

Lynnfield Middle School
Lynnfield, Massachusetts 01940



June 2024

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 list 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 ONE book over the summer.

- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

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. In addition, students are expected to come to school with the **attached organizer** completed.
2. 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.
3. While you are only required to read **one** book, we encourage you to set a reading goal and read as many books as you can! We have included optional suggested titles thanks to media center teacher, Mrs. Peirson that you may be interested in reading. If you read more than one book, please list the title, the author, and include a parent/guardian signature.

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,
Jessical Alim, Heather Vowels, Annie DeRose, Jennifer Pinucs
The 6th Grade English Teachers

Grade 6 Summer Reading

Student Name: _____

Required Reading

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

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 *Fish in a Tree*. Make sure to include examples from the text that support the Core Value you chose.

LMS Core Values		
Kindness	Effort	Citizenship

Core Value best represented:	
Examples from Text	Page Number
1. ----- ----- ----- -----	
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	<div>-----</div> <div>vs</div> <div>self</div>	<div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div>
<u>External</u> Character vs -----	<div>-----</div> <div>vs</div> <div>-----</div>	<div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div> <div>-----</div>

**GRADE 6 ADDITIONAL SUMMER READING
SUGGESTIONS FROM LMS MEDIA SPECIALIST, MS. PIERSON**

<u><i>The Fort</i></u> by Gordon Korman (Realistic)
<u><i>The Labors of Hercules Beale</i></u> by Gary Schmidt (Realistic)
<u><i>Coyote Lost and Found</i></u> by Dan Gemeinhart (Realistic Fiction)
<u><i>Light and Air</i></u> by Mindy Nichols Wendell (Historical Fiction)
<u><i>Belly Up</i></u> by Stuart Gibbs (Mystery)
<u><i>The Fire, the Water, and Maudie McGinn</i></u> by Sally Pla (Realistic)
<u><i>Heroes: A Novel of Pearl Harbor</i></u> by Alan Gratz (Historical Fiction)
<u><i>When Stars Are Scattered</i></u> by Victoria Jameison & Omar Mohamed (Graphic Novel)
<u><i>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team</i></u> by Christina Soontornnat (Non-Fiction)
<u><i>Amari and the Night Brothers</i></u> by B.B. Alston (Fantasy)
<u><i>Alone</i></u> by Megan Freeman (Dystopian, Verse)
<u><i>Hero</i></u> by Mike Lupica (Sci-Fi, Superhero)