

Rising 6th Grade ELA Summer Homework

DIRECTIONS: Please choose **ONE** book below and complete the summer reading assignment. All assignments should be finished by the first day of school.

***H2O* by Virginia Bergin (dystopian)**

How hard is it to avoid the rain? According to the account of Ruby Morris, it's a lot harder than one might think: Ruby hails from the wet and dreary United Kingdom. After an imminent meteor strike is avoided, events lead to an alien bacterium-laced rain that is fatal and contagious. Stranded and devoid of parental guidance, Ruby must cross vast distances and make choices even when no correct answer exists. The first-person narrative allows for a unique perspective. The story and language will provide readers with an international scope and convey the tragic impact of the apocalyptic events.

***The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle* by Leslie Connor (realistic fiction)**

This riveting, poignant drama explores kindness and friendship. It is narrated by a boy who's suspected of being involved in the death of his best friend and has lost both of his parents.

***Refugee* by Alan Gratz (realistic fiction)**

This harrowing page-turner sheds light on child refugees by braiding the stories of three young refugees in three different periods and settings: 1938 Berlin, 1994 Cuba, and 2015 Syria. The circumstances of all the kids and families are dire, and their journeys are fraught with imminent danger.

***Into the Clouds* by Tod Olson (non-fiction memoir)**

This harrowing adventure story practically puts you with the climbers on the slopes of K2. You'll feel yourself gasping for oxygen, stamping your feet to fight off frostbite, and wrestling with the ultimate decision: Do you turn back while you still can or make one last try for the summit?

***Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson (historical fiction)**

Captivating poems depict coming-of-age in the tumultuous 1960s, this winner of the 2014 National Book Award for Young People's Literature and the 2015 Coretta Scott King Book Award was also named a 2015 Newbery Honor Book. It addresses growing up in the segregated South.

***Lucky Little Things* by Janice Erlbaum (realistic fiction)**

Emma Macintyre could use some good luck. The popular kids at her school ignore her, the boy she likes is out of her league, and her best friend has been ditching her for the mean girls. Worst of all, her beloved Aunt Jenny died recently, leaving Emma and her single mom grieving.

***They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei (non-fiction memoir graphic novel)**

A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love.

***The Iliad* by Gareth Hinds (mythology graphic novel)**

Over three thousand years ago, two armies faced each other in an epic battle that rewrote history and became known as the Trojan War. The Iliad, Homer's legendary account of this nine-year ordeal, is considered the greatest war story of all time and one of the most important works of Western literature. This stunning graphic novel captures all the grim glory of Homer's epic. Dynamic illustrations take readers directly to the plains of Troy, into the battle itself, and lay bare the complex emotions of the men, women, and gods whose struggles fueled the war and determined its outcome.

6th Grade Reading Assignment

After reading your book, you will make a 7-slide slideshow in Google Slides.

- Frame 1- General information: Title, author, genre, picture of the book, and your name
- Frame 2- Characters: Names of main characters, a list of three character traits, and pictures of what you think each character may look like.
- Frames 3, 4, and 5 - Plot: What is the main problem in the story? What are the four key events in the story? Don't give the solution to the main problem (the book's ending), as it would spoil other students' enjoyment should they read it. Include pictures of what you visualized was happening for each key event.
- Frame 6-Themes: List the themes of the book with pictures depicting them.
- Frame 7- Your thoughts: Did you like the book? Why or why not? What was your favorite part?

Hints on making and presenting a slideshow:

1. Slideshows are VISUAL. Do not put any paragraphs on your slides. You will present the slideshow by elaborating on your spoken words. The slide should be an attractive visual.
2. Less is better. Don't get too cluttered.
3. Create your slideshow with Google Slides.