

## Everest Team Summer Reading – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Welcome to Sussex Academy! We are looking forward to spending the next two years with you. Each summer, you will be given summer reading and math assignments. We are not doing this to torture you! It is important that you use your math and reading skills during the extended break so you don't lose them. Research shows that students can lose more than three months of progress made in the last academic year during the summer break.

This year, the summer reading assignment requires all incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders to read one assigned book and one self-selected book. The assigned book for this year is *Dead End in Norvelt* by Jack Gantos. This book will be the text we use to kick off the school year; because of that, I recommend you purchase a copy of the book. While it is not required that students buy the summer reading books, having a copy of the book for the start of the year would assist you in completing the activities we will be doing.

Your self-selected book must come the list below. Because we will not be using this book for classroom instruction, feel free to borrow it from the library, download onto it an ereader, or borrow someone's copy.

You will also need to complete the attached journal assignments. There are 4 for each book – eight in total. They will also be available on the school website and in the front office of the NEW school. Please try your best and read the directions carefully. If you have questions, you can email me at [karen.willey@saas.k12.de.us](mailto:karen.willey@saas.k12.de.us). I won't check my email everyday, but I will check each week.

You will need to turn these in on the first day of school. Please turn them in stapled with your first and last name on the front. **Please do not place them in a folder or binder.** Happy Reading!

### Sixth Grade Book List

**Out of My Mind** by Sharon Draper:

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom—the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged, because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow. In this breakthrough story—reminiscent of *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*—from multiple Coretta Scott King Award-winner Sharon Draper, readers will come to know a brilliant mind and a brave spirit who will change forever how they look at anyone with a disability.

**Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie** by Jordan Sonnenblick:

Thirteen-year-old Steven has a totally normal life: he plays drums in the All-Star Jazz band, has a crush on the hottest girl in the school, and is constantly annoyed by his five-year-old brother, Jeffrey. But when Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven's world is turned upside down. He is forced to deal with his brother's illness and his parents' attempts to keep the family in one piece. Salted with humor and peppered with devastating realities, DRUMS, GIRLS, AND DANGEROUS PIE is a heartwarming journey through a year in the life of a family in crisis.

**Among the Hidden** by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows – does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford not to?

**Rush for the Gold: Mystery at the Olympics** by John Feinstein

Bestselling sportswriter and Edgar Award winner John Feinstein is back with another sports mystery featuring Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson—this one set at the summer Olympics in London. In this book, Susan Carol isn't a reporter—she's an Olympian, competing as a swimmer at her first Olympic games. Stevie is both proud and envious of her athletic prowess. And he's worried by the agents and sponsors and media all wanting to get up close and personal with Susan Carol. But the more disturbing question becomes—how far might they go to ensure that America's newest Olympic darling wins gold?

Sports novels abound, but Feinstein's books are all stars. They combine sports action, high-stakes mysteries, and behind-the-scenes glimpses of big-time sporting events.

**Stormbreaker** by Anthony Horowitz

They told him his uncle died in a car accident. But fourteen-year-old Alex knows that's a lie, and the bullet holes in his uncle's windshield confirm his suspicions. But nothing could prepare him for the news that the uncle he always thought he knew was really a spy for MI6-Britain's top-secret intelligence agency. Recruited to find his uncle's killers and complete his final mission, Alex suddenly finds himself caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse. After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.

**Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark** by Ridley Pearson and David Frankland

In this fantastical thriller, five young teens tapped as models for theme park "guides" find themselves pitted against Disney villains and witches that threaten both the future of Walt Disney World and the stability of the world outside its walls. Using a cutting-edge technology called DHI—which stands for both Disney Host Interactive and Daylight Hologram Imaging—Finn Whitman, an Orlando teen, and four other kids are transformed into hologram projections that guide guests through the park. The new technology turns out, however, to have unexpected effects that are both thrilling and scary. Soon Finn finds himself transported in his DHI form into the Magic Kingdom at night. Is it real? Is he dreaming? Finn's confusion only increases when he encounters Wayne, an elderly Imagineer who tells him that the park is in grave danger. Led by the scheming witch, Maleficent, a mysterious group of characters called the Overtakers is plotting to destroy Disney's beloved realm, and maybe more. This gripping high-tech tale will thrill every kid who has ever dreamed of sneaking into Walt Disney World after hours and wondered what happens at night, when the park is closed.

**Sixth Grade Summer Reading Journal Assignments**  
**Book 1, Journal 1**

Title of Book \_\_\_\_\_

Good readers make pictures in their mind as they read. This is a chance to share some of what you visualized while you read this book. Draw a picture of a scene, a setting, or a character. To further support your picture, include a list of text details (6 to 10) that helped you create this image. Make sure you use at least three colors in your picture.

Score Point	Description
3	My drawing has relevant details and reflects a distinct part of the book. I used at least three colors in my drawing and included a satisfactory list of text details that adequately support my drawing.
2	My drawing has limited relevant details. I only used two colors in my drawing and included a list of text details that somewhat support my drawing.
1	My drawing is not clearly related to my book. I did not use any color (pencil only) and I did not include a list of text details.
0	My journal entry is incomplete or incorrect.





Book 1, Journal 4

The words a writer chooses are an important ingredient of the author's craft. While you are reading, be on the lookout for words that you don't understand, those that you recognize but are unsure of the meaning, and vocabulary words that are essential to understanding the book. Record the sentence in which the word appears and the page number as you are reading. Later, without using the dictionary, use the clues in the text to come up with a definition. You will then need to look up the words in a dictionary to see if you were able to correctly guess the contextual definition of your words.

Score Point	Description
3	My answers are complete and accurate.
2	My answers are complete and have several accurate definitions from the dictionary
1	My answers are incomplete and have many inaccuracies.
0	My journal entry was not attempted

Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition

**Sixth Grade Summer Reading Journal Assignments**  
**Book 2, Journal 1**

Title of Book \_\_\_\_\_

Good readers make pictures in their mind as they read. This is a chance to share some of what you visualized while you read this book. Draw a picture of a scene, a setting, or a character. To further support your picture, include a list of text details (6 to 10) that helped you create this image. Make sure you use at least three colors in your picture.

Score Point	Description
3	My drawing has relevant details and reflects a distinct part of the book. I used at least three colors in my drawing and included a satisfactory list of text details that adequately support my drawing.
2	My drawing has limited relevant details. I only used two colors in my drawing and included a list of text details that somewhat support my drawing.
1	My drawing is not clearly related to my book. I did not use any color (pencil only) and I did not include a list of text details.
0	My journal entry is incomplete or incorrect.







Book 2, Journal 4

The words a writer chooses are an important ingredient of the author's craft. While you are reading, be on the lookout for words that you don't understand, those that you recognize but are unsure of the meaning, and vocabulary words that are essential to understanding the book. Record the sentence in which the word appears and the page number as you are reading. Later, without using the dictionary, use the clues in the text to come up with a definition. You will then need to look up the words in a dictionary to see if you were able to correctly guess the contextual definition of your words.

Score Point	Description
3	My answers are complete and accurate.
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0	My journal entry was not attempted

Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition
Sentence with the word underlined		
Page #	Your guess	Dictionary definition

