

Dear Upcoming 6th Grade Centurion,

Welcome to your first assignment for the 2009-2010 school year! (Please contain your enthusiasm.) Over the summer, you will be expected to read three books to ensure that you do not lose those reading skills. The first book will be for Mrs. Melton, your science teacher. Books two and three will be for Mrs. Mogan, your language arts teacher. Each book will be followed by a written assignment that you will email to either Mrs. Melton or Mrs. Mogan when you complete the book. The books do need to be read in order and all three of the assignments are due by Saturday, August 1, 2009.

Book #1 must be a non-fiction science based book; no biographies, no sci-fi. It CAN be on your favorite animal. It must be between 100-150 pages in length. Students looking for help finding the science book should try http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/science_sleuths.htm. This website recommends several science books suitable for gifted kids. Not every book on this list will be at your student's reading level, as there is only one list for grade K-12. Please use this as a guide. The book your student selects does **not** have to come from this list.

Book #2 Look at the attached "Must Read" list. Choose one of the books from the list. (Note: if you choose a series, you do NOT have to read the whole series, just one of the books will do!)

Book #3 Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick. You need to read this one last because it needs to be as fresh in your mind as possible when school starts. We will start our first unit from this book in language arts.

For each book, type your answers to the following questions and email them to the appropriate teacher in ONE DOCUMENT. This means that you need to wait until you have finished the two books for Mrs. Mogan or the one book for Mrs. Melton before you email them. Please, please, please do not email us multiple documents (it fills up our inbox and we stop receiving emails!).

- A. Summarize the book in a detailed yet concise paragraph. Include major points from the beginning, middle, and end of the book. (roughly 100-150 words)
- B. Evaluate the author's skill in crafting the book. Did she/he hold your interest? Was the book well-written? What was the theme of your book? Give specific examples to support your evaluation. (roughly 100-150 words)
- C. If you could rewrite this book, what would you do differently? Explain why you would make those choices. (roughly 100-150 words)

Where to send the assignments:

Mrs. Mogan: bonita.mogan@fayette.kyschools.us

Mrs. Melton: veronica.melton@fayette.kyschools.us

Email is the preferred method of delivery, however if that is impossible, assignments may be hand delivered to us at the Centurion Picnic. (Look for a flyer to come out later this summer about the date.)

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Mogan and Mrs. Melton

6th grade Centurions—“Must Read” Book List

- Oliver Twist by: Charles Dickens
- Roll of Thunder by: Mildred D. Taylor
- The Chronicles of Narnia Series by: C.S. Lewis
- Bridge to Terabithia by: Katherine Patterson
- Esperanza Rising by: Pam Munoz Ryan
- The Giver by: Lois Lowry
- The Sword in the Stone by: T.H. White
- Crispin: The Cross of Lead by: Avi
- Artemis Fowl Series by: Eoin Colfer
- The Watson’s go to Birmingham-1963 by: Christopher Paul Curtis
- Inkheart Series by: Cornelia Funk
- Flush by: Carl Hiassen
- Ella Enchanted by: Gail Carson Levine
- Shiloh by: Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- Gregor the Overlander by: Suzanne Collins
- Maximum Ride Series by: James Patterson
- Eragon Trilogy by: Christopher Paolini
- Red Wall Series by: Brian Jacques
- The Phantom Tollbooth by: Norton Juster
- Twilight Series by: Stephanie Meyers
- James and the Giant Peach by: Roald Dahl
- The Roar of the Crowd by: Wallace Rich
- Storm Thief by: Chris Wooding
- The Heir Series by: Cinda Williams Chima
- The Tale of Despereaux by: Kate DiCamillo
- A Single Shard by: Linda Sue Park
- A Year Down Yonder by Richard Peck
- Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery by: Russell Freedman
- The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane by: Russell Freedman
- Number the Stars by: Lois Lowry
- Hatchet by: Gary Paulsen
- A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl’s Journal, 1830-32 by: Joan W. Blos

*** Please refrain from reading the following titles as we will be reading these novels in class: The Outsiders by: S.E. Hinton Out of the Dust by: Karen Hesse The Hobbit by: J.R.R Tolkien