

# Language & Literature Grades 6 - 8

## Summer Reading Book Bag Report Guidelines

**Due Date:** Monday, August 7, 2023 (First Day of School)

**Dear Parents,**

Below are resources that provide lists of engaging and well-written stories that represent a variety of genres. Your child should choose one book, according to their interest and reading ability, from the website links or the attached reading lists for their grade level. Please note that while we endeavor to choose books that are representative of appropriate content, age level, and maturity, we recommend you research the suggested selections to ensure your child's book choice is suitable for him or her. You may find these sites helpful in discerning the best publication for your child: [www.squeakycleanreviews.com](http://www.squeakycleanreviews.com), [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org), or [www.thrivingfamily.com](http://www.thrivingfamily.com)

**Reading List Resources:** Select a book from one of the websites via the attached link or from the grade level lists provided below. **If you have a book of interest that is not on the websites or attached lists, you may read your book**, as long as it is not one you have previously read.

**\*\*\*Note\*\*\*** Prior to reading your book, please click on the arbookfind.com link below to make sure that your book is one you will be able to take an accelerated reading (AR) test on so that it will count towards your AR points when school resumes. Please click on this link to verify if the book is on the AR list. <https://www.arbookfind.com/default.aspx>

The link below provides a list of recommended books for 7th and 8th grade. You may click on the link for the book to get an overview of it. If you click on the drop-down arrow on the green "Want to Read" button and then click READ, the site will take you to the registration page to create an account to access the book for online reading. If you choose a book from this site, remember to validate that it qualifies for Accelerated Reader (AR) before reading it so that it counts towards your AR points.

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/36857.PCS\\_7th\\_8th\\_Grade\\_Summer\\_Reading\\_List](https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/36857.PCS_7th_8th_Grade_Summer_Reading_List)

The link below for the Mensaforkids.org website provides a list of various titles from which to select. You may search for the title online to get an overview of the book or you may type the title into AR Book Find to get an overview, as well as to validate if it qualifies for Accelerated Reader (AR). Please note that **it is not required** to sign the agreement at the end of this reading list.

<https://www.mensaforkids.org/achieve/excellence-in-reading/excellence-in-reading-7-8-list/>

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**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List**

**Title**

*A Wrinkle in Time*

*Ban This Book*

*Brian's Winter*

*Bridge to Terabithia*

*Bud, Not Buddy*

*Ender's Game*

*Esperanza Rising*

*Front Desk*

*Frindle*

*The Giver*

*Ground Zero (Gratz)*

*Harry Potter (ANY)*

*Hatchet*

*Holes*

*Hunger Games*

*I Am Malala: Young Readers*

*Indian in the Cupboard*

*No Talking*

*Number the Stars*

*Restart*

*Redwall*

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

*Shooting the Moon*

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*Swindle*

*The Bad Beginning*

*The Report Card*

*The Miracle Worker*

*The Vanishings (Jenkins)*

*Things Not Seen*

*Three Good Deeds*

*Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963*

*Where the Red Fern Grows*

*Wildfire*

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List**

**Title**

**Author**

*Watership Down*

Adams, Richard

*Wolves of Willoughby Chase*

Aiken, Joan

*Before We Were Free*

Alvarez, Julia

*A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal*

Blos, Joan

*The Incredible Journey*

Burnford, Sheila

*My Brother Sam is Dead*

Collier, James

*Bud, Not Buddy*

Curtis, Christopher

*Catherine, Called Birdy*

Cushman, Karen

*The Chosen*

Dekker, Ted

*The Three Musketeers*

Dumas, Alexandre

*Out of Darkness: The Story of Louis Braille*

Freedman, Russell

*The Double Life of Pocahontas*

Fritz, Jean

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<i>Dragon Rider</i>	Funke, Cornelia
<i>The Miracle Worker</i>	Gibson, William
<i>Found/ Caught/Sent</i>	Haddix, Margaret
<i>Olive's Ocean</i>	Henkes, Kevin
<i>Beardance</i>	Hobbs, Will
<i>The Goose Girl</i>	Hale, Shannon
<i>Redwall series</i>	Jacques, Brian
<i>Mark of the Dragonfly</i>	Johnson, Jaleigh
<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i>	Juster, Norton
<i>Cracker! Best Dog in Vietnam</i>	Kadohata, Cynthia
<i>The Jungle Book</i>	Kipling, Rudyard
<i>The View from Saturday</i>	Konigsburg, E. L.
<i>Onion</i>	Krumgold, Joseph John
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	L'Engle, Madeline
<i>Hana's Suitcase: A True Story</i>	Levine, Karen
<i>Gathering Blue</i>	Lowry, Lois
<i>Homer Price</i>	McCloskey, Robert
<i>The Golden Goblet</i>	McGraw, Eloise
<i>Mara, Daughter of the Nile</i>	McGraw, Eloise
<i>The Spy Who Came in From the Sea</i>	Nolan, Peggy
<i>The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt by Day</i>	O'Dell, Scott
<i>Hatchet</i>	Paulsen, Gary
<i>The River</i>	Paulsen, Gary
<i>Eragon series</i>	Paolini, Christopher
<i>Wingfeather series</i>	Peterson, Andrew

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<i>Revenge of the Whale</i>	Philbrick, Nathaniel
<i>The Westing Game</i>	Raskin, Ellen
<i>Under the Blood Sun</i>	Sailsbury, Graham
<i>Five Ancestors series</i>	Stone, Jeff
<i>The Time Machine</i>	Wells, H.G.
<i>Dragonwings</i>	Yep, Laurence

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List**

**Title**

**Author**

<i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	Boyne, John
<i>A Little Princess</i>	Burnett, Frances Hodgson
<i>The Perilous Journey of the Donner Party</i>	Calabro, Marian
<i>Ender's Game</i>	Card, Orson Scott
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	Crane, Stephen
<i>Gregor the Overlander</i>	Collins, Suzanne
<i>The Dark is Rising</i>	Cooper, Susan
<i>Mark Twain</i>	Cox, Clinton
<i>Walk Two Moons</i>	Creech, Sharon
<i>Sherlock Holmes Mysteries</i>	Doyle, Arthur
<i>City of Ember: The People of Sparks</i>	DuPrau, Jeanne
<i>Johnny Tremain</i>	Forbes, Esther
<i>Summer of My German Soldier</i>	Greene, Bette
<i>Hoot</i>	Haasen, Carl
<i>Clara Barton</i>	Hamilton, Leni
<i>The Dark Frigate</i>	Hawes, Charles
<i>Stormbreaker (Alex Rider series)</i>	Horowitz, Anthony

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<i>Across Five Aprils</i>	Hunt, Irene
<i>No Promises in the Wind</i>	Hunt, Irene
<i>The Witchcraft of Salem Village</i>	Jackson, Shirley
<i>Trumpeter of Krakow</i>	Kelly, Eric
<i>The Story of My Life</i>	Keller, Helen
<i>When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit</i>	Kerr, Judith
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Lee, Harper
<i>To Be A Slave</i>	Lester, Julius
<i>White Fang</i>	London, Jack
<i>A Night to Remember</i>	Lord, Walter
<i>A Young Patriot</i>	Murphy, Jim
<i>Sarah Bishop</i>	O'Dell, Scott
<i>Hangman's Curse, Nightmare Academy</i>	Peretti, Frank
<i>Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground...</i>	Petry, Ann
<i>Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg</i>	Philbrick, Rodman
<i>The Yearling</i>	Rawlings, Marjorie
<i>The Lightning Thief</i>	Riordan, Rick
<i>Stargirl</i>	Spinelli, Jerry
<i>Treasure Island</i>	Stevenson, Robert Louis
<i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</i>	Swanson, James
<i>Let the Circle be Unbroken</i>	Taylor, Mildred
<i>Air Raid-Pearl Harbor</i>	Taylor, Theodore
<i>Dacey's Song</i>	Voigt, Cynthia
<i>Homecoming</i>	Voigt, Cynthia
<i>The Sword in the Stone</i>	White, T.H.

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### **Directions for completing the Book Bag Report project:**

**Step 1:** Select one book to read from the lists provided within this document based on your grade level or reading level. If you have a book of interest that is not on this list, you may read it as long as it has not been previously read.

**Step 2:** Obtain a large paper grocery bag from your local grocery store.

**Step 3:** Design one side of your bag with your favorite scene from the book, not the original cover.

**Step 4:** Type your book report using these guidelines which are also on the attached rubric:

- ✓ Type your paper.
- ✓ Font Size = 12 pt.
- ✓ Font Style = Arial, Georgia, or Times New Roman
- ✓ Spacing = 1 to 1½ inch spacing between lines and paragraphs
- ✓ Margins = 1 inch (top, bottom, left, and right)
- ✓ Header in Top Left Corner (Name, Date, ELA6, ELA7 or ELA8 based on your upcoming grade level)
- ✓ Minimum and maximum sentences per paragraph will be 6-8.
- ✓ **Step 5:** Find five (5) items to represent important details from your book and put the items in your bag. Be ready to explain the significance of each item to the story.

**Please follow the RUBRIC** within this packet for required content for each paragraph of your report and the other elements necessary for your book report so that you are successful.

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### RUBRIC

**Book Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions	Points Possible	Points Earned
<b>Front Cover of the bag must have a colored illustration.</b> You can draw an image to represent your favorite scene from the book, or you can redesign the book's cover. The cover must be presentable and appropriate.	10	
<b>Five (5) Items relevant to my summary:</b> Find five items that reflect important details from your book to put in your bag. When you present your summary, you will tell the audience why these items are important.	10	
<b>Plot Summary: Write to summarize the elements of the plot for the book.</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> paragraph:</b> Explain the setting (where the story takes place and time). Introduce the main character(s) and other <i>important</i> characters in the story. Include the name(s), character's qualities/traits (e.g., brave, determined, etc.) and how they exhibit that trait. Discuss the conflict or problem the main character faces in the story. If you struggle with this section, ask yourself these questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.	10	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph:</b> Summarize what happens up until the high point of the story, also known as the climax, where the character changes in some way or the problem is resolved. Use some transition words to help you organize the events of the story.	15	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph:</b> Summarize the ending of the book. Include how the problem is resolved, if it is resolved; or, tell us if there is a cliffhanger. Provide at least one theme of the book. Remember, the theme is the message, or lesson, the story teaches.	15	
<b>Opinion and Rating of the Book</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> paragraph:</b> Write a paragraph giving your opinion of the book and rate it on a scale of 1 - 5. Use the following guidelines: 1) Did you like or dislike the book? Why? 2) Was the book confusing? If so, why? 3) Was it too easy or too hard to read? Why? 4) Was it predictable or believable? Why? 4) Did you like the ending? Why or why not? 5) What was your favorite part? Why? 6) What connections did you make with your life, another text, or the real-world? 7) What did you think of the author's style of writing? Provide examples from the book to support your responses to these questions.	10	
<b>Glossary (on a separate page):</b> Vocabulary is an important part of reading. Making note of, as well as using, the words you read will help you grow as a reader. List at least five (5) words that were new to you or words you think are worth mentioning. Then, define each word and use it in a sentence of your own to demonstrate your understanding of the word.	15 <i>(3 pts each)</i>	
<b>Format:</b> Were the formatting guidelines followed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Typed, 12 pt. font using Times New Roman, Georgia, or Arial; 1-inch margins (all around) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Header in Top Left Corner (Name, Date, ELA6, ELA7, or ELA8) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs with minimum number of sentences as required	15	
<b>Mechanics:</b> 1 pt. deduction for each error in the following areas: capitalization, use of incorrect grammar, punctuation, spelling, and sentence structure (CUPS).		
<b>Presentation:</b> You may present your book report in class for extra credit. Prepare yourself by reading and rereading your report. Practice in the mirror or in front of your parents, a sibling, or a friend. *The presentation points will count as extra credit.	15	
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>115</b>	