

## Sixth Grade Summer Reading 2011

**Required Book: Flying Solo** by Ralph Fletcher. Synopsis: Opportunity is knocking at the door of Mr. “Fab” Fabiano’s sixth grade class. Mr. Fab is absent and the substitute never arrives. The kids decide to run the class on their own. Will they be able to fly solo or will they crash?

**Choose one book from the following list as your second summer reading book:**

Sixth Grade: Glommers, Norks, and Me by Lisa Papdemetriou

Sluggers #1: Magic in the Outfield by Loren Long and Phil Biloner

Clarice Bean Spells Trouble by Lauren Child

The Super Slugger Slumpbuster by Kevin Markey

Dive: Book One—The Discovery by Gordan Korman

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

**Advanced Readers may opt to read one of the following:**

Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

Runemarks by Joanne Harris

Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

A Difficult Boy by M.P. Barker

**There will be a quiz on the required reading book when the students return to school. The choice book will require the student to complete an activity that will be assigned the first week back from summer break. Students will be expected to finish their summer reading activity in school, but supplies will need to be provided by parents.**

## Summaries of Choice Reading Books

Sixth Grade: Glommers, Norks, and Me by Lisa Papdemetriou

Allie Kimball can't wait to start sixth grade. Her best friend, Tamara Thompson, will be at the same school—just as they've always planned. But soon Allie discovers that middle school is populated with all kinds of strange new beasts, like glommers—girls who never go anywhere alone, norks—nerds whose social disease can contaminate all who come near, and worst of all, squashes—crushes that make you feel like your heart has been stepped on.

Sluggers #1: Magic in the Outfield by Loren Long and Phil Biloner

Griffith, Graham, and Ruby's father passed away in the war. And now they must join their mother and their father's wartime traveling baseball team, The Travelin' Nine, on a tour of America to raise money. No one will tell the kids why the team needs money so badly. Their only clue is a baseball with a hole the size of an acorn in it that their Uncle Owen gave to them the night of their father's funeral. They know very little about its significance except that their father made it with his own two hands and carried it with him throughout the war. And when all three kids hold the ball, strange things begin to happen...

Clarice Bean Spells Trouble by Lauren Child

Clarice Bean seems to be in nonstop trouble these days, almost as much as Karl Wrenbury, who is the naughtiest boy at school. If only she could be more like her favorite book character, Ruby Redfort, girl detective, who is very good at getting out of trouble. The problem is, Mrs. Wilberton is planning a spelling bee, and just thinking about it gives Clarice a stomachache. The good news is that there is also going to be a class performance of THE SOUND OF MUSIC, and Clarice is exceptionordinarily keen on landing a starring role, so she can get discovered by someone who spots child talents and escape spelling-bee humiliation. But when Karl Wrenbury has a family problem and gets into really big trouble, Clarice does something utterly unexpected, altruistically proving Ruby Redfort's maxim "Never let a good pal down."

The Super Slugger Slumpbuster by Kevin Markey

Eleven-year-old Banjo H. Bishbash is a phenomenal hitter for the Rambletown Rounders Little League team. His teammates call him "The Great Walloper" because of his prowess with a baseball bat. Things were going well when, out of the blue, The Great Walloper fell into a serious

batting slump. The Rounders had expected to win the championship this season but without Walloper's bat the team's chances were very bleak. Can the Rounders find a way to bring a championship home to Rambletown? This is a first-person story about baseball, friendship, and self esteem.

Dive: Book One—The Discovery by Gordan Korman

Four kids are on a marine expedition for the summer, diving to explore an underwater habitat that's just been altered by a seismic event. What they find, though, is much more than fish - it's sunken treasure. Can they salvage it without anyone else getting to it first? Will the prospect of wealth set them against one another? And what about those sharks . . . DIVE is another action-packed trilogy from Gordon Korman. The narrative will shift between an account of two kids caught in the shipwreck and the story of the four kids fighting over and desperately trying to get the treasure.

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Brian Robeson, a thirteen year old boy traveling in a small airplane to Canada to spend the summer with his father, is involved in a plane crash in an uninhabited part of the Canadian woods after the pilot dies of a heart attack. Brian then must find a way to survive and in the process, discovers much about himself and becomes a man.

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

This work was set in Berlin, 1942. When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home to a new house far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance. But, Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than what meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different to his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.