

Incoming Sixth Grade Summer Reading

Middle School Summer Reading Activities:

1. Read the mandatory novel that is listed for your grade level. Students will discuss this book in class during the first week of school and will be tested on this novel.
2. Choose and read one book from the optional list that is provided for your grade level. Students will be required to take the Accelerated Reader test on this book during the first week of school.
3. In lieu of a project, students will complete a packet that will cover grade level reading and grammar skills. This packet will be provided on the SCS website for each grade level. The skills packet will be due Friday, August 20th and will count as a formative assessment grade worth 10 points. The skills packet will be reviewed in class and then the material from the skills packet will be assessed on the same test as the mandatory novel on Friday, August 27th. The AR test for the optional novel selection is due Wednesday, August 25th.

*The mandatory novel section of the teacher-made test will be worth 60 points, and the skills section of the teacher-made test will be worth 30 points. The AR test on the optional book will be worth 10 points.

*The score from the teacher-made test (on the mandatory novel and skills) will be combined with the score from the AR test (on the optional novel) and will count as a 100 point test grade.

***SCS will be purchasing all novels to be read during the school year, including the mandatory summer novel. You do not have to purchase any of the required novels for the school year.**

Summer Reading:

Mandatory Novel for Academic Students:

Among the Hidden

By: Margaret Peterson Haddix

Mandatory Novel for Honors Students:

The Westing Game

By: Ellen Raskin

OPTIONAL NOVELS:

Fiction

1. *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

This brilliant, sensitive story — narrated not only by ten-year-old August Pullman, 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.

1. *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick

A brilliant, emotionally charged novel about two boys. One is a slow learner, too large for his age, and the other is a tiny, disabled genius. The two pair up to create one formidable human force known as "Freak the Mighty".

Excerpt from Scholastic.com book wizard review

2. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

On a long car trip from Ohio to Idaho, 13-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle tells her grandparents about her friend Phoebe, who is coping with the disappearance of her mother. Beneath Phoebe's story is Sal's search for her own mother, who left one sunny morning and never returned.

3. *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin

This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires-it all depends on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, a game involving blizzards, burglaries, and bombings! Ellen Raskin has created a remarkable cast of characters in a puzzle-knotted, word-twisting plot filled with humor, intrigue, and suspense.

5. *Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen

The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was the second grade, but not much has changed by the seventh. She says: "My Bryce. Still walking around with my first kiss." He says: "It's been six years of strategic avoidance and social discomfort." But in the eighth grade everything gets turned upside down. And just as he's thinking there's more to her than meets the eye, she's thinking that he's not quite all he seemed.

6. *Savvy* by Ingrid Law

Mibs Beaumont and her family live on the border of Kansas and Nebraska. Each family gets a special power-called a savvy-on their thirteenth birthday, and Mib's big day is fast approaching.

Non-Fiction

7. *Soul Surfer* by Bethany Hamilton, Rick Bundschuh, and Sheryl Berk

She lost her arm in a shark attack and nearly died, but she never lost her faith. Now a major motion picture, "Soul Surfer" is the moving story of Bethany Hamilton's triumphant return to competitive surfing and has continued to be a beacon of inspiration to all who hear it.

They say Bethany Hamilton has saltwater in her veins. How else could one explain the passion that drives her to surf? Or that nothing — not even the loss of her arm — could come between her and the waves?

8. *Heaven is for Real* by Todd Burpo

Todd and Sonja Burpo share Colton's experiences of having visions of heaven after a near-fatal illness, describing what Colton saw in heaven and the lessons he has learned about faith and love after listening to Colton's stories of his time with Jesus.

9. *Hana's Suitcase* by Gail Levine

Join the journey of a museum curator and her students in Tokyo, Japan, as they investigate and study a curious suitcase marked "Hana Brady, May 16, 1931". They search for clues about young Hana and her family during the Nazi invasion.

St. Catherine of Siena
Middle School Summer Reading Packet
6th Grade

Name: _____

The reading packet is to be completed by the student during the summer to reinforce skills learned in previous grades. The packet is to be turned in on Friday, August 20th.

I. CONTEXT CLUES

Read the paragraph. Circle the best answer choice.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1883-1945) loved trees. As a boy, he took great interest in his family's land in Hyde Park, New York. He learned the importance of _____ the land. Later, as president, he created job programs for unemployed people in the field of conservation. During the early 1930s, catastrophic dust storms had stripped away valuable soil in the Great Plains. Roosevelt's programs taught farmers how to protect the soil and how to plant trees as windbreaks to keep the soil from blowing away.

1. The best word for the blank in this paragraph is
A. destroying B. preserving C. encouraging D. delicate

2. In this paragraph, the word catastrophic must mean
A. drought-resistant C. rather mild
B. really disastrous D. greatly welcomed

3. Underline the word or words that helped you answer item.

4. Write a sentence of your own using the word catastrophic.

II. FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Read the paragraph. Circle the best answer choice.

Sometimes laws can seem as silly as a clown's clothes. Usually, these are laws that were made for a reason at a point in time, but are no longer needed. Here are some funny laws from Canada. In Saskatoon, you cannot catch fish with your hands. In Calgary, it's against the law to toss snowballs without the mayor's permission. Children can't eat ice cream cones on the streets of Ottawa on Sundays. Places in the U.S. have strange laws, too. Some make as much sense as a talking turtle.

5. The underlined words in this paragraph are an example of figurative language called

- A. metaphor B. personification C. simile D. hyperbole

6. These words compare _____ to _____.

7. Find and underline another example of figurative language in the paragraph.

8. This example is called _____.

9. Write the meaning of the second figurative language in your own words.

10. For the following types of figurative languages construct a creative sentence showing a clear understanding of each device.

- A. onomatopoeia B. alliteration C. flashback D. idiom E. symbolism

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

III. MULTIPLE-MEANING WORDS

Some words have more than one meaning and pronunciation. Study the word below and its meanings. Then write the letter of the correct meaning of the word next to each sentence.

- a. project (v): to throw or cast forward
- b. project (v): to stick out or over something else
- c. project (n): a plan, job, or task

- _____ 11. The roof projects over the windows on the top floor.
- _____ 12. Work had just begun on the project when it was suddenly interrupted.
- _____ 13. The machine projects an image on the screen.
- _____ 14. The shadow of the eagle, projected on the snow, alerted the lambs.
- _____ 15. The shoes projecting from under the bench were covered with paint.
- _____ 16. Improving his work in fractions and decimals is Nick's latest project.

Context Clues: Read the question carefully. Use the meaning of the sentences to help you choose the right answer.

17. Groaning, he rolled over then planted his feet firmly on the floor.

In which sentence does the word planted mean the same thing as in the sentence above?

- A. Jean planted four rows of cucumbers.
- B. The lawyer claimed that the evidence had been planted.
- C. The settlers planted new crops.
- D. Jo planted her feet in the dirt before swinging the bat.

18. To shoulder the pressures of school, home, and leisure activities can be stressful.
- A. Christ willingly chose to shoulder the burdens of mankind so that we may attain eternal happiness in heaven.
 - B. The coach advised the player to use his shoulder when throwing a long pass down the field.
 - C. Many cars pulled to the shoulder of the highway to view the Mardi Gras parade.
 - D. The motorist pulled the vehicle to the shoulder of the road to repair a flat tire.

In the questions below, find the word that can be used correctly in both sentences.

19. Barb put a clean _____ on the bed.
Jason washed the cookie _____ after he finished baking.
- A. pillow
 - B. tray
 - C. sheet
 - D. cover
20. We _____ nearer to the warmth of the campfire.
He _____ the wrong conclusion from the facts that were presented.
- A. drew
 - B. moved
 - C. identified
 - D. illustrated

IV. ANALOGIES

There are different ways you can compare one thing to another. Sometimes you can compare pairs of things to each other, too. When doing this, you need to think how the first two things are related to each other. Then think how the next pair should be related to each other.

Complete each sentence by circling the correct word.

21. Hot is to cold as safe is to _____.
- A. harmless B. safety patrol C. dangerous
22. Roar is to lion as hiss is to _____.
- A. boy B. snake C. elephant

23. Medicine is to cure as poison is to _____.
- A. snakes B. kill C. drink
24. Bee is to hive as bird is to _____.
- A. nest B. sing C. wings
25. January is to winter as July is to _____.
- A. spring B. summer C. fireworks
26. Hunter is to jungle as fisher is to _____.
- A. fish B. water C. line
27. Time is to clock as temperature is to _____.
- A. winter B. swimming C. thermometer

V. FACT & NONFACT

A statement or an idea that can be proved true is a fact. A statement or an idea that can be proved false is a nonfact.

Read each statement and decide whether it is a fact or nonfact. Write FACT if it is a fact and NONFACT if it is a nonfact.

- _____ 28. The sun rises in the east and sets in the west.
- _____ 29. The blue whale's skin is colored green.
- _____ 30. You need special equipment to breathe on the moon.
- _____ 31. There are rain forests on the moon.
- _____ 32. Only people who drive red cars are caught speeding.
- _____ 33. Sea water tastes salty.
- _____ 34. A rain cloud actually feels like a giant, fluffy cotton ball.
- _____ 35. Washington D.C. is our nation's capital.

VI. STEPS IN A PROCESS

A series of steps that you follow in order are, “steps in a process”. Each of the following activities has several steps that need to be followed in order. Write numbers 1 through 4 on the lines to show the right order of each activity.

36. Give a Speech

- _____ Create note cards with keywords on the topic.
- _____ Research the topic.
- _____ Practice giving your speech.
- _____ Decide on a topic.

38. Plan a Surprise Party

- _____ Send out invitations.
- _____ Greet the guest of honor by jumping out and yelling “Surprise!”
- _____ Choose a day for the party.
- _____ Hide until the guest of honor arrives.

37. Write a Book Report

- _____ Write the book report.
- _____ Read the book.
- _____ Choose a book for the report.
- _____ Make the cover for the book report.

39. Direct a Play

- _____ Admit people to the show on opening night.
- _____ Choose a play to present.
- _____ Audition actors.
- _____ Direct actors as they rehearse scenes and choose costumes.

VIII. CAUSE & EFFECT

What might happen as a result of each story event below? Write the most likely effect of each cause on the lines provided.

40. The class planted the flower seeds in the ground where it was sunny. Each day the students watered their new garden. They even made a scarecrow so that the birds wouldn't eat the seeds.

EFFECT: _____

41. Dottie really wants to play the guitar. She has an older cousin who is a very good guitar player. Dottie decides to tell him that she wants to learn to play the guitar as well as he does.

EFFECT: _____

42. Dan and Kim are good friends. Dan has been doing poorly on his math tests lately. Kim decides to help Dan study. They have been working together solving math problems every day after school.

EFFECT: _____

43. Juan is having a birthday party. His parents are sending out party invitations to everyone in Juan's class, to everyone in the school band, and to everyone on the softball team. Juan has many friends.

EFFECT: _____

IX. Prefixes and Suffixes

Write the definition and part of speech of each on the following prefixes and suffixes. Select an appropriate root word to join with the prefix or suffix. Create a sentence showing you know the meaning of the new word. You may use the internet or dictionary to assist you. Be creative. Your sentences should be fully developed using all grammar rules.

Prefixes to use – re, pro, non

Suffixes to use – ion, less, ish

44. Prefix word with - re _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

45. Prefix word with - pro _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

46. Prefix word with - non _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

47. Suffix word with - ion _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

48. Suffix word with - less _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

49. Suffix word with - ish _____

Definition and part of speech -

Sentence -

X. MAIN IDEAS

Read each paragraph. Circle the best answer choice.

People have used oil since early times. Ancient cultures learned that oil was sticky and useful for binding things together. They also noted that oil kept water out. For example, the Sumerians used the oil in asphalt to keep mosaics on walls and in floors. The people of Mesopotamia used the oil burned to create light. Throughout the ages, hundreds of other uses for oil were discovered.

50. The main idea of this paragraph is

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| A. The Sumerians used oil as glue. | C. Oil has sticky qualities. |
| B. When burned, oil creates light. | D. People have used oil through the ages. |

51. A supporting detail is

- A. The Chinese found oil underground.
- B. Mesopotamians used oil as a sealer.
- C. People learned that oil is useful.
- D. Oil is a precious resource.

Read the following passage and answer the questions below.

What is a gaggle? You probably know that it is a group of geese. “Gaggle” is a collective noun because it names a group. Many collective nouns name groups of animals. For example, a string is a group of ponies, and a troop is a group of kangaroos. What is a knot? If you are talking about toads, then a knot is a group of them. Have you ever found foxes together? Then you saw a skulk. And if a group of elk crosses in front of you, you’re looking at a gang.

52. The main idea of this paragraph is

- A. Meanings of collective nouns
- B. A knot is a group of toads
- C. Words with two meanings
- D. Singular and plural nouns

53. A supporting detail is

- A. Ants live in a colony.
- B. A gang is a group of elk.
- C. Words with two meanings
- D. Singular and plural nouns

GRAMMAR/MECHANICS COMPONENT:

Identify each of the following sentences as simple, compound, or complex.

1. She needed more practice before she could swim smoothly.

2. Ferris wheels are for everyone, but only a few like roller coasters.

3. The ride starts at the top of a tower and plunges into a pool.

Write the plural form of each noun.

1. mother-in-law _____
2. half _____
3. echo _____

Underline each subject and circle the subject complement.

1. A stew with beans is a popular Brazilian dish.
2. Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo are important cities in Brazil.

Circle whether each underlined noun is a direct object (DO), an indirect object (IO), or an object of the preposition (OP). (1 pt. each)

1. Dr. Black bought a bouquet for his wife. DO IO OP
2. Owen sent his nephew a gift certificate for his birthday. DO IO OP
3. The garden club gave its members awards for their hard work and dedication DO IO OP

Write the possessive form of each word in parentheses.

1. the (boys) soccer team _____
2. several (women) vacations _____

Underline the prepositional phrase or phrases in each sentence. Circle the object of the preposition in each prepositional phrase.

1. Along the path are beautiful fields of fragrant flowers.
2. The restaurant on Harrison Avenue serves fresh salads and a variety of tasty soups.

Use editing marks to correct the following sentences. (1 pt. each)

1. us cheerleaders in this group have wore the same uniforms longer then that there group of cheerleaders
2. natalie has rode her horse every year in the tri-city rodeo and has never been throwed