



www.portchesterschools.org

Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District

Port Chester Middle School
113 Bowman Avenue
Port Chester, New York 10573
914.934.7930

Mr. Patrick Swift
Principal

June 2018

Dear incoming 6th grade parents/guardians,

Can you hear the call of the waves and anticipate the silence of the alarm clock? Yes! Summer is quickly approaching and we all are looking forward to this needed downtime to recharge our batteries. And there is no greater way to recharge your energy than to escape with a great book!

We are excited to announce this year's 6th grade summer reading assignment. Incoming 6th graders will be required to read three short stories of their choice from the book Baseball in April by Gary Soto. After reading the stories they will answer a few response prompts and complete a character analysis assignment of their choice. The goal behind reading this book is to offer students the opportunity to have a common thread on which to start the year's discussions. We will begin the year with a character analysis unit using various texts and a book of your child's choosing. If students are able to read Baseball in April in its entirety over the summer, we encourage this.

As always, our goal is to promote reading for all students and continue to develop an appreciation and enjoyment for reading. Please encourage your children to read other books throughout the summer at their leisure.

The summer reading assignment is due September 18, 2018. Late assignments will lose 5 points each day they are late. No assignment will be accepted after September 18, 2018.

Thank you so much for supporting our summer reading program!

Happy summer,

6th Grade Reading Teachers

Alison Hembury, Sara Morabito and Maria Ruggiero





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Estimado padres de sexto grado,

¿Puede escuchar la llamada de las olas o pueden anticipar el silencio del despertador? ¡Sí! El verano se está acercando rápidamente y todos estamos felices porque podemos aprovechar el tiempo libre que necesitamos para recargar nuestras baterías. ¡No hay mayor manera de recargar su energía como escapar con un buen libro!

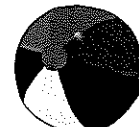
Nos enorgullece informarles sobre las lecturas que sus hijos (as) deben leer este año. Es obligatorio que los estudiantes de sexto grado lean tres cuentos de su elección del libro Baseball in April de Gary Soto. Después de leer las historias van a responder a algunas indicaciones de respuesta y completar una tarea de análisis de su elección. Pretendemos que con la lectura de este libro los estudiantes tengan la oportunidad de participar en una conversación con sus compañeros tras comenzar el nuevo año escolar. Estaremos comenzando el año con una unidad de análisis de carácter utilizando diversos textos y un libro de la elección de su hijo. Animamos a los estudiantes que leen el libro Baseball in April durante el verano.

Como siempre, nuestro objetivo es promover la lectura y desarrollar una apreciación para leer. Por favor anime a sus hijo (a) a que lea otros libros durante las vacaciones de verano.

Las lecturas se deben entregar el 18 de septiembre del próximo año escolar. La tardanza de las lecturas será penalizada con 5 puntos per dia. El ultimo dia para recibir las lecturas es el 18 de septiembre de 2018.

¡ Muchas gracias por apoyar nuestro programa de lectura y por supuesto felices vacaciones!

Los maestros de lectura del sexto grado, Alison Hembury, Sara Morabito y María Ruggiero



Name _____ Assignment Score: ____/10 Reading/ELA teacher _____

Part 1: Read and Respond:

Directions: Choose 3 stories in the book Baseball in April to read. Read the stories carefully and then complete the response prompt on lined paper or you may type your responses. Read questions carefully before answering.

All responses should be written in complete sentences using evidence from the text. Responses should be 2-4 sentences in length.

Title	Pages	Vocabulary	Response Prompts
<i>Broken Chain</i>	1-12	Apparent Canal Aztec Sullen Swaggered Gaudy Gleamed Winced	<p>Write a paragraph about the hardships that Alfonso faced in his life.</p> <p>Write a second paragraph explaining your opinion about Alfonso's personality. Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p>
<i>Baseball in April</i>	13-22	Grounders reassurance anxious grunt stiffened gazing	<p>In your opinion is <i>Baseball in April</i> a happy or a sad story? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p> <p>What do you think the <u>theme</u> of this story is? Support your opinion by using evidence from the text.</p>
<i>Two Dreamers</i>	23-32	Craning Cologne Stucco Stubble Wrought-iron Sloberly	<p>Why do you think the author entitled this story, <i>Two Dreamers</i>? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p> <p>What do you think the author's purpose was in writing <i>Two Dreamers</i>? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p>
<i>Barbie</i>	33-42	Nestled Gadget Impostor Feigning Preoccupied Yacht	<p>What do you think is the <u>author's message</u> in <i>Barbie</i>? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p> <p>Why do you think that Barbie has been a popular toy in America for so many decades?</p>
<i>The No-Guitar Blues</i>	43-51	mission warehouseman grimy skyward gripping tinkling deceitful reluctantly	<p>What do you think that the <u>theme</u> of this story is? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p> <p>In your opinion what was the <u>author's purpose</u> in writing this story? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p>
<i>Seventh Grade</i>	52-59	Sly Trudged Portly Unison Glimpse Bustled Populace	<p>Victor elects to take French because he dreams of traveling to France. Describe why you would like to travel to a certain place in the world.</p> <p>Why were rose bushes used for a metaphor? Why do you think Victor is going to like 7th grade. Identify and thoroughly explain two reasons from the text. Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text.</p>
	60-68	molten gloated	

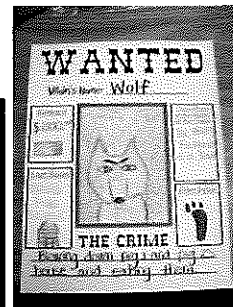
<i>Mother and Daughter</i>		matinees croquet hassock velvet grunting	In what ways are Yollie and her mother alike and different? Write down the details that help reveal one of Yollie's character traits. What trait do Yollie's feelings and actions reveal?
<i>The Karate Kid</i>	69-80	Ramshackle Aggressive Gorged Stock Taunted Biceps Stance Spar Feint	What kind of person is Gilbert? What is your opinion of him? Use examples from the text to support your opinions.
<i>La Bamba</i>	81-89	Limelight Pharmacist Pantomime Verge Snickered Mingled Awe Jargon	Identify 5 details that make the main character, Manuel and his experiences, come alive for you.
<i>The Marble Champ</i>	90-96	Rummaged Budge Exhaustion Agate Hypnotic Reluctantly Quivering Instinct	Marbles is a game that was once extremely popular in America. Games are often handed down in families or by friends. What games have you learned to play well? What is your favorite? Explain why it is your favorite.
Growing Up	91-10 7	trinkets stricken poverty mines drenched artificial trellis miffed	Do you think that Maria made the right decision? Why or why not? Support your opinion by using specific evidence from the text. Describe your favorite vacation. Explain why it is your favorite.

Part 2: Character Analysis project:

Directions: Choose one of the following activities based on one of the stories you read from the book *Baseball in April* by Gary Soto.

1. Create a comic strip of your favorite character.
2. Pretend you are a character from the story. Write a letter to any other character (At least two paragraphs).
3. Create a "Wanted" poster for any character. Be sure to include the following in your poster:
 - 1.) Graphic Image with full name + any Aliases
 - 3) Physical description (height, weight, eye/hair color, identifying marks, clothing, etc.)
 - 4) List what the individual has done to cause his pursuers to want him/her Dead or Alive.
 - 5) Who is looking for him/her?
 - 6) Last Seen
 - 7) Reward

All work must be completed on 8 ½ x 11 paper. Be creative and neat.



6th grade Summer Reading Rubric

Rubric Score	Criteria
4	A 4-Point response is submitted on time. This response clearly demonstrates understanding of the task, completes all requirements, and provides an insightful explanation/opinion that links to or extends aspects of the text.
3	A 3-Point response demonstrates an understanding of the task, completes all requirements, and provides some explanation/opinion using situations or ideas from the text as support.
2	A 2-Point response may address all of the requirements, but demonstrates a partial understanding of the task, and uses text incorrectly or with limited success resulting in an inconsistent or flawed explanation.
1	A 1-Point response demonstrates minimal understanding of the task, does not complete requirements, and provides only a vague reference to or no use of the text.
0	A 0-Point response indicates that the assignment has not been turned into the teacher.

Total points earned for the summer reading assignment:

Rubric Score of 4: 9 or 10 points

Rubric Score of 3: 6-8 points

Rubric Score of 2: 3-5 points

Rubric Score of 1: 1 or 2 points