

## 2018 Summer Reading Choices for Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

Summer reading is mandatory for rising middle schoolers. Choose one of the options below to read this summer. Then, follow the instructions on the reverse side of this paper to complete your summer reading assignments. Your work should be completed and turned in to your reading teacher no later than Friday, September 14.

### ***Holes* by Louis Sachar** **Accelerated Reader Book Level 4.6**

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes.

It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption.

### ***The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt** **Accelerated Reader Book Level 5.9**

Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling—he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class? But everyone has bigger things to worry about, like Vietnam. His father wants Holling and his sister to be on their best behavior: the success of his business depends on it. But how can Holling stay out of trouble when he has so much to contend with? A bully demanding cream puffs; angry rats; and a baseball hero signing autographs the very same night Holling has to appear in a play in yellow tights! As fate sneaks up on him again and again, Holling finds Motivation—the Big M—in the most unexpected places and musters up the courage to embrace his destiny, in spite of himself.

### ***Peeves* by Mike van Waes** **\*\*Not an Accelerated Reader Book at this time—no level or quiz available**

Steven (Slim) Pickings is on the edge of a breakdown—but then, it always feels like Slim is teetering on the edge of something. The difference this time is that something's caused Slim's worries to come alive! He's set loose a bunch of annoying, pesky, outrageously contagious creatures—and they're infecting everyone they meet and massing to take over the town!

To stop them, Slim will have to do more than just team up with his family and friends—he'll have to face his fears, literally!

## 2018 Summer Reading Choices for Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

Summer reading is mandatory for rising middle schoolers. Choose one of the options below to read this summer. Then, follow the instructions on the reverse side of this paper to complete your summer reading assignments. Your work should be completed and turned in to your reading teacher no later than Friday, September 14.

### ***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen**

#### **Accelerated Reader Book Level 5.7**

Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the single-engine plane in which he is flying crashes. Suddenly, Brian finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but a tattered Windbreaker and the hatchet his mother gave him as a present—and the dreadful secret that has been tearing him apart since his parent's divorce. But now Brian has no time for anger, self-pity, or despair—it will take all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed, to survive.

### ***Rules* by Cynthia Lord**

#### **Accelerated Reader Book Level 3.9**

Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public"---in order to head off David's embarrassing behaviors.

But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a surprising, new sort-of friend, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?

## **2018 Summer Reading Choices for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

Summer reading is mandatory for rising middle schoolers. Choose one of the options below to read this summer. Then, follow the instructions on the reverse side of this paper to complete your summer reading assignments. Your work should be completed and turned in to your reading teacher no later than Friday, September 14.

### ***The Pearl* by John Steinbeck Accelerated Reader Level 7.1**

Like his father and grandfather before him, Kino is a poor diver, gathering pearls from the gulf beds that once brought great wealth to the Kings of Spain and now provide Kino, Juana, and their infant son with meager subsistence. Then, on a day like any other, Kino emerges from the sea with a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, as "perfect as the moon." With the pearl comes hope, the promise of comfort and of security.

A story of classic simplicity, based on a Mexican folk tale, *The Pearl* explores the secrets of man's nature, the darkest depths of evil, and the luminous possibilities of love.

### ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson Accelerated Reader Level 7.5**

New York Times bestselling author James Swanson delivers a riveting account of the chase for Abraham Lincoln's assassin. Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.

# Tic Tac Toe

Select the boxes you plan to complete. They should form a tic-tac-toe across, down or diagonally.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Setting</b>  Choose a passage from the novel that helped you imagine a setting. Copy the passage (should be no more than 1-2 paragraphs). Use colored pencils to underline the most descriptive words.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Vocabulary</b>  Are there any words in the novel that you have a difficult time understanding? List at least 5 words. Write what you think they mean (use context cues to help). Then, look up the words in a dictionary and write down their actual definition.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Different Ending</b>  What events might have changed the story's ending? Change at least one key event to write an alternative ending to the story.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New in Class</b>  Think about one of the characters in your novel who may have a difficult time making friends. Imagine that this character is a new student in our class. Write about what you might do to help this person feel comfortable.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Acrostic Poem</b>  Make an acrostic poem out of the title of your novel. Use the letters to give a summary of the reading to complete the poem.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Test</b>  Create a 5 to 10 question comprehension test for your novel. Include an answer key on a separate piece of paper.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Character Poster</b>  Create a poster to show a main character in your novel. On the poster, place the character in his or her setting, and surround the character with elements from the story.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Conflicts</b>  A main character in your novel struggles with something that they may not be able to change. Write about a struggle you or someone close to you has or has had and explain how they would deal with it.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>In the future?</b>  Do you think that this story could take place one hundred years from now? Make a list of 5-10 things/events that you believe will happen or not happen in the future as it relates to your novel.