

Summer Climb 6th Grade Reading



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Summer Reading for Incoming 6th Grade

Dear students and parents,

Hello, and happy summer! We're looking forward to another great year with each of you. Reading is a necessary skill for academics, but it is also a way to learn about other people, time periods, places, and cultures. We believe that the first step towards helping students enjoy reading, and thus wanting to read more, is to encourage them to read books that appeal to them. During the school year, we balance required class texts that are part of our curriculum with free choice novels as part of our Genre Studies Program. To continue that focus, this summer we are asking that students read two books, one required novel and one of their choice:

- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- Any middle grade (or above) book of your choice

If you were at Saint Patrick Catholic School for 5th grade, then you already have a copy of *Fish in a Tree* checked out. If not, you can stop by the office over the summer and pick up a copy. As with any book borrowed from the school, students are responsible for keeping it in good condition and returning it in September.

Fish in a Tree will be our first book study of the year, so it is imperative that students read the book over the summer. We will have a graded writing activity during the first week of school, which will check that they read it. Then, we will complete several activities with the novel before moving onto our next book. For the free choice book, the students will complete the book report included below. To summarize:

- *Fish in a Tree* - **Read** and be prepared to discuss in September
- Free Choice Book - Complete the attached Book Report

While we are only requiring two books, we highly recommend reading more. Have a wonderful summer, and happy reading!

Warmly,
The Middle School Team

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Middle School Outline Template for Book Report

This template will map out the information you need to include in your book report. As you read your book, fill in the sections for this template. You will receive a grade for this template and for the report. When you go to write your book report, be sure to include the information completed on the following pages. **The final report must be typed and double spaced.** Be sure to hand into your teacher both this template and the book report when you return to school.

Introductory paragraph - What is the name and author of the book on which you are choosing to write?

Book title : _____

Author: _____

Write at least 3 facts about the author (Where is he/she from? What kinds of books does he/she write? What topics does he/she write?)

- _____
- _____
- _____

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2nd paragraph

Write 1-2 sentences that give a brief summary of the book (ex: *Loser* is the story of Donald Zinkoff, a student who struggles to stand strong even though he is constantly teased by his classmates.)

Write 2-3 sentences that describe the setting of the book (Where and when does the story take place? How is the setting significant to the story?)

3rd paragraph

Write a topic sentence about the major characters of the book (ex: There are several main characters involved in the book *The Giver*.)

Describe the main characters in the book in the 2nd paragraph (you may have 2, 3, 4, 5 or more important characters). Include characteristics of the characters that are important to the story.

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4th paragraph

Write a topic sentence about the main events that occur in the book (ex: There are several main events that happen in the story of *The Giver*.) (10 pts.)

Include the main events of the book in the 4th paragraph:

• First, _____

• Next, _____

• Then, _____

• Finally, _____

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The 5th paragraph will discuss a section of the book you found to be most interesting. Start out this paragraph with the following quote.

“The part of the book I found to be most interesting is around page _____, when . . .”
(jot down some of the interesting details here).

Give at least 2 reasons why this part is interesting to you:

The 6th paragraph will tell why you liked or disliked the book

The topic sentence should include whether you **liked** or **disliked** the book. Include 3-4 sentences that tell **why** you liked, or disliked the book. (6 pts.)

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Once you've finished your required reading, don't stop! Participate in the [youth summer reading competitions at your local libraries](#). Listen to audiobooks. Read the news. Looking for more literature suggestions?

Here are a few:

- *Where The Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
- *Percy Jackson, Magnus Chase, or Kane Chronicles Series* by Rick Riordan
- *The Call of The Wild* by Jack London
- *Inkheart Series* by Cornelia Funke
- *The Hunger Games Series* by Suzanne Collins
- *Harry Potter series* by JK Rowling
- *Anne of Green Gables Series* by LM Montgomery
- *Emma* by Jane Austen
- *The Maze Runner Series* by James Dashner
- *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill
- *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- *Divergent Series* by Veronica Roth
- *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech
- *The Princess Diaries series* by Meg Cabot
- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson

Check out [this article](#) and [this website](#) for more ideas!