

Students Entering Grade Six Summer Reading 2021

Students entering sixth grade are to read one of the following books over the summer:

The Boy Who Saved Baseball by John H. Ritter - A small town's future depends on the outcome of a baseball game. For Tom Gallagher and the Wildcats, it seems hopeless. Tom can't muster the confidence to ask for help from the "mysterious recluse" Dante Del Gato, the town's baseball hero, yet when a new player arrives in town claiming to know Del Gato's hitting secrets, there may be a home for the Wildcats and Dillontown after all.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis - (Historical Fiction) It is Michigan, during the depression, and 10-year old Bud Caldwell is in search of a man he believes to be his father. As readers follow Bud through his travels, they will learn of the hardships of the depression, as well as race relations and discrimination.

Captain Nobody by Dean Pitchford (Fiction) - Newton Newman has always lived in the shadow of his football superstar brother. After his brother sustains an injury that puts him into a coma, Newton takes on the role of the superhero, Captain Nobody. With his friends, he comes to the rescue of others and learns how important he truly is.

Eleven by Tom Rogers (Historical Fiction) - Set in Jersey City in 2001, on 9/11, this story follows Alex on his eleventh birthday. Alex and his sister adopt a stray, battle bullies, and befriend an older couple. When Alex learns of the attack on the Twin Towers, he hurries home, hoping to see his father who drives a commuter train in NYC.

Front Desk by Kelly Yang Based on the author's real-life experiences, *Front Desk* is the story of 5th grader Mia Tang's experiences after moving from China to the US with her parents. Helping her parents manage a hotel, she witnesses discrimination directed toward her and others in her community. Resilience and optimism are recurring themes in this book. No matter what challenge arises, Mia always seems to find a solution.

Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry - In a mysterious society where the strongest survive and the weak are cast aside, one young girl's fate is uncertain. Kira is orphaned and flawed physically, but she does have a special talent that helps save her, and as she searches for truth, what she finds will ultimately change her life.

I Got This: To Gold and Beyond by Laurie Hernandez - This is the true story of Olympic gymnast Laurie Hernandez, told in her own words with never-before-seen

photos. She tells about her family life and growing up in Old Bridge, New Jersey, to how she became part of the Final Five winning gold at the 2016 Olympics. This novel includes the story of Laurie's struggles with injuries, training, and her triumphs while on the road to gold.

Man on the Moon: How a Photograph Made Anything Seem Possible by Pamela Jain Dell - This is a nonfiction book that illustrates the famous moon landing of 1969. You will learn the details of astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin as they embarked on their space journey hundreds of thousands of miles above Earth. You will also learn what this journey represented to Americans at this time in history.

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech - *Walk Two Moons* tells the story of thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle, or Sal, as she is known, as she travels with her grandparents on a road trip from Ohio to Idaho. Sal recounts an outrageous story about her friend, Phoebe Winterbottom, and the disappearance of Phoebe's mother; meanwhile, Sal's story of trying to connect with her own lost mother unfolds.

When you return to school in September, you will be assessed on your summer reading.

You should take notes as you read, focusing on plot events in chronological order, how the characters change from beginning to end, and the author's purpose for writing the story. A good way to do this is to write the main ideas for each chapter on a post-it.

Questions regarding the summer assignment should be emailed to Mrs. Schmidt at nschmidt@bhpsnj.org or Mrs. Tracey at ktracey@bhpsnj.org no later than June 15, 2021.

Students are responsible for obtaining the book. If this is a problem, please email Ms. Scott at lscott@bhpsnj.org, prior to June 15, and she will arrange for you to borrow a copy.

Good luck, and see you in September.

In addition to the above assignment, the following are recommended authors for summer reading.

Avi

Bellairs, John

Byars, Betsy

Cooper, Susan

Creech, Sharon

Curtis, Christopher Paul

DiCamillo, Kate

Fleischman, Sid

Fletcher, Ralph

Funke, Cornelia

Gutman, Dan

Rylant, Cynthia

Hamilton, Virginia

Hesse, Karen

Jacques, Brian

Konigsburg, E.L.

L'Engle, Madeline

Levine, Gail Carson

Lowry, Lois

McKinley, Robin

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

Park, Linda Sue

Paterson, Katherine

Paulsen, Gary

Peck, Richard

Sachar, Louis