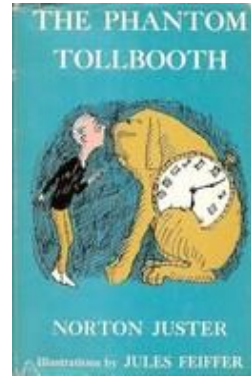


Dear Rising 6th Graders,

I am looking forward to next school year with you. In order to keep your minds working and to give your energetic brains something to think about, we are asking that you **read two books this summer**. The first book is one of our class novels, *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster. This is a highly imaginative and meaningful story about a young boy who is in desperate need of an adventure. In order to check your understanding of the text, please complete the packet of questions during your reading.



In addition, please choose one nonfiction book related to the list of topics below. You will see these topics again in your sixth grade History class. Choose a topic that is interesting to you, and find a book on that topic from your public library or your home library. Ask a librarian if you need help; they are wonderful people! Please complete the nonfiction summary sheet as you read your nonfiction book. I can't wait for you to share what you learned from your reading with the rest of us.

**Nonfiction Topics** (available from Jefferson County Libraries)

- Ancient Egypt
- Ancient Israel
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Rome
- a Saint's biography

We are so blessed to have a summer break and also to have a wonderful school to return home to in the Fall. May your summer days be filled with good books!

God Bless You,  
Mrs. Rothery

Things to Do:

1. Read *Phantom Tollbooth*
2. Answer the questions
3. Choose and read your nonfiction book
4. Answer the questions

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Saint Rose Academy Summer Reading *Phantom Tollbooth* Questions**

Please answer the following questions in complete sentences as you read *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Use your neatest cursive handwriting. You may answer your questions on this page or on separate lined paper.

1. What kind of friend do you think Milo would be and why?
2. How did Milo end up in the Doldrums?
3. The Humbug and the Spelling Bee disagree about the importance of proper spelling. Are there pros and cons to a “slavish concern for the composition of words”? Explain.
4. Use the discussion among the characters in chapter 9 to give your own definition of *point of view*.
5. Have you changed your point of view about any particular topic as you have grown and matured? Please explain.
6. Explain what it means to “jump to a conclusion.” Why can jumping to conclusions be a dangerous habit?

7. Milo meets Rhyme and Reason at last. What lessons do they have for him?
  
8. What events in your own life have marked the moment when you have started down a new path? What events or moments have been a “tollbooth” for you in the sense that they have taken you to a new journey. (This is a hard question- you will need to think about this before you answer.)
  
9. A genre is a category of literature. It is sometimes helpful to label a story with its proper genre when you are studying it. An **allegory** is a narrative in which the main character is used to deliver a broader message about real world issues. A **fantasy** is a category of fiction that includes imaginary elements like magic, the supernatural, or alternate worlds. Which of these genres -- allegory or fantasy -- do you believe most applies to *The Phantom Tollbooth* and why?
  
10. Who is your favorite character from *The Phantom Tollbooth*? Why? How do you suppose the author conceived of these characters?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Saint Rose Academy Summer Reading Nonfiction Summary**

**Title and Author of your Nonfiction book:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Nonfiction:** *Please check the box the applies to this particular text.*

Autobiography    Biography    Historical    Informational    Essays or Article

Other: *(please specify)*

\_\_\_\_\_

**Three Key Facts That You Learned from Your Reading:** *Please write using complete sentences.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**What did you find most interesting from reading this text?** *Please write using complete sentences.*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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