

6th Grade Summer Reading List

Choose and Read ONE book from the list below.

Soviet Daughter, A Graphic Revolution by Julia Alekseyeva	This is the story of Julia Alekseyeva and her great-grandmother Lola, two extraordinary women swept up in the history of their tumultuous times. Born in 1910 to a poor, Jewish family outside of Kiev, Lola lived through the Bolshevik revolution, a horrifying civil war, Stalinist purges, and the Holocaust.
We Dream of Space by Erin Entrada Kelly	Siblings Cash, Fitch, and Bird move through the daily trials of pre-teen life in the 1980's. Fitch and Bird are twins who are now in the same grade as their older brother, Cash — because Cash was held back in the seventh grade. Bird is a space aficionado and dreams of being an astronaut.
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson	The book tells the story of an impulsive and adventurous young boy named Jim Hawkins who comes across a treasure map. He goes on a journey to try and recover the treasure, which once belonged to the famous Captain Flint. On his journey, he meets Long John Silver, a one-legged cook who ends up leading a pirate mutiny.
The Stars Beneath our Feet by David Barclay Moore	A boy tries to steer a safe path through the projects in Harlem in the wake of his brother's death.
The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett	Mary Lennox, a spoiled English girl being raised in India. After the death of her parents, she is sent to live at her mysterious uncle's Yorkshire estate. She hears screams of a child echoing its halls at night despite the servant's insistence it is only the wind.
The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank	The story of Anne Frank, a Jewish girl who went into hiding with her family during World War II.
The City of Ember by Jeanne Du Prau	A post-apocalyptic underground city threatened by aging infrastructure and corruption. Lina Mayfleet and Doon Harrow follow clues left by the original builders to the safety in the outside world.
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls	Billy Coleman lives in the Ozark mountains. His dream is to purchase redbone coonhound dogs and train them to hunt. Follow his adventures.
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle	Meg Murry is transported on an adventure through time and space with her brother Charles Wallace and her friend Calvin to rescue her father, a gifted scientist, from the evil forces that hold him captive.
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	About a girl during World War II in Germany. Her foster parents hide a Jewish man, but that only brings attention to the family.
When you Trap a Tiger by Tae Kelle	A Korean girl goes on a quest to unlock the power of stories and save her grandmother. A magical tiger arrives prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history.

Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson	Jesse's life changes when he befriends Leslie, an outsider. Together they create a world full of magical creatures. Soon, one of the friends must draw on the strength of their "kingdom" to cope with a tragedy.
The Dreamer by Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis	This story follows the early experiences of Neftali Reyes, a boy who is spellbound by the wonders of the natural world and grows into the man that we know.
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George	A boy who learns courage, independence, and the need for companionship while attempting to live in the Catskill Mountains of New York State.
The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes	<i>Maddie tells a story about Wanda Petronski, a Polish girl, who attends a Connecticut school where the other children see her as "different" and mock her.</i>
A Father's Promise by Donna Hess	Rudi, a Jewish Christian boy, is separated from his father during World War II. He learns to trust God and to trust his father's promise that they will be reunited after the war; along the way, he also learns the value of courage, faithfulness, and self-sacrifice.
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell	A true story about a 12-year-old girl called Karana who is stranded on an island and has to work out how to survive. Her main enemies on the island are the wild dogs and she lives in fear of the Aleuts (a tribe who arrive on the island to hunt seals).
Call It Courage by Armstrong Sperry	A story set in the Pacific Islands chronicles the journey of Mafatu, the son of the chief of Hikuera Island, Tavana Nui. Mafatu is afraid of the sea due to witnessing his mother die while he was a young child, which makes him a shame to his father, and is referred to as a coward among his tribe.
In Search of Honor by Donna Hess	A story of a young silver smith whose father was killed. He lives in Paris and takes part in the French Revolution. In the end, he finds God as his true father, and loses his hatred to his father's murderer, and feels guilt after he gets "revenge".
Saturday Night Dirt by Will Weaver	Headwaters Speedway is the place to be. Thanks to rainouts across the state, this dirt track is drawing big-time stock cars and local drivers. Trace Bonham in his Street Stock Chevy that's sure to be a winner if he can figure out why it's acting up. Beau Kim: his Modified is patched together from whatever parts he scraped up. Amber Jenkins has what it takes to run rings around them all. Melody Walters: she knows that the impending rain might be exactly what they need to keep her father's speedway afloat—or sink it for good.
Any book of your choice by C.S. Lewis	
Any book of your choice by J.R.R. Tolkien	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW

6th Grade Summer Reading Guidelines

Instructions:

- Choose **one** book from the list provided. The book can be borrowed from the library or purchased online, locally, or electronically.
- After reading the book, **write a short essay** that answers the following questions about your chosen book. The essay should **be 1 page, double-spaced, typed, and MLA-formatted**. (Students who are new to FCS are not required to use MLA-formatting if they are not already familiar with it.)
- Do not copy the questions or use bullet points. Instead, your essay should be in **paragraph** form. (At least **2 Paragraphs, 3-5 sentences each**.)
- **Use your own words**. Do not copy any part of your essay from another source (e.g. a website, a book), you will receive a failing grade and a discipline write-up. That is called plagiarism.
- **This is due on the first day of class!!!**

Questions:

1. Include: title and year of publication.
2. Author's name.

Choose 1 question from each section.

Personal and Textual Connections

- How does the story make you feel?
- Have you ever had a similar experience?
- Do any of the characters remind you of someone in your life?

Setting

- When and where does the story take place?
- Is the place important to the story? How?
- Does the season or the time affect the characters or the story?

Characters

- Who is the main character in the story?
- What choices does the character have?
- Who is another character who either hurts or helps the main character?

Choose 2 questions for the last section:

Plot

- What is the story's problem? How did it get solved?
- What is the most exciting part (the climax) of the story?
- How did the story end? Did you enjoy the ending?
- Do you have any unanswered questions about the story?