

# Summer Reading 2023

## Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**REQUIRED READING** (all students read)  
*The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

### **CHOICE**

- Read two additional self-selected books that fit the given category/themes below.
- Choose books that you have not already read.
- You are not limited to the books on the recommendation list. Use the list if you need ideas; choose your own book if you have a personal pick that matches the themes! \*\*No graphic novels or picture books, please.\*\*

### **Category 1:** An Unlikely Friendship(s)

### **Category 2:** A Hero's Journey

Students complete **two book reports**-- one for each CHOICE book (not for the required reading selection).

Some guidelines for the book reports:

- **One** page double-spaced (2-3 paragraphs, 5-7 sentences per paragraph)
- First paragraph should summarize the setting and describe the main character(s)
- Second/third paragraph should discuss a few critical events in the story that changed the main character, revealed a theme, represented a conflict... discuss something you learned while reading. Stretch yourself beyond re-telling the plot.

Please also include the following information in the upper right-hand corner of each report:

1. Your name
2. Title, author, and number of pages
3. Date completed
4. Parent's signature

The reports should be expressed in paragraph form, typed, and printed. The reports are due **the first day of school**. Your grade will be penalized by a deduction of 10 points every day that the entire assignment is late.

In addition, students will be tested on the required class novel during the first week of school. Again, do **NOT** complete a book report for the required selection.

## An Unlikely Friendship(s)

### Book Suggestions

**How will I know if a book includes an unlikely friendship?** Look for book choices where the main character faces a challenge and he/she develops a friendship with a person (or animal) that is not in the character's immediate circle. It is with a new person that does not seem like a match at first glance.

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| • Because of Mr. Terupt**                        | Rob Buyea  |
| • The Candymakers**                              | Wendy Mass   |
| • Counting by 7s                                 | Holy Goldberg Sloan  |
| • The Egypt Game**                               | Zilpha Keatley Snyder  |
| • Hello, Universe                                | Erin Entrada Kelly   |
| • Holes**  | Louis Sachar   |
| • The Incredible Journey                         | Sheila Burnford  |
| • Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus** | Dusti Bowling  |
| • Kavik the Wolf Dog                             | Walt Morey   |
| • The Magic Half**                               | Annie Barrows  |
| • The Million Dollar Putt                        | Dan Gutman   |
| • The One and Only Ivan**                        | Katherine Applegate  |
| • The Pinballs                                   | Betsy Byars  |
| • The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise       | Dan Gemeinhart   |
| • The Running Dream                              | Wendelin Van Draanen   |
| • Seedfolks                                      | Paul Fleischman  |
| • Short  | Holly Goldberg Sloan   |
| • Things Not Seen**                              | Andrew Clements  |
| • Towers Falling                                 | Jewell Parker Rhodes   |
| • The Unteachables                               | Gordan Korman  |
| • The View from Saturday                         | E.L. Konigsburg  |
| • The Wednesday Wars**                           | Gary D. Schmidt  |
| • When You Reach Me                              | Rebecca Stead (especially if you like <i>Wrinkle in Time</i> ) |

\*\*sequels or companion books available

## A Hero's Journey Book Suggestions

**How will I know if a book includes a hero's journey?** Look for book choices where the main character goes on an adventure and is victorious in a big challenge or crisis. The character should return home (or settle in a new home) changed or transformed by the end.

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|--|---------------------------|
| • Amelia Lost (non-fiction)                          | Candace Fleming           |
| • The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (non-fiction)       | William Kamkwamba         |
| • The False Prince**                                 | Jennifer Nielson          |
| • Freewater  | Amina Luqman-Dawson       |
| • I am Rosemarie                                     | Marietta Moskin           |
| • Julie of the Wolves**                              | Elizabeth George Speare   |
| • The Last Cuentista                                 | Donna Barba Higuera       |
| • Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH                   | Robert C. O'Brien         |
| • The Night Diary                                    | Veera Hiranandani         |
| • The Neptune Project**                              | Polly Hollyoke            |
| • Peak**   | Roland Smith              |
| • Poppy**  | Avi                       |
| • Ranger's Apprentice series                         | John Flanagan             |
| • Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World (non-fiction) | Jennifer Armstrong        |
| • Song for a Whale                                   | Lynne Kelly               |
| • The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle            | Avi                       |
| • The War That Saved My Life**                       | Kimberly Brubaker Bradley |
| • The Watsons Go to Birmingham                       | Christopher Paul Curtis   |
| • The White Mountains**                              | John Christopher          |
| • The Witch of Blackbird Pond                        | Elizabeth George Speare   |
| • A Wrinkle in Time**                                | Madeleine L'Engle         |

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