

# Incoming Grade 6 Summer Reading

Students will read two books (one mandatory and one personal choice) and will keep a reading log. The recommendation is for students to utilize one spiral/composition notebook to record in. PLEASE NOTE: There are two different book reports. The mandatory book report will be a 2-3 sentence summary of each chapter, and the choice selection directions follow with an attached format.

**Mandatory Book (must read):** *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor

**For each chapter read**, the student should write a very brief summary (two to three sentences) identifying the main idea of the chapter. Students will be tempted to write more, but should be reminded they are trying to determine the main idea of the chapter. They can simply put "Chapter 1" and write a summary, skip a space, and move on to chapter 2.

Complete this in your spiral or composition notebook. You may also type the chapter summaries.

**Personal Choice Selections (Read one)-follow the attached book report format for the optional book only!**

The Report Card by Andrew Clements (on level)  
Out of my Mind by Sharon Draper (on level)  
Rules by Cynthia Lord (on level)  
Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff (mid)  
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (mid)  
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling (mid)  
The Land of Stories: Book 1 by Chris Colfer (mid-high)  
Hoot by Carl Hiaasen (mid to high)  
Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan (mid to high)  
Dark Life: Book 1 by Kat Falls (mid to high)  
The city of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau (high)

**Special Note:** Books were provided to appeal to all ability levels. The books are grouped from on-level to higher level books. Please discuss the selection with your child to ensure he or she is reading a book appropriate for his/her ability level. For children that may need assistance in reading, it is perfectly acceptable for him or her to reserve the "book on CD" from the library. Please have the child following the text as the book is read. Also, for those readers, a suggestion is for parents to read a few pages aloud, and then have the child read a few pages aloud.

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Report Format Complete this for the **OPTIONAL BOOK ONLY!** **DUE August 21st**

**Typed copy or a handwritten copy in your composition notebook**

### **Cover Page**

Include your name, author, illustration of book (hand made or printed)...

### **Introduction**

Things to include in the introduction:

- The title (underlined) and author of the book
- Why you chose the book
- What kind of story is it? (realistic fiction? Historical fantasy? Historical fiction? Narrative nonfiction? Biography? Expository nonfiction? ...)

### **Body**

In this section you want to describe the main parts of a story: theme, setting, plot, and characters. Then you give your opinions about the book.

**The Theme** is the main idea of the story. Some examples might be the importance of friendship or how to be courageous in a difficult situation. Tell what you think the theme is and how you know.

**The Setting** is the time and place of the story. Is it set a long time ago or now? Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story – a day? a year? A lifetime?

**The Plot** is what happens. You want to tell what the story is mostly about.

What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? How does the story end?

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(Sometimes you want to avoid telling the ending, or giving away the secret of the story.)

Be careful not to re-tell the whole story in detail – you want room in your report to write about other things; instead, just say enough about it so the rest of your report will make sense.

**The Characters** are who the story is about. The main character is called the protagonist. Who are the other important characters? Do they help or hinder the protagonist?

**Once you have summarized the book, you can tell what you think about it.** You can write about whatever opinions you have. Some questions you might want to answer are:

- Do you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the book? Why?
- How did the story make you feel? Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you recommend it to friends?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?

## **Conclusion**

This is just a sentence or two to sum up your report. Give you overall opinion of the book and the most important thing you want other people to know about it.