

Summer Reading Project

Grade 6

*There are no negatives in life, only
challenges to overcome that will
make you stronger.”
– Eric Bates*

Consider the quote above. How do the two books you read relate to this quote? Develop a well-written essay, five paragraphs in length, that explains how your books illustrate this statement. Include specific details from BOTH books in your response.

Due to your English Teacher:

Friday, September 15, 2017

SIXTH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

PLEASE CHOOSE FROM ONE OF THE FICTION/NONFICTION PAIRINGS. EACH STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO READ BOTH BOOKS FROM THE PAIRING. UPON COMPLETION, PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED ESSAY ASSIGNMENT. LEXILE LEVELS ARE NOTED IN PARENTHESIS.

Pairing #1



Wonder (790), by R.J. Palacio

August Pullman was born with a facial deformity that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. **WONDER**, now a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and included on the Texas Bluebonnet Award master list, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.



Chicken Soup for the Preteen Soul (780) By Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen

Written by and for preteens, this uplifting collection of stories touches on the emotions and situations they experience every day: making and losing friends, fitting in while keeping their personal identity, discovering the opposite sex, dealing with pressures at school including violence, and coping with family issues such as divorce.

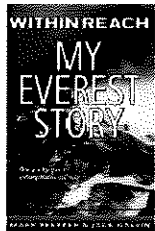
Pairing #2



Peak (760) By Roland Smith

The only thing you'll find on the summit of Mount Everest is a divine view. The things that really matter lie far below. —Peak Marcello

After fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with a choice: wither away in juvenile detention or fly to Kathmandu with his long-lost father. Peak quickly learns that his father's renewed interest in him has strings attached. As owner of Peak Expeditions, he wants his son to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit. The story of Peak's dangerous ascent—told in his own words—is suspenseful, immediate, and impossible to put down.



Within Reach: My Everest Story (970) By Mark Pftzter, Jack Galvin

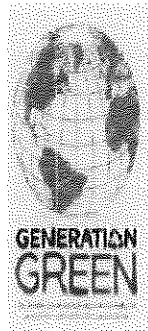
In May 1996 the media scrambled to document the gripping story of sixteen-year-old **Mark Pftzter's** expedition to Mount Everest. Not only was he the youngest climber ever to attempt the summit, he also witnessed the tragedy documented in **Jon Krakauer's Into Thin Air**, in which eight climbers perished in a sudden storm. **Within Reach** is Mark's extraordinary account of this experience and of his triumphs over several other challenging peaks. At once triumphant and tragic, this story will be an inspiration to climbers, athletes, and armchair enthusiasts alike.

**Pairing
#3**



***Flush* (830) Carl Hiaasen**

With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.



***Generation Green* (900) By Linda Sivertsen, Tosh Sivertsen**

We all know about the Earth's environmental crisis, but there is someone who can truly make a difference: you. If you text your friends or chat with them online, download music to your iPod, or toss bottles and papers into recycling bins, you're already more eco-savvy than you think. It's just as easy to do even more to help save the earth, and Generation Green shows you how.

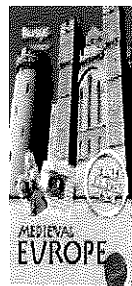
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**Pairing
#4**



***Sword of the Rightful King* (1010) By Jane Yolen**

Merlinus the magician devises a way for King Arthur to prove himself the rightful king of England--pulling a sword from a stone--but trouble arises when someone else removes the sword first.



***Medieval Europe* (1010) by John Haywood**

Where can you buy cloth made with real gold thread? Which herb will keep your bed free of bedbugs? Why were pointy shoes dangerous? This title unravels the mysteries of life in Europe in the 12th and 13th centuries. Discover what staying in a castle was really like, whether medieval people believed in witches and dragons, and where you could hear minstrels playing music.

**Pairing
#5**



***Orphan of Ellis Island* (810) By Elvira Woodruff**

During a school trip to Ellis Island, Dominick Avaro, a ten-year-old foster child, travels back in time to 1908 Italy and accompanies two young emigrants to America.



***Immigrant Kids* (1050) by Russell Freedman**

America meant "freedom" to the immigrants of the early 1900s—but a freedom very different from what they expected. Cities were crowded and jobs were scarce. Children had to work selling newspapers, delivering goods, and laboring sweatshops. In this touching book, Newberry Medalist Russell Freedman offers a rare glimpse of what it meant to be a young newcomer to America.

**Pairing
#6**



***Hatchet* (1020) by Gary Paulsen**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.



***Guts* (980) by Gary Paulsen**

The author relates incidents in his life and how they inspired parts of his books about the character, Brian Robeson.