



**SIXTH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST
2008-2009**

Directions: Read A Wrinkle in Time and choose two other books from two different genres on the list. **You must read a total of at least three books that are on this list, including A Wrinkle in Time**, and complete a teaser and study guide for each. See the letter for more precise directions, and enjoy your reading!

All-form book, required for all incoming sixth graders:

L'Engle, Madeleine
A Wrinkle in Time

ISBN-13 978-0-312-36754-1

ISBN-10 0-312-36754-6

Please make sure you have the correct edition of the novel so that we can refer to specific page numbers in class. Thank you!

Meg, a teenaged girl, is constantly getting in trouble in school for taking shortcuts. She finds herself evaporating into space and traveling to places that she did not know existed. She does this with her brother, a friend, and three witches who are all on a quest to save Meg's father from the unknown.

Daniel Mathieson

Classics:

Burnett, Frances Hodgson
The Secret Garden

Mary Lennox is an orphan who is sick and lives with her uncle. She hears about a secret garden in which her aunt died. The story is about how this garden changes her entire life and health.

Pooja Penninti

Classics continued:

Lewis, Elizabeth Foreman

Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze

After Young Fu's father dies, Young Fu and his mother must move from their rural farm to the city of Chunking. Young Fu finds employment as a coppersmith's apprentice and generally tries to find his place in the world. One of his many adventures involves an ill-fated card game and a scheme to sell handfuls of snow.

Ms. Turner

Rawls, Wilson

Where the Red Fern Grows

Billy is a country boy nestled in the beautiful hills of the Ozarks. He has always dreamed of having two good coon hounds, but his parents do not have the money to get them for him. Billy finally gets his hounds from his hard work and finds out that he has one of the best two hounds in the Ozarks. When he has all he has wanted, the worst possible thing happens.

Brian Hannon

Sewell, Anna

Black Beauty

Black Beauty spends his life looking for happiness. The horse struggles through many challenges, but will he finally find the right master?

Josh Levy

Tolkien, J. R. R.

The Hobbit

Bilbo the hobbit and dwarves go into the adventurous and dangerous world before them. They are all hunting for the mighty and heavenly gold that is with the powerful dragon. Although it may be a difficult journey, they are determined to get there and get the gold.

Nicole Cyterski

Fantasy:

Corder, Zizou

Lionboy

Charlie Ashanti has a very special talent. After his parents are kidnapped, he has to use his talent to rescue them. Trying to save his parents, he travels with the circus and meets lions he can speak to.

Maggie Scott

Enzensberger, Hans Magnus

Number Devil

Robert has never dreamed of liking math class, until he meets the Number Devil. Robert really likes the Number Devil's tricks. They are fun, and he gets through math class using them.

Henry Cohen

Lowry, Lois

Gossamer

Littlest One is part of a tribe of dreamgivers. She and Thin Elderly are assigned to give dreams to an elderly woman and a troubled child that she adopted. When the Horde of nightmaregivers come, Littlest One must give all the good dreams she can to make the woman and child happy.

Rowdy Kanarek

Mieville, China

Un Lun Dun

Zanna is a twelve-year-old girl. One day, she and her friend Deeba find a secret entrance to Un Lun Dun. There they discover a plot to unleash smog onto the city. It is up to Zanna to stop this—or maybe not.

Max Brouman

Fantasy continued:

Riordan, Rick

The Lightning Thief

Perseus “Percy” Jackson has never met his father. Discovering his father is a god really overwhelms him. Percy is sent on a quest in search of Zeus’s lightning bolt. Will he survive the challenges that lie ahead of him?

Maddie Taylor

General Fiction:

Creech, Sharon
Chasing RedBird

A thirteen-year-old girl finds a hidden trail near her house, so she decides to clear it. As she works, she faces many challenges and discovers family secrets.

Elizabeth Herrington

Flake, Sharon
The Skin I'm In

A young girl named Maleeka is not comfortable with her extra dark skin. She goes through some hard times with friends and her appearance, but her new teacher teaches her something great about herself: that she has a passion for writing.

Abigail Spear

Jiménez, Francisco
Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child

In this book, Panchito and his family move to California from Mexico. They have to pick cotton and other crops for a long time to make money.

Kennedy Randall

Konigsburg, E.L.
The View from Saturday

Can four sixth graders outsmart a seventh grade team in the Academic Bowl? Follow the stories of four unique sixth graders whose stories might sound like any middle schooler's.

Cassie Dickson

Lupica, Mike
Travel Team

It stinks that Danny Walker does not make the travel team. He is a great player in Middletown, but he is too small. Will Danny persevere and fight back, or is he done?

Keenan Hickton

General Fiction continued:

Mankel, Henning

A Bridge to the Stars

By day, Joel is a student and his father is a lumberjack, but both have secret activities they carry on at night. Long after dark, Joel makes a problematic friend, rides a stolen bicycle in the snow, takes a dangerous dare, and eventually learns new things about his father and his past.

Ms. Turner

Paulson, Gary

Dogsong

A young, fourteen-year-old Eskimo boy named Russel, confused about who he is, seeks out advice from the wise, old Oogruk. Oogruk tells him to take a team of dogs and live as the old Eskimos did, and he will find his song.

James Rich

Selznick, Brian

The Invention of Hugo Cabret

Hugo, a young boy recently orphaned, is keeping all the clocks in working order at the station. The only thing that brings him joy is the automaton, a complex machine that holds a great secret Hugo is only about to discover.

Cameron Dively

Historical Fiction:

Cushman, Karen

Catherine, Called Birdy

Catherine is stuck. She is about to get married off to a piggish man. She has to find a way out before her life is ruined!

Simone Scanga

Kadohata, Cynthia

Weedflower

Sumiko always thought she would be surrounded by her family and flowers her whole life. But after Pearl Harbor is bombed, she and her family are sent to a detention camp for Japanese Americans in Poston, Arizona.

Apoorva Annamraju

Orlev, Uri

Island On Bird Street

Alex lives in the midst of World War II Poland. One day when his father leaves and never comes back, he is faced with surviving on his own. With trouble lurking all throughout the street, can he live?

Dennis Briggs

Paulson, Gary

Nightjohn

Slaves are not allowed to learn to read, but Nightjohn dares to help a little girl read a flour sack and practice scratching letters in the dirt.

Ms. Turner

Schlitz, Laura Amy

Good Masters, Sweet Ladies: Voices from a Medieval Village

The young people in this series of speeches written for performance represent many parts of society in the Middle Ages, from the wealthy to the poor, from Christian to Jew, from the powerful to the obscure.

Ms. Turner

Memoir and Nonfiction:

Cox, Lynne

Grayson

When Lynne is swimming her daily routine off the coast of California, she encounters a baby whale that has lost his mother. She has to decide whether to try to find the mother or whether to leave the whale behind.

Audrey Koi

Dahl, Roald

Boy: Tales of Childhood

Roald Dahl writes about his childhood using his hilarious tales all compiled together. Some of them include pain and suffering, and others are just plain funny.

Ariel Raj

Freedman, Russell

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marion Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights

Marian Anderson was an African American singer. It was very hard for her to get the proper lessons for singing, since her family was very poor. This book is about Marian's adventures and career.

Anna Malone

Mah, Adeline Yen

Chinese Cinderella

Adeline is taught that she was the reason for her mother's death. She faces childhood by doing her best, and all she receives is punishment and abuse. Her extraordinary writing skills are all she has to see her future.

Samantha Toshok

Memoir and Nonfiction continued:

Walker, Paul Robert

Pride of Puerto Rico

Roberto Clemente lives and breathes baseball. When he becomes a man, he is at the top of his game and is offered the chance to play with the Pittsburgh Pirates. However, people in America do not accept him because of the color of his skin. Roberto hates the taunts, but will his love of baseball overcome the racism of some of his fans?

Grant Newman

Pfetzner, Mark and Jack Galvin

Within Reach: My Everest Story

A boy named Mark who is thirteen years old is a great climber and dreams of climbing Mount Everest. After years of training, Mark attempts to be the youngest climber ever to reach the top of Everest. Is he too young, will he survive, and is he prepared?

Zeke Rosenbloom

Mystery:

Balliett, Blue

Chasing Vermeer

When the famous Vermeer painting A Lady Writing is stolen, a boy named Calder and a girl named Petra try to use all their knowledge to find out where the painting is. Taking every clue they find, step by step, they try to find the painting. Will they find the thief?

Adam D'Angelo

Feinstein, John

Coverup

Stevie and Susan Carroll are two teenaged reporters who have been chosen to cover the Super Bowl. Though they are not in the same reporting business, they work together to stop the five offensive linemen who are on HGH to uncover the cover-up of the Super Bowl.

Justin Barnes

Raskin, Ellen

The Westing Game

Sixteen heirs of Sam Westing are gathered together. The only problem is that one of them is the person that murdered Sam Westing! Who is it?

Katie Mino

Urdale, Eleanor

Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gentleman?

Is Montmorency a thief? How about a liar or a gentleman? No one knows in this thrilling tale about an ex-prisoner. Montmorency controls two lives, his own and that of his "thief." He uses his knowledge of the London sewers to plan his raids. "If I get caught..." is all that is running through Montmorency's mind.

Sean Jewart

Mystery continued:

Zuckerman, Linda

A Taste for Rabbit

This book is told from the perspective of two animals: a rabbit and a fox. The rabbit, Quentin, notices strange things happening with his government and escapes his home. He eventually meets Harry Fox, and they discover a deep, dark secret.

Alex Gottlieb

Science Fiction:

Engdhal, Sylvia Louise

Enchantress from the Stars

Elana is from an advanced civilization whose duty is to keep less advanced societies from taking over other planets. On her mission to Andrecia, she enlists the help of Georyn, who wants to defeat what he thinks is a dragon, and Jarel, an Imperial medical officer.

Rohit Joshi

Farmer, Nancy

The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm

Tendai and his two younger siblings, Rita and Cuda, are kidnapped by the She-Elephant's henchmen. Now the children are taking every chance they can to escape from the She-Elephant.

Sean Beckford

Hawking, Stephen and Lucy Hawking

George's Secret Key to the Universe

George lives a very primitive life. He has no car, television, or computer. When he sees his neighbor's computer, his life is changed. This computer can take people anywhere in space. But then evil finds out...

Sahil Bahri

Philbrick, W.R.

The Last Book in the Universe

Nobody reads or writes books any more, but Spaz and Ryter are different. They go on an adventure to save Spaz's sister Bean and finish the last book in the universe.

Molly Meyers