, especially when her pious friend, Goody Corey, is condemned as a witch.

### The Witch of Blackbird Pond

Speare, Elizabeth George

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.7** - AR Pts: **9.0**

Puritan neighbors regard Kit Tyler with suspicion, fear, and anger when she befriends an old woman accused of witchcraft.

### The Slave Dancer

Fox, Paula

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.0** - AR Pts: **6.0**

In this spellbinding novel of suspense and survival, young Jessie, a musician, is hired to play for the slaves aboard a ship bound for America.

### 1212: Year of the Journey

McDonnell, Kathleen

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.7** - AR Pts: **11.0**

Based on a true story of a peaceful crusade in 1212 led by children, this book traces the lives of three multifaith characters and offers a message of hope and tolerance relevant to our own troubled times.

### Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Avi

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

### Igraine the Brave

Funke, Cornelia

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **7.0**

The daughter of two magicians, twelve-year-old Igraine wants nothing more than to be a knight, and when their castle is attacked by a treacherous neighbor bent on stealing their singing magic books, Igraine has an opportunity to demonstrate her bravery.

### Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad

Sutcliff, Rosemary

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.8** - AR Pts: **5.0**

This book retells the story of the Trojan War, from the quarrel for the golden apple, and the flight of Helen with Paris, to the destruction of Troy.

### Seeds of Hope: The Gold Rush Diary of Susanna Fairchild

Gregory, Kristiana

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.5** - AR Pts: **5.0**

This is a diary account of fourteen-year-old Susanna Fairchild's life in 1849, when her father succumbs to gold fever on the way to establish his medical practice in Oregon.

### By the Great Horn Spoon!

Fleischman, Sid

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.1** - AR Pts: **6.0**

The book follows the adventures of young Jack and his aunt's butler Praiseworthy, as they stow away on a ship and head for their place in the Gold Rush of 1849.

### Call It Courage

Sperry, Armstrong

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.2** - AR Pts: **3.0**

This is the inspiring story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe when his pet falcon is confiscated by a conservation officer.

### The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle

Avi

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **8.0**

As the lone "young lady" on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, Charlotte learns that the captain is murderous and the crew rebellious. A very exciting book of mystery and adventure on the high seas!

### Artemis Fowl (This is the first in a very popular series!)

Colfer, Eoin

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **9.0**

Twelve-year-old Artemis Fowl is a brilliant criminal mastermind, but even he does not know what he has taken on when he kidnaps a fairy, Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These fairies are armed and they are dangerous.

**The Lightning Thief** (*If you have read The Lightning Thief, you may continue reading another book in the Percy Jackson series for a choice*)

Riordan, Rick

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **13.0**

Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. Book #1

### **The Wednesday Wars**

Schmidt, Gary D.

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **12.0**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to religion classes, seventh-grader Holling stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of Shakespeare and he learns about the world he lives in.

### **The View from Saturday**

Konigsburg, E.L.

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

**Inkheart** (*If you have read Inkheart, you may want to continue in the series (listed below)*)

Funke, Cornelia

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **23.0**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts them and tries to force them into service. Book #1

### **Inkspell**

Funke, Cornelia

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **29.0**

Although a year has passed, not a day goes by without Meggie thinking of INKHEART, the book whose characters became real. But for Dustfinger, the fire-eater brought into being from words, the need to return to the tale has become desperate. Book #2

### **Inkdeath**

Funke, Cornelia

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **29.0**

As Bluejay, Mo's fictitious double, tries to keep the Book of Immortality from unraveling, Adderhead kidnaps all the children in the kingdom, asking for Bluejay's surrender, or the children will be doomed to slavery in the silver mines. Book #3

### [The Summer of the Swans](#)

Byars, Betsy

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **4.0**

A fourteen-year-old girl gains new insight into herself and her family when her mentally handicapped brother gets lost.

### [My Side of the Mountain](#)

George, Jean Craighead

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Written in the form of a diary, this story relates the days of a young boy in the Catskill Mountains. Another classic!

### [On the Far Side of the Mountain](#)

George, Jean Craighead

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.5** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Sam's peaceful existence in his wilderness home is disrupted when his sister runs away and his pet falcon is confiscated by a conservation officer.

### [The Big Field](#)

Lupica, Mike

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **8.0**

Hutch feels threatened when Darryl becomes the shortstop and Hutch is relegated to second base. He tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too.

### [Schooled](#)

Korman, Gordon

IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie, but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school. This book is all about learning to accept yourself and others as individuals!

### [Paint the Wind](#)

Ryan, Pam Muñoz

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **6.0**

After her overprotective grandmother has a stroke, Maya, an orphan, leaves her restricted life in California to stay with her mother's family on a Wyoming ranch, where she discovers a love of horses and encounters a wild mare that her mother once rode.

### [The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe \(Unabridged\)](#)

Lewis, C.S.

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.7** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Aslan, the noble lion, frees Narnia from the spell of the White Witch. Book #1 If you have not yet read this book maybe this is the summer to do it! A real classic!

### [The Guns of Tortuga](#)

Strickland, Brad

IL: **MG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **6.0**

Davy Shea continues his travels with his Uncle Patch, a surgeon, on the AURORA to find the villainous pirate Jack Steele. The coauthor is Thomas E. Fuller.

### [Heart of Steele](#)

Strickland, Brad

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.1** - AR Pts: **6.0**

It is 1688, and the AURORA is still sailing under cover, searching for the real pirate king, Jack Steele. Now, the crew of the RED QUEEN has put into port and Hunter will let nothing stop his final showdown! The coauthor is Thomas E. Fuller.

### [The Phantom Tollbooth](#)

Juster, Norton

IL: **MG** - BL: **6.7** - AR Pts: **7.0**

In this wise and witty fantasy, a boy travels through time and space to the Lands Beyond.

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# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Greek Mythology Report Form #1

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**Directions:** After reading your Greek mythology book, choose **two** myths and complete this form for each of the myths that you have chosen. You need to use complete sentences. You may do this on the computer using this template or you may do this in your best cursive handwriting on lined paper.

<p><b>Characters</b> Write a description of the main characters. What are the special traits and powers of these characters?</p>	
<p><b>Setting</b> Describe the setting. What does it look like?</p>	
<p><b>Plot</b> Write a summary telling what happened in the myth.</p>	
<p><b>Your Thoughts</b> Tell what you liked most about the myth you have chosen.</p>	

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Greek Mythology Report Form #2

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**Directions:** After reading your Greek mythology book, choose **two** myths and complete this form for each of the myths that you have chosen. You need to use complete sentences. You may do this on the computer using this template or you may do this in your best cursive handwriting on lined paper.

<p><b>Characters</b> Write a description of the main characters. What are the special traits and powers of these characters?</p>	
<p><b>Setting</b> Describe the setting. What does it look like?</p>	
<p><b>Plot</b> Write a summary telling what happened in the myth.</p>	
<p><b>Your Thoughts</b> Tell what you liked most about the myth you have chosen.</p>	

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Book Report Form (for your 1st Choice book)

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**Directions:** After reading each book, fill out a chart for the book that you have chosen. You need to use complete sentences. You may do this on the computer using this template or you may do this in your best cursive handwriting on lined paper.

<b>Characters</b> Write a description of the main character.	
<b>Setting</b> Describe the setting. When does the story take place? What does it look like?	
<b>Plot</b> Write a summary telling what happened in the story.	
<b>Important Quotations</b> Write three exact quotations that use good word choice. Look for descriptive adjectives.	
<b>Your Thoughts</b> Did you like this book? Tell what you liked most. Was there anything you did not like?	

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Book Report Form (for your 2nd Choice book)

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**Directions:** After reading each book, fill out a chart for the book that you have chosen. You need to use complete sentences. You may do this on the computer using this template or you may do this in your best cursive handwriting on lined paper.

<b>Characters</b> Write a description of the main character.	
<b>Setting</b> Describe the setting. When does the story take place ? What does it look like?	
<b>Plot</b> Write a summary telling what happened in the story.	
<b>Important Quotations</b> Write three exact quotations that use good word choice. Look for descriptive adjectives.	
<b>Your Thoughts</b> Did you like this book? Tell what you liked most. Was there anything you did not like?	