

East Hampton Middle School - Grade 5 entering 6  
Summer Reading - School Year 2011-2012

Dear Parents, Students, and Family Members,

Yes – it's just days away! The lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are upon us, and everyone is eager to get out and enjoy our local beaches and the beautiful weather. But first we want to welcome you to Sixth Grade, and say how excited we are about seeing you again in September. The East Hampton Middle School is a warm and nurturing place to continue your studies, and we look forward to reading with you during your next three years in our building!

According to **Reading is Fundamental** (a national children's literacy organization) "All young people experience learning losses when they don't engage in educational activities during the summer." A scary thought – so its importance cannot be underestimated. So to that end, we've prepared an enticing Summer Reading list for you, along with the requirement that each student read *at least two books* over the summer from this list, or of their own choosing. Students should then be prepared to bring in one of those books to their ELA class the first week of school for discussion in their literature groups. (And as an attachment we've included two guided note-taking sheets, one for each book.) In addition, any student who participates in a state or public library Summer Reading Program will earn extra credit in their ELA class in the fall, upon presentation of a certificate or a note from their parents.

Now as a parent or guardian, you may be wondering how to motivate your child to read. If your child gobbles books up – well, then no problem! But what about the reluctant reader, the child who always starts a book but never finishes, or one who just plain says "I hate reading!"? Don't worry, we've all been there. My best suggestions are get them involved in a **Summer Reading Program** (The East Hampton Library, NYS Senator Ken LaValle's Summer Reading program, etc.), introduce them to great novels through **Book Trailers** (Youtube.com, Bookscreening.com, author websites, etc.), try a **Playaway** ([www.playaway.com](http://www.playaway.com)), **Books on Tape** (<http://library.booksontape.com/search.cfm?genre=36&>), or even an **e-book** (free from your local public library at <http://live-brary.com> or for sale for Kindles, Nooks, iPads, etc).

So be creative and spend some time thinking about what you can do to prevent the summer "brain-drain" – Try reading with your child or have them read to you! And remember: children DO as WE do, so grab a novel and show them how relaxing and rewarding getting lost in a good book can be!

Wishing you happy days, balmy nights, GOOD READS – and a safe summer!

Sincerely,  
Elisabeth Cotter, Librarian, and the Sixth Grade Team

East Hampton Middle School  
Summer Reading Book List  
June, 2011  
Grade 6  
(Grade 5 entering Grade 6)

**All New!**

*The Flirt Club* – Cathleen Daly  
*Cheesie Mack is Not a Genius or Anything* – Steve Cotler  
*Warp Speed* – Lisa Yee  
*The Genius Files* – Dan Gutman  
*Johnny Swanson* – Eleanor Updale  
*No Passengers Beyond This Point* – Gennifer Choldenko  
*A Tale of Two Castles* – Gail Carson Levine  
*True (...sort of)* – Katherine Hannigan  
*The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making* – Catherynne M. Valente  
*Death Cloud* – Andrew Lane  
*Take Me to the River* – Will Hobbs  
*The Trouble with Chickens: A J.J. Tully Mystery* – Doreen Cronin  
*Okay for Now* – Gary D. Schmidt  
*The Floating Islands* – Rachel Neumeier  
*What's Bugging Bailey Blecker?* – Gail Donovan  
*Liar, Liar: The Theory, Practice and Destructive Properties of Deception* – Gary Paulsen  
*The False Princess* – Ellis O'Neal  
*Small as an Elephant* – Jennifer Richard Jacobson  
*The Limping Man (Salt trilogy)* – Maurice Gee  
*The Trouble with May Amelia* – Jennifer L. Holm (sequel to *Our Only May Amelia*)

**Humor, Funny**

*The Scarecrow and his Servant* – Philip Pullman  
*Never Mind: A Twin Novel* – Avi  
*A Tale of Dark & Grimm* – Adam Gidwitz  
*The Seems: The Glitch in Sleep* – John Hulme  
*Diary of a Wimpy Kid* – Jeff Kinney  
*Lawn Boy* – Gary Paulsen  
*The Wednesday Wars* – Gary Schmidt  
*The Silver Spoon of Solomon Snow* – Kaye Umansky  
*Diary of a Fairy godmother* – Esme Raji Codell





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Program @ Your  
Local Library

### Historical Fiction

*One Crazy Summer* – Rita Williams-Garcia  
*Black Radishes* – Susan Lynn Meyer  
*The Smile* – Donna Jo Napoli  
*The Mystery of Rascal Pratt* – Robbie Scott  
*The Book of the Maidservant* – Rebecca Barnhouse  
*Listening for Lions* – Gloria Whelan  
*Fever 1793* – Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Elijah of Buxton* – Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Leonardo's Shadow: or, My Astonishing Life as Leonardo da Vinci's Servant* – Christopher Grey  
*Hitler's Canary* – Sandi Toksvig  
*Endymion Spring* – Matthew Skelton  
*Hattie Big Sky* – Kirby Larson  
*The Earth Dragon Awakes: The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906* – Laurence Yep  
*The Giant Rat of Sumatra: or Pirates Galore* – Sid Fleischman  
*The Sacrifice* – Kathleen Benner Duble  
*No Shame, No Fear* – Ann Turnbull

### Sports

*Southpaw* – Rich Wallace  
*Heat* – Mike Lupica  
*Summerland* – Michael Chabon  
*Satch and Me* – Dan Gutman  
*Last Shot : A Final Four Mystery* – John Feinstein  
*Airball: My Life in Briefs* – L.D. Harkrader  
*Babe and Me* – Dan Gutman  
*Choosing Up Sides* – John H. Ritter  
*Honus and Me* – Dan Gutman  
*Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time* – Lisa Yee  
*Jackie and Me* – Dan Gutman  
*Travel Team* – Mike Lupica  
*The Boy Who Saved Baseball* – John H. Ritter  
*Shoeless Joe and Me* – Dan Gutman

### Princesses, Fairy Tales, Witches

*Thornspell* – Helen Lowe  
*Goose Girl* – Shannon Hale  
*Once Upon a Marigold* – Jean Ferris  
*Just Ella* – Margaret Peterson Haddix  
*Not Just a Witch* – Eva Ibbotson

### Animals, Talking Animals

*Pond Scum* – Alan Silberberg  
*Rakkety Tam* – Brian Jacques  
*The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup  
and a Spool of Thread* – Kate DiCamillo  
*Hoot* – Carl Hiaasen  
*Because of Winn Dixie* – Kate DiCamillo  
*The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents* – Terry Pratchett  
*Redwall* series – Brian Jacques

### Mysteries, Spies, Ghosts

*Theodosia and the Staff of Osiris* – R.L. LaFevers  
*Masterpiece* – Elise Broach  
*Coraline* – Neil Gaiman  
*Silent to the Bone* – E.L. Konigsburg  
*Down the Rabbit Hole* – Peter Abrahams  
*The Invention of Hugo Cabret* – Brian Selznick  
*The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story* – Mary Downing Hahn  
*Dovey Coe* – Frances O'Roark Dowell  
*PaperQuake: A Puzzle* – Kathryn Reiss

### Fantasy, Magic

*How it Happened in Peach Hill* – Marthe Jocelyn  
*The Exiled Queen* – Cinda Williams Chima  
*The Shadows: The Book of Elsewhere – Vol. 1* – Jacqueline West  
*City of the Beasts* – Isabel Allende  
*The Secret of Platform 13* – Eva Ibbotson  
*The Capture (Guardians of Ga'hoole series)* – Kathryn Lasky  
*Eragon* series – Christopher Paolini  
*Redwall* series – Brian Jacques  
*Inkheart Trilogy* – Cornelia Funke





### Horror, Ghosts, Scary

*The Crossroads* – Chris Grabenstein

*This Totally Bites!* – Ruth Ames

*Splurch Academy for Disruptive Boys: The Rat Brain Fiasco* – Julie Gardner

*Nocturne* – L.D. Harkrader

*Zombiekins* – Kevin Bolger

### Mermaids, Selkies, Fairies, Trolls

*The Tail of Emily Windsnap* – Liz Kessler

*The New Policeman* – Kate Thompson

*Horns and Wrinkles* – Joseph Helgerson

*Ingo* – Helen Dunmore

*Pirate Curse* – Kai Meyer

*Peter and the Starcatchers* – Dave Barry

*The Sea of Trolls* – Nancy Farmer

*Aquamarine* – Alice Hoffman

*Island of the Aunts* – Eva Ibbotson

*The Folk Keeper* – Franny Billingsley

### Classics

*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* – Jules Verne

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* – Betty Smith

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* – Mark Twain

*Anne of Green Gables* – L.M. Montgomery

*Johnny Tremain* – Esther Forbes

*The Last of the Mohicans* – James Fenimore Cooper

*Little Women* – Louisa May Alcott

*Little Men* – Louisa May Alcott

*The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* – Howard Pyle

*My Friend Flicka* – Mary O'Hara

*National Velvet* – Enid Bagnold

*The Red Pony* – John Steinbeck

*Robinson Crusoe* – Daniel Defoe

## Adventure

*Peter and the Starcatchers* – Dave Barry  
*The Name of this Book is Secret* – Pseudonymous Bosch  
*The Spiderwick Chronicles* – Holly Black  
*Treasure Island* – Robert Louis Stevenson  
*The Incredible Journey* – Shiela Burnford  
*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* - E. L. Konigsburg  
*The Call of the Wild* – Jack London  
*Waterford Downs* – Richard Adams  
*Stuart Little* – E.B. White

## Series, Sequels

*The 39 Clues* series - various authors  
*Percy Jackson* series – Rick Riordan  
*The Tia Lola* series – Julia Alvarez  
*Wave Walkers* series – Kai Meyer  
*Ana Hibiscus* series - Atinuke  
*Alex Rider* series – Anthony Horowitz  
*Cirque du Freak* series – Darren Shan  
*Pendragon* series– D.J. MacHale and others  
*Solomon Snow* series – Kaye Umansky  
*Echo Falls* series – Peter Abrahams  
*A Dog Called Grk* series– Josh Doder  
*Warriors* series – Erin Hunter  
*Roman Mysteries* series – Caroline Lawrence  
*Jimmy Coates* series – Joe Craig  
*Artemis Fowl* series – Eoin Colfer  
*The Royal Diaries* series – various authors  
*The Chronus Chronicles* – Anne Ursu  
*Mismantle Chronicles* – M.I. McAllister  
*Bartimaeus Trilogy* - Jonathan Stroud  
*High Seas Trilogy* – Iain Lawrence  
*Chasing Vermeer* and others – Blue Balliett





### Award Winners

*Mockingbird* – Kathryn Erskine  
*Moon Over Manifest* – Clare Vanderpool  
*One Crazy Summer* – Rita Williams-Garcia  
*The Storm in the Barn* – Matt Phelan  
*The Dreamer* – Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Return to Sender* – Julia Alvarez  
*Our Only May Amelia* – Jennifer L. Holm  
*Heart of a Samurai* – Margi Preus  
*Chains* – Laurie Halse Anderson  
*90 Miles to Havana* – Enrique Flores-Galbis  
*Lockdown* – Walter Dean Myers  
*The Green Glass Sea* – Ellen Klages  
*Turtle in Paradise* – Jennifer L. Holm  
*The Firefly Letters: A Suffragette's Journey to Cuba* – Margarita Engle  
*The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy* – Jeanne Birdsall  
*The Tequila Worm* – Viola Canales  
*Ninth Ward* – Jewell Parker Rhodes  
*Kira-Kira* – Cynthia Kadohata  
*Samir and Yonatan* - Daniella Carmi  
*After Ever After* – Jordan Sonnenblick  
*The Moorchild* – Eloise McGraw  
*The Midwife's Apprentice* – Karen Cushman

### Award Winners - Non-fiction

*The Day-Glo Brothers: The True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer's Bright Ideas and Brand-New Colors* - Chris Barton  
*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* – Phillip Hoose  
*Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11* – Brian Floca  
*Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* – Deborah Heiligman  
*We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball* – Kadir Nelson  
*Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon* – Catherine Thimmesh  
*Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley* – Sally M. Walker  
*Blizzard! The Storm that Changed America* – Jim Murphy

### Old Favorites

*A Day No Pigs Would Die* – Robert Newton Peck  
*The Chocolate War* – Robert Cormier  
*Dragonson* – Anne McCaffrey  
*The Golden Compass* - Philip Pullman  
*My Brother Sam is Dead* – James and Christopher Collier  
*The Pigman* – Paul Zindel  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* – Mildred D. Taylor  
*The Wind in the Willow* – Kenneth Graham  
*Where the Red Fern Grows* - Wilson Rawls  
*A Wrinkle in Time* – Madeleine L'Engle  
*The Yearling* – Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

### Favorite Authors

Carl Hiaasen (*Hoot, Flush, Scat*)  
Rick Riordan (*The Red Tent, The Lost Hero, Percy Jackson series*)  
Gordon Korman (*Zoobreak, Swindle, Schooled*)  
Lois Lowry (*Gossamer, Number the Stars*)  
Mike Lupica (*Heat, Miracle on 49<sup>th</sup> Street*)  
Jerry Spinelli (*Loser, Smiles to Go, Maniac Magee, Milkweed*)  
Dave Barry (*Peter and the Starcatchers, Peter and the Shadow Thieves*)  
Linda Sue Park (*A Single Shard, Archer's Quest, The Kite Fighters, When My Name Was Keoko*)  
Gary Paulsen (*Hatchet, Brian's Hunt, The River, Dogsong, Soldier's Heart*)  
Joseph Bruchac (*Code Talker, The Heart of a Chief, Bearwalker*)  
Brian Jacques (*Redwall series, Voyage of Slaves*)  
Anthony Horowitz (*Alex Rider, The Switch, Diamond Brother Mysteries*)  
Pam Munoz Ryan (*The Dreamer, Becoming Naomi Leon, Esperanza Rising, Riding Freedom*)





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### Compelling Non-Fiction

*Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* – Candace Fleming

*George Washington, Spymaster: How the American Outspied the British  
and Won the Revolutionary War* – Thomas B. Allen

*Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family and Fighting to Get Back on the Board* – Bethany Hamilton

*Tom Thumb: The Remarkable True Story of a Man in Miniature* – George Sullivan

*Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World...One Child at a Time* – Mortenson, Greg

*Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy* – Andrea Warren

*Close to Shore: The Terrifying Shark Attacks of 1916* – Michael Capuzzo

*Baseball's Biggest Bloopers: The Games that Got Away* – Dan Gutman

*This is Rocket Science: True Stories of the Risk-Taking Scientists Who Figure Out Ways  
to Explore Beyond Earth* – Gloria Skurzynski



## Student Recommendations for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Going Into Sixth

Here is a list of titles that last year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade read and loved!

<i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i>	Kate DiCamillo
<i>The Transall Saga</i>	Gary Paulsen
<i>The Pendragon Series</i>	D. J. MacHale and others
<i>Percy Jackson Series</i>	Rick Riordan
<i>The Vampire's Assistant</i>	Darren Shan
<i>Black Duck</i>	Janet Taylor Lisle
<i>Griffin's Castle</i>	Jenny Nimmo
<i>Esperanza Rising</i>	Pam Munoz Ryan
<i>A Gathering of Days</i>	Joan W. Blos
<i>Sign of the Beaver</i>	Elizabeth George Speare
<i>Sixth Grade Secrets</i>	Louis Sachar
<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>	Jean Craighead George
<i>The Girl Who Could Fly</i>	Victoria Forester
<i>The View from Saturday</i>	E.L. Konigsburg
<i>Ice Drift</i>	Theodore Taylor
<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i>	Jeff Kinney
<i>Swindle</i>	Gordon Korman
<i>Within Reach: My Everest Story</i>	Mark Pfetzer & Jack Galvin
<i>Satch &amp; Me</i>	Dan Gutman
<i>The Castle in the Attic</i>	Elizabeth Winthrop
<i>The Journey</i>	Kathryn Lasky
<i>Rules</i>	Cynthia Lord
<i>Flygirl</i>	Sherri L. Smith
<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Eoin Colfer
<i>Tangerine</i>	Edward Bloor
<i>Seer of the Shadows</i>	AVI
<i>The Batboy</i>	Mike Lupica
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>	Scott O'Dell
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Madeleine L'Engle
<i>Treasure Island</i>	Robert Louis Stevenson
<i>Scorpia (An Alex Rider Adventure)</i>	Anthony Horowitz
<i>The 39 Clues</i>	various authors
<i>Runt</i>	Marion Dane Bauer
<i>Best Friends Forever: a WWII Scrapbook</i>	Beverly Patt
<i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</i>	James Swanson
<i>Schooled</i>	Gordon Korman
<i>Coraline</i>	Neil Gaiman
<i>Hachiko Waits</i>	Leslea Newman
<i>Hero</i>	Mike Lupica

**EHMS Literature Note-Taking Template**

For each book you read this summer, complete this note-taking template to assist you in your Literature Group discussions this September!

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Character: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor Characters: \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the place *and* time of the action.

Main Event, Problem or Conflict if it exists:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Use complete sentences.

Resolution or Story's Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Major Theme, Message or Idea:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Overall Evaluation: Loved It? Not for you? Would you recommend it to another 6<sup>th</sup> Grader? If not, then why so?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

And don't forget to bring to ELA class your favorite Summer Read to share with others!

**SIT.....READ.....RELAX!**

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