



West Milford Township Public Schools

46 Highlander Drive · West Milford, New Jersey 07480
(973) 697-1701 x7057 desk · (973) 208-0912 fax

Ms. Sharon A. West
K-12 Supervisor of English-Language Arts

Dr. Alex Anemone
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Daniel Novak
Director of Education

June 2018

Dear Families and Incoming Sixth Grade Students,

Welcome to Sixth Grade! In an effort to continue to provide you with practical information regarding your child's current reading level, please be reminded that during September and October, your child's teacher facilitated a Reading Benchmark Assessment to assess your child's Fountas and Pinnell reading level. This assessment measures a child's accuracy, comprehension, fluency, and rate while reading. This assessment helped inform teachers' instruction in addition to allowing teachers to document student progress across a school year. Teachers also used this information to group children into Guided Reading groups, and this information was pertinent as teachers created lessons to help children become better readers. Teachers facilitated this benchmark assessment again in June. Please note the letter (or letters) next to the field "Suggested Independent Text Level(s)." The independent or "Just Right" text levels are those that a child can read independently with a high level of accuracy and comprehension.

As you begin to enjoy your summer, please continue to make reading an important part of your family's activities. While reading instruction will be emphasized by your child's teacher throughout the school year, children need to continue to read during the summer months, not only for enjoyment, but also to sustain and strengthen skills they have already developed. We have provided a list of suggested titles that are appropriate for sixth grade children, but please do not limit yourselves to only the titles on this list. We ask that your child **read six to eight books or the equivalent of 600-800 pages** over the summer; however, you and your family are encouraged to read and reread as many books as you can!

To keep track of your child's accomplishments, please record the titles of all the books you read on the accompanying page, along with the number of pages per book. Your child's teacher will look to collect this sheet on **Friday, September 14, 2018**.

This summer the West Milford Schools are closely partnering with the West Milford Library and their summer reading program, "**Libraries Rock!**" The library hosts programs for children, teens, and adults throughout the summer.

Please also note some helpful tips and strategies included under the "Suggestions for At-Home Support" heading. These are practices that your family can employ to truly help make reading a wonderful experience for your child. Additionally, please explore the websites provided for further pertinent information.

All of this information can be accessed on the West Milford Schools' website at www.wmtps.org and at the West Milford Township Public Library. When you visit the library, the Children's Librarian will be happy to assist you in finding and selecting books for your child.



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It is our hope that with the combined efforts of both your child's teacher as well as your family, we can continue to see growth across the Literacy Continuum by supporting your child as an independent reader. You will notice as you review the Summer Reading List that most titles are leveled according to the Fountas and Pinnell letter system. If you and your child should choose a book that does not have a Fountas and Pinnell letter associated with it, you can look up the title on Scholastic's Bookwizzard website at: www.scholastic.com/bookwizzard.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Have a wonderful, word-filled summer!

Sharon A. West, MA, M. Ed.
K-12 Supervisor of English-Language Arts

Student's name: _____

Suggested Independent Text Level(s): _____

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUMMER READING SUGGESTED TITLES LIST

BOOKS TO SHARE WITH INCOMING FIFTH AND SIX GRADE STUDENTS
SUMMER 2018

Students Entering Grade 5

Baker, E.D. *The Frog Princess* U
Banks, Lynne Reid. *The Indian in the Cupboard* R
Burnford, Sheila. *The Incredible Journey* V
Byars, B. *The 18th Emergency* R
Choldenko, Gennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts* T
Clements, Andrew. *Frindle* R
Colfer, Eoin. *Artemis Fowl Series* W-Y
Creech, Sharon. *Love That Dog* T
Dahl, Roald. *James and the Giant Peach* Q
Danziger, Paula. *The Cat Ate My Gymsuit* U
Davis, Gibbs, Kathryn. *Wackiest White House Pets* R
DeClements, Barthe. *Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade* R
DeFelice, Cynthia. *Weasel* U
DiCamillo, Kate. *The Magician's Elephant* S/T
Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy* T
Fradin, Dennis Brindell. *Who Was Series*
Gaiman, Neil. *The Graveyard Book* U/V
Gilson, Jamie. *Do Bananas Chew Gum?* Q/R
Giovanni, Nikki. *Rosa* T
Goodman, Susan. *The Ultimate Field Trip Series*
- *Blasting off to Space Academy*
- *A Week in the 1800s* S
- *Stones, Bones, and Petroglyphs*
Gosciniy, Rene. *Nicholas and the Gang* X
Gutman, Dan. *The Homework Machine* Q
Karr, Kathleen. *The Great Turkey Walk* S/T
Kinney, Jeff. *Wimpy Kid Series*
Korman, Gordon. *Swindle* T

Law, Ingrid. *Saavy: Scumble*
Lawson, Robert. *Ben and Me* S
MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* R
Mazer, Anne. *The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes Series*
Neuschwander, Cindy. *Sir Cumference Series*
Park, Barbara. *Mick Harte Was Here* S, *Skinnybones* O/P
Paulsen, Gary. *My Life in Dog Years* S
Pennypacker, Sara. *The Talented Clementine* O
Riordan, Rick. *Percy Jackson Series* S/T
Rockwell, Thomas. *How to Eat Fried Worms* R
Scieszka, Jon. *The Time Warp Trio Series*
- *Math Curse* P
- *Science Verse*
Schmidt, G. D. *The Wednesday Wars* X/Y
Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square* S
Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* W
Silverstein, Shel. *A Light in the Attic*
Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me* S/T
White, E. B. *Charlotte's Web* R
Winthrop, Elizabeth. *The Castle in the Attic* R
Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little House Series*
Various Authors. *Dear America Series*

Students Entering Grade 6

Archbold, Rick. *Deep-Sea Explorer:
The Story of Robert Ballard, Discoverer of the Titanic* Z
Baker, E.D. *The Frog Princess* U
Baskin, Nora Raleigh. *Anything but Typical*
Balliet, Blue. *Chasing Vermeer* S
Cerullo, Mary M. *Sharks: Challengers of the Deep* T
Cleary, Beverly. *Strider* R
Clements, Andrew. *A Week in the Woods* T, *The School Story* R

Creech, Sharon. *The Wanderer* **V**, *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup* **R**
 dLacey, Chris. *The Last Dragon Chronicles* **T-Y**
 de Angeli, Marguerite. *The Door in the Wall* **U**
 DiCamillo, Kate. *The Tale of Despereaux* **U**
 Fraiser, Debra. *Miss Alaineus*
 Gaiman, Neil. *Coraline* **W**
 George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain* **U**
 Goodman, Susan. *The Ultimate Field Trip... Series*
 - *Blasting off to Space Academy*
 - *A Week in the 1800s* **S**
 - *Stones, Bones, and Petroglyphs*
 Gutman, Dan. *The Baseball Card Adventure Series*
 Higgins, F.E. *The Black Book of Secrets*
 Houston, James. *Long Claws* **T**
 Humphrey, Kathryn Long. *Pompeii: Nightmare at Midday* **Y**
 Juster, Norton. *Phantom Tollbooth* **W**
 Kehret, Peg. *Earthquake Terror* **X**
 Konigsburg, E.L. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* **S**
 Lewis, C. S. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* **T**
 Miller, Sarah. *Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller*
 Morris, Paula. *Ruined* **Z**
 Myers, W. D. *Mop, Moondance, and the Nagasaki Knights* **S**
 Nelson, K. *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*
 Paterson, Katherine. *The Great Gilly Hopkins* **S**
 Paulsen, Gary. *Guts* **X**
 Peck, Richard. *A Season of Gifts*
 Peck, Richard. *Here Lies the Librarian* **S**
 Potter, Ellen. *Slob*
 Prelutsky, Jack. *My Dog May Be A Genius*
 Riordan, Rick. *Percy Jackson Series* **S/T**
 Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter, Series*
 Sachar, Louis. *Holes* **V**
 Shalant, Phyllis. *Beware (of Kissing Lizard Lips)*
 Silverstein, Shel. *Falling Up*
 Simon, Seymour. *Animals Nobody Loves* **Q**
 Snickett, Lemony. *A Series of Unfortunate Events Series*
 Spinelli, Jerry. *Maniac Magee* **W**
 Steward, T.L. *Mysterious Benedict Society Series*
 St. George, Judith. *So You Want to Be President* **S**
 Yep, Lawrence. *Dragonwings* **W**, *The Starfisher* **S**

Also consider reading:

- Books of personal interest
- Other books by the same authors
- Old favorites over and over!

Another great resource to help you find books is:

www.readkiddoread.com

Finding a book that is right for you:

- Select a book you would like to read.
- Look through the book and read a page.
- Every time you come to a word you don't know, count it on your finger.
- If you use up five or more fingers by the end of the page, the book is too difficult for you to read independently, but read it with your parent.
- Select another book to read independently.

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUMMER READING PROGRAM

INCOMING SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS
SUMMER 2018

Name: _____

September 2018 Teacher: _____

My family and I have read the following books (please include the **number of pages** per book) as part of the Summer Reading Program:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

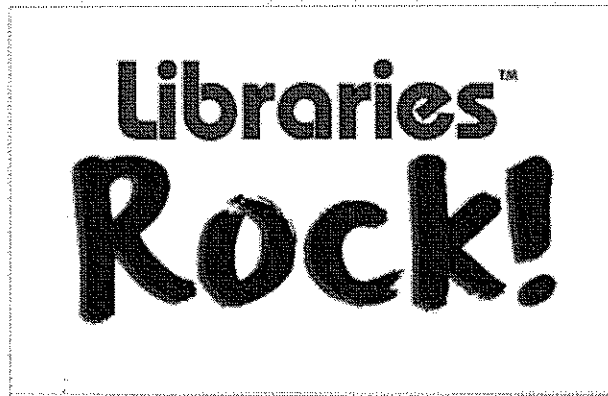
Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your child's teacher will collect this form on **Friday, September 14, 2018.**

Suggestions for At-Home Literacy Support

- Engage and participate in family “read-aloud” nights whereby family members “buddy-read” (take turns reading every other page) with your child.
- Encourage your child to read aloud to you, re-tell a story to you, or follow along with the pictures and the text as you read aloud to him or her.
- Suggest your child reread his or her favorite books to help improve fluency.
- Listen to audio books in the car during travel
- Point out words in print which appear in places like your home, the grocery store, street signs, etc.
- Talk with your child about the books he or she is reading or that you are reading together.
- Take your child to get his or her first library card
- Let your child see you reading (and writing!)
- Celebrate reading growth, progress, and successes!

Additional Literacy Resources and Information



- National Center for Family Literacy
<http://www.familit.org>
 - International Reading Association
<http://www.reading.org>
 - Scholastic
<http://www.scholastic.com/parents>
 - West Milford Township Public Library
<http://www.wmtl.org>
- <http://www.readkiddoread.com>