

## 2021 Summer Reading List for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

You are **required** to read ONE of the books listed below, and you are **required** to read one other book OF YOUR CHOICE. The other book (of your choice) should have appropriate content as screened by your parents and have at least 150 pages. You may read them aloud as a family, or listen on tape on a road trip, or enjoy them on a lazy summer afternoon. There is an online quiz for each of the **required** books. When you finish reading your required book, take the online quiz. The links for each quiz are listed below. After reading your **FUN book of choice**, choose one option from the three below to complete. You will turn your work in and that grade will be averaged with your online quiz grade for your first test grade of the first quarter. Extra credit opportunities are listed on the last page. Below are the selections from which you choose your ONE **REQUIRED** book. ***This will also be the one tested over.***

\*You will need to click on the "Click here" link to access the link to the quiz.

### Alcott, Louisa May. **Eight Cousins (8.2 reading level)**

Eight Cousins is the wonderful story of Rose Campbell, whom we first meet as a sickly and despondent 13-year-old orphan. She is grieving for her recently dead parents, and she tends to get the vapors and other Victorian women's ailments. Nevertheless, this shy, frail and delicate creature is sent to live on the "Aunt Hill" to be raised by six very opinionated aunts. And that's not all. She is also surrounded by seven male cousins, as boisterous and full of life as they come. Rose's initial reaction is to wish herself dead. Barely able to lift her head, she is frightened and overwhelmed by the presence of her mischievous clan. But deep inside, she is secretly envious. The boys get to climb trees and run and play, while Rose, as all young women in her day, is confined to the parlor, constricted by tight corsets and impossible petticoats. Along comes Uncle Mac, the doctor uncle whose view of how to raise girls clashes with his day and time--and all six of his sisters, the formidable aunts. In the character of Doctor Mac, Louisa May Alcott was able to tout her own family's avante garde views on women's health, almost a century ahead of its time. The doctor forbids Rose to wear the constricting corsets, to the horror of all her aunts and the girl herself. He wonders how she can feel healthy when she cannot draw a decent breath? He encourages her to play outside with her cousins, to get fresh air and exercise. He demands that she eat good, hearty meals instead of womanly morsels. And under his tutelage, and with the friendship of her wonderful cousins, Rose starts to bloom. She turns from a shy, sickly little mouse into a strong, outgoing young woman.

Eight Cousins quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

North, Sterling. **Rascal (5.3 reading level)**

Rascal is only a baby when young Sterling brings him home. He and the mischievous raccoon are best friends for a perfect year of adventure until the spring day when everything suddenly changes.

Rascal quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

O'Dell, Scott. **Sing Down The Moon (6.3 reading level)**

The Navajo tribe's forced march from their homeland to Fort Sumner by white soldiers and settlers is dramatically and courageously told by young Bright Morning. The Spanish Slavers were an ever-present threat to the Navaho way of life. One lovely spring day, fourteen-year-old Bright Morning and her friend Running Bird took their sheep to pasture. The sky was clear blue against the red buttes of the Canyon de Chelly, and the fields and orchards of the Navahos promised a rich harvest. Bright Morning was happy as she gazed across the beautiful valley that was the home of her tribe. She turned when Black Dog barked, and it was then that she saw the Spanish slavers riding straight toward her.

Sing Down the Moon quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

Palacio, R.J. **Wonder (4.8 reading level)**

August Pullman is not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. Sure, he's a huge Star Wars fan, he loves his dog, and he's got a pretty good sense of humor. But August was born with a craniofacial abnormality — a genetic defect that caused his facial features to be severely deformed. His life has never been "normal."

Despite his differences, August and his parents decide to transition him from home school to private school now that he's entering fifth grade. It's the start of middle school, they reason, so everyone will be new. But August has to deal with so much more than just being new. Will he make friends? Will he decide to stay at the school? And can the people around him learn to see past his appearance? This brilliant, sensitive story — narrated not only by August, but also by his older sister, his classmates, and other kids in his life — takes an insightful look at how one person's differences can affect the lives of so many others.

Wonder quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

Taylor, Mildred. **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (Newbery) (7.1 reading level)**

The story of one African American family fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

Van Leeuwen. Jean, **Bound for Oregon(5.3 reading level)**

A fictionalized account of the journey made by nine-year-old Mary Ellen Todd and her family from their home in Arkansas westward over the Oregon Trail in 1852.

Bound for Oregon quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

Verne, Jules. **Around the World in Eighty Days (8.6 reading level)**

Phileas Fogg is a leisured but taciturn Londoner of such mathematically precise habits that he has fired his servant for bringing him shaving water two degrees too cold. Over a game of cards, Fogg wagers twenty thousand pounds that he can travel around the world in eighty days or less. What follows is a headlong adventure full of trains, ships, elephants, and wind sledges, not to mention human sacrifice, duels, and Indian attacks. A successful combination of modern speed and period quaintness, *Around the World in Eighty Days* has become a delightful, timeless, steam-driven classic.

Around the World in Eighty Days quiz – [CLICK HERE](#)

## Summer Reading Follow-up Assignment for Book of Choice

When you are finished reading your "book of choice", you will need to choose **ONE** of these three options to complete about **this** book (the one of your choice) the **first week of school**.

### Option 1:

Answer **in complete sentences** either on notebook paper, or you may type your answers if you prefer. Be sure to give as much information as possible.

1. Describe your favorite character. What was it about this character that made the character your favorite?
2. Describe any other significant characters. What made each character significant?
3. Describe the setting of the book.
4. What was the main conflict in the book? How was it resolved?
5. How were you able to relate with any of the characters in the book? What were the lessons you could learn from the book?
6. What made the book exciting or enjoyable?
7. What did you like or dislike about the ending of the book? What was the resolution or tying up of loose ends?
8. What was your favorite thing about the book? /What was your least favorite thing about the book?

**Option 2: Cartoon Strips**

Using the attached form, use the squares to retell the story you read, in cartoon form. Pick the six most important events. Illustrate each event and add a caption that tells what is happening. You may also use thought or speech bubbles to convey what the characters are thinking or saying. Taken together, your cartoons should summarize the story, and the sequence of events should be correct. Make them colorful!

**On the back, use the Character Visual tool from F&F for the main character of the story. Be sure to include a sentence at the bottom that describes the character in full.**


### Option 3: Scrapbook Page

Think about the items the main character might keep as souvenirs of his/her life. Create a scrapbook page for that character. Be sure to include the following:

\*3 items related to individuals the character had contact with or shared something with in the book

\*3 items connected to places relevant to the character

\*3 items that were significant to the character

\* 1 picture of the character

**\*\*\*On the back of the scrapbook page(s), give a brief summary of the character based on your scrapbook. (2-3 sentences)**

### **Parents please complete the section below:**

- My Child \_\_\_\_\_, read \_\_\_\_\_ for their required book from the list of the six options on page one of the handout.
- My child also read \_\_\_\_\_ for their required summer reading book of their choosing.

**\*I affirm that my child, \_\_\_\_\_, read the books listed for their summer reading requirements.**

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**Parent Signature**

☺ Please see next page regarding extra credit. ☺

## Extra Credit Opportunity

If students are interested in extra credit, they may read books from the bottom of this page and books from the required list they did not choose. Students will receive a “100” quiz grade in Reading each nine weeks for every **TWO** books they read from these lists **beyond** the required reading to achieve extra credit for each of the four nine weeks grading periods. Please fill out the form over the summer and return it by Friday of the first week of school. List the books your child read from page one for extra credit. (Remember, extra credit is earned for every *two* books read from the page one list. Students will only get credit for two books per nine weeks, and they must be read from this page or page one list.

Book 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Book 8: \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm that my child, \_\_\_\_\_, read the books listed for their extra credit reading requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature**

**Extra Credit Reading Options:**

Alexander. **Chronicles of Prydian series**

Bradbury. **Dandelion Wine**

D'Aulaire. **Columbus**

Farley. **The Black Stallion**

Farenhorst. **A Cup of Cold Water**

Foster. **George Washington's World**

Hess. **A Father's Promise**

Key. **The Forgotten Door**

**YWAM biographies or Sowers Series Biographies**

Kjelgaard. **Big Red**

Nelson. **The Door Within**

Porter. **Pollyanna**

Roddy. **The Desperate Search**

Ullman. **Banner In The Sky**