

Incoming Sixth Grade - English Language Arts - Mr. Brendan Moloney
Summer Reading Assignment 2024

Middle School English Language Arts class focuses on developing reading, writing, and grammar skills. To help prepare the students for a more literature based instruction in middle school, they must read **two books** over the summer months and complete an assigned **writing packet**. You may choose to either purchase a **paperback copy** or **iBooks copy** of the novels. Additional assessments will be given during the **first full week of school in September**.

Incoming Sixth Grade:

Mandatory Reading:

1. Refugee by Alan Gratz
2. Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

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Directions: Students must complete the Character Captain activity on mandatory **book #1** and the Clever Connector activity on mandatory **book #2**. Please complete each activity on loose leaf paper with the proper school heading.

Character Captain

Your job is to MEET and UNDERSTAND the characters in the story. Write about their feelings.

- What are their thoughts?
- How do you think they should be acting?
- Are they like you or people that you know?
- Why is the character important to the story?
- How have they changed throughout the story?
- If you could change one thing about this character, what would it be and why would you change this?

Task Requirements: You will choose **TWO characters**. Your character summaries should be about a half-page each. Please be descriptive in your writing.

Clever Connector

Your job is to find connections between the book and something else. The three main types of connections are:

- **Text-to-Text Connections:** Sometimes a story will make you think of another book, article, informational text, or primary source that you have read or heard about.
- **Text-to-Self Connections:** Sometimes a story will remind you about something that happened in your own life such as a birthday party, a vacation, a pet, a school event, etc. Sometimes, the text-to-self connection is about an event that happened in someone else's life such as an aunt, a friend, your pet, etc.
- **Text-to-World Connections:** Sometimes a story will make you think about something that is happening or has happened in the world.

Task Requirements: You will write a 5-7 sentence paragraph for each connection.