

Lynnfield Middle School
Lynnfield, Massachusetts 01940

June 2023

Dear Families of Incoming 6th Graders,

Welcome to sixth grade! Your teachers are looking forward to meeting you in the fall. We hope you have a wonderful summer vacation.

The sixth grade teachers are pleased to present you with this summer's reading list and requirements. We have developed a policy we feel will benefit students over the summer and upon returning to school. All grade levels have tailored their lists and requirements to best suit the needs of the students and to coordinate with the curriculum.

In order to integrate the summer reading with the sixth grade English curriculum, as well as Lynnfield Middle School's core values, we have chosen to have all of the sixth graders read the same book.

Incoming sixth graders are required to read **TWO** books over the summer.
All incoming sixth graders will read:

- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- **and**
- One grade appropriate free choice book
(fiction/nonfiction)

Expectations upon Returning to School:

1. Each student will receive **a copy** of *Fish in a Tree* to read over the summer. We ask that students **return** their copy to their 6th grade teacher when they return to school.
2. Students must return to school in the fall with a sheet listing the **two** books they have read. It is expected that students will complete the information on the list including the title and the author. This sheet **should have a parent/guardian signature**. In addition, students are expected to come to school with the **attached organizer** completed.
3. Upon returning to school, students will also be expected **to complete an assignment** that is based on *Fish in a Tree*. **Their English teacher will give out directions for this project at the beginning of school in the fall**. This project will be graded, and the grade will become part of the first term's English grade. **Please do not do any sort of a project over the summer**. Students will be given directions and evaluation criteria on their return to school.
4. While you are only required to read **two** books, we encourage you to set a reading goal and read as many books as you can!

Have a wonderful summer, and we can't wait to meet you next year! If you have any questions, please email Dr. Robin Doherty, Director of ELA/Social Studies (dohertyr@lynnfield.k12.ma.us).

Sincerely,
The 6th Grade English Teachers

Grade 6 Summer Reading

Student Name: _____

Required Reading

Book 1:

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Book 2: (list your choice book)

Title: _____ Author: _____

Optional: Additional Books of Choice

Title

Author

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Name _____

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

CHARACTERIZATION:

Complete the chart below by giving a description and character trait for each character. Include two additional characters you felt were important to the story.

Character:	Description: <i>Who is the character?</i>	Character Trait: <i>What is a word you could use to describe the character based on their actions/words/thoughts?</i>
Ally Nickerson		
Travis Nickerson		
Mr. Daniels		

THEME: Theme is a life-lesson that the author wants to express through the novel. Choose a possible theme and support your answer with three examples from the novel. Reflecting on the **LMS Core Values of Kindness, Effort and Citizenship**, pick one that you felt was best represented in this novel. Make sure to include examples from the text that support the Core Value you chose.

<u>LMS Core Values</u>		
Kindness	Effort	Citizenship

Core Value best represented:	
Examples from Text	Page Number
I. _____ _____ _____ _____	
2. _____ _____ _____ _____	
3. _____ _____ _____ _____	

CONFLICT: Conflict is any struggle between opposing forces. Usually, the main character struggles against another force or forces. Conflicts can be internal **and** external.

<u>Types of Conflict</u>	
Internal Conflict - Character vs Self	Takes place in the mind of the character. The character struggles to make a decision, take an action, or overcome an obstacle.
External Conflicts - Character vs Character - Character vs Nature - Character vs Society	One in which a character struggles with an outside force such as another character, a force of nature, or social/culture expectations.

Using the chart below, identify and explain one internal conflict and one type of external conflict found in the novel *Fish in a Tree*.

<u>Type of Conflict</u>	<u>Characters Involved</u>	<u>Explain</u>
<u>Internal</u> Character vs Self	 vs self	
<u>External</u> Character vs _____	 vs _____	

GRADE 6 SUMMER READING
SUGGESTED AUTHORS & TITLES FOR ADDITIONAL SUMMER READS

For a **fiction** choice, here is a list of suggested authors.

Alexander, Kwame
Blume, Judy*
Brown, Peter
Clements, Andrew*
Colfer, Eoin*
Cooper, Susan*
Creech, Sharon*
DiCamillo, Kate*
DiTerlizzi, Tony
Gantos, Jack*
George, Jean C.*
Hobbs, Will*
Holm, Jennifer L.
Horvath, Polly
Keene, Carolyn
Konigsburg, E.L.*
Law, Ingrid

L'Engle, Madeline*
Levine, Gail Carson*
Lowry, Lois*
Montgomery, Lucy Maude*
Paterson, Katherine*
Paulsen, Gary*
Peck, Richard*
Reynolds, Jason
Rowling, J.K.*
Riordan, Rick*
Sachar, Louis*
Snickett, Lemony
Spinelli, Jerry
Woodson, Jaqueline*
Yolen, Jane*

** denotes author from Massachusetts ELA Curriculum Framework*

If you would like to read some **nonfiction**, the following are topics that are studied in sixth grade and might prove helpful in book selection.

Humanities Topics

Prehistoric Times/Earliest People
Ancient Egypt
Ancient Mesopotamia
Ancient Greece
Archaeology
Ancient Rome

Science Topics

Our Moon and Its Phases
Tides
Matter
Lunar and Solar Eclipses
Volcanoes and Earthquakes
Protists (micro-organisms)
Cells
Human Body Systems
Waves (sound/light)