

2020-2021  
Sixth Grade  
Summer Reading



May, 2020

Dear Parents and Rising Sixth Grade Class,

As the 2019-20 school year draws to a close, it is my pleasure to present to you our 2020 Summer Reading Assignment. Summer reading is an important activity for your child's intellectual growth and development. It encourages students to continue learning while still providing them with fun and enjoyment. What helps make reading entertaining for children is allowing them the freedom to choose books that speak to their unique interests. The attached assignment was created with the assistance of the English department and school librarians. All rising sixth grade students for the 2020-21 school year are required to read at least TWO books and complete the attached assignment worksheets. Copies of this assignment will be available in the school office. This assignment will be due the first Friday following the start of school.

Have a wonderful summer!  
Cathy Burns

Activity One:  
Amos Fortune (see attached)

Activity Two:  
My Side of the Mountain (see attached)

Activity One:  
Amos Fortune

- A. What are themes in literature? Research this topic and be ready to discuss the topic with us in class when school resumes
- B. Make a list of all the possible themes you saw in Amos Fortune. Create a list as part of your assignment.
- C. Use oil pastels to create an illustration portraying at least two of the major themes from the book. I will display these upon our return to school. I suggest using paper and crayons as a practice run. You can get a stretched canvas at Pat Catans for between \$1.00 and \$3.99. Use the 9 x 12 inch size.
- D. Use your illustration to help the rest of the class understand why the author, Elizabeth Yates, likely wrote this book.

Activity Two:  
My Side of the Mountain

In the book, *My Side of the Mountain*, by Jean Craighead George, Sam Gribley runs away to the Catskill Mountains to find his grandfather's forgotten land. In this activity you will see photographs from the Catskill Mountains. What details do you notice about each season? How would survival change as the weather changes? Which photographs draw your curiosity?

You will visit the area that Sam traveled and create a scrapbook of the seasonal changes that Sam adapts to as he learns to survive in the wilderness.

### **The Process: Exploring the Web, Creating a Product**

Google search ***Catskill Mountains*** and click on ***images*** for a large selection of photos.

1. Look at the photos.
2. Select a total of four photos to represent each of the seasons.
3. Write a caption for each of the photos.
4. Each caption should include prediction about the seasonal changes occurring in the Catskill Mountains and how they might affect Sam's ability to adapt.
5. This project should be your original design and include FOUR photos.

Create a "photobook" with your designs showing the Catskill Mountains and its seasonal changes. You may include two photos per page or you may use a separate page for each season.