

Sixth Grade Summer Reading List

Selections to choose from:

Esperanza Rising by Pam M. Ryan

Moving from a Mexican ranch to the company labor camps of California; this is a story of migration and movement deeply rooted in the earth. When 14-year-old Esperanza's father is killed, she and her mother must emigrate to the U.S., where a family of former ranch workers has helped them find jobs in the agricultural labor camps. Coming from such privilege, Esperanza is ill prepared for the hard work and difficult conditions she now faces. She quickly learns household chores, though, and when her mother falls ill, she works packing produce until she makes enough money to bring her beloved abuelita to the U.S. Set during the Great Depression.

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

To live forever—isn't that the stuff of fairytales? Not for the Tuck family who discover a spring of eternal life. When ten-year-old Winnie Foster discovers their secret spring, she is confronted with issues concerning the meaning of life and death. When an unscrupulous stranger also makes this discovery, Winnie must face issues of greed and ethics as well. This sensitively written novel combines adventure, imagination, and real-life issues into a compelling story.

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

Julie of the Wolves by Jean George

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack. Newbery Medal, 1973

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

The View from Saturday by E.L. Konigsburg

Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

WHY: We encourage all middle school students to read throughout the summer to enhance reading enjoyment while increasing reading proficiency.

WHAT: To support these goals, students will need to read **two books of their choice** from the designated list. It is also recommended that the students take notes using the attached Character Chart. This chart will be reviewed at the beginning of the school year. Students will complete meaningful activities and assignments once school resumes. These activities will include a quiz on the material.