

So what do I need to do?

Choose only 1 letter writing assignment.

Choice A: Make sure you include the following information in your letter: letter should be addressed to the protagonist

Paragraph 1:

An interesting trait that the protagonist possessed
An example from the story where the character displays this trait

Paragraph 2:

Tell the character about a personal experience that you have had that is similar to an experience that he or she had in the story

Tell the character about a connection that you made between an event from the story and current world events, historical events or another piece of literature

Choice B: Make sure you include the following information in your letter: letter should be addressed to the author

Paragraph 1:

Event from the story that stood out to you the most discuss why this event was interesting, disturbing, confusing or amusing

Paragraph 2:

Describe an obstacle or conflict that the main character had to overcome

describe a similar conflict or obstacle that has occurred in current world events, historical events or another piece of literature Ask the **author a meaningful question (do not use “yes or no” questions)**:about the characters, an event in the story possible sequence, author’s intent.



For additional titles and to read a plot summary of all our titles visit **Sagamore’s Website**

<http://www.sachem.edu/schools/sagamore/>

Look under

Middle School Summer Reading List

Summer Reading On the Web...

Parents, read the article at the site below:

http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr244.shtml

“Reading experts note that most young readers suffer a backslide in reading skills during summer downtime. But that needn’t be the case. Families can make reading a priority during the summer months, and children will learn that people never take a vacation from learning.”

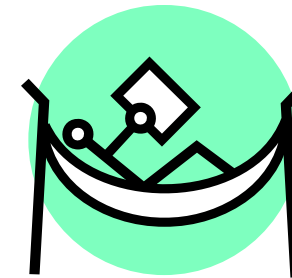
How to Raise a Reader

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/bornread/bornread.htm>



Mrs. Heather Stumpf, English Chairperson
Mrs. Betsy Gennosa, Literacy Coach
Mrs. Denise Cinco, Librarian

School’s Out But Reading Is In! Grade 6



Research shows that students can lose up to 25% of their reading skills during the summer months.

Something to think about:

- **Children read more when they see other people reading.**
- **The longer free voluntary reading is practiced, the more consistent and positive the results.**
- **People who read more, write better.**
- **Outstanding middle school and high school writers reported extensive summer reading.**
- **Reading as a leisure activity is the best predictor of comprehension, vocabulary, and reading speed.**
- **If children read one million words a year, at least one thousand words will be added to their vocabulary.**
- **Studies show that spelling improves the more students read.**

-Krashen, Stephen. *The Power of Reading.* Libraries Unlimited. 1993.

Summer Reading List



The invention of Hugo Cabret: a novel in words and pictures

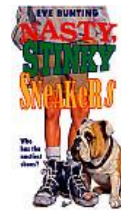
by Brian Selznick

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy-seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Tyler On Prime Time by Steve Atinsky



Tyler Stewart know he's going to be a television star. He's funny, and his uncle Pete is a writer for the most popular show on TV. Best of all, Tyler's parents have just sent him to visit Pete in Hollywood. Talk about luck—no more of his mom's worrying and his dad's instructions for the rest of his summer vacation. Everyone in show business needs a break and Tyler is sure this is going to be his. Now, Tyler has two weeks to land an audition and impress the sitcom's moody star. First he'll have to learn everything there is to know about life on the set, from navigating the food cart to breaking a story. And that will mean spending as much time as possible at the studio—despite his parent's objections. With the help of his new friend Samantha, Tyler's dream just might become a reality. But the road to fame is paved with surprises, and the part of a lifetime is sometimes the one we least expect.



Nasty, Stinky Sneakers by Eve Bunting

Colin has spent weeks perfecting his sneaker odor for the Stinkiest Sneakers in the World Contest. If he wins, he'll get three brand-new pairs of Slam Dunkers sneakers: one for himself, one for his little sister, Amy, and one for his best pal, Webster. But now, after weeks of working toward stinky perfection—not washing his feet, wearing no socks, jogging to get his feet juicy, and even sleeping with his sneakers on—the nasty, stinky sneakers are missing!



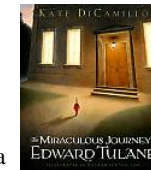
Joey Pigza Loses Control by Jack Gantos

Joey Pigza really wants his six-week visit with his dad to count, to show him he's not as wired as he used to be, to show his dad how much he loves him. But Carter Pigza's not an easy guy to love. He's eager to make it up to Joey for past wrongs and to show him how to be a winner, to take control of his life. With his coaching, Joey's even learned how to pitch a baseball, and he's good at it. The trouble is, Joey's dad thinks taking control means giving up the things that "keep Joey safe." And if he wants to please his dad, he's going to have to play by his rules, even when the rules don't make sense.



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane. The rabbit was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who treated him with the utmost care and adored him completely.



No More Dead Dogs by Gordon Korman

Eighth-grade football hero Wallace Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff

During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.



Mick Harte Was Here by Barbara Park

Thirteen-year-old Phoebe recalls the death of her younger brother Mick in a bicycle accident, which might not have been fatal had he been wearing his helmet, and how she and her family reacted to the tragedy. Closes with an appeal to bikers to wear protective bicycle helmets.



Summer Reading is Killing Me by Jon Scieszka

At the beginning of summer vacation Joe, Sam, and Fred find themselves trapped inside their summer reading list, involved in a battle between good and evil characters from well-known children's books.

Heartbeat by Sharon Creech

Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes is having another baby, much to Annie's delight, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner), Max becomes distant.



Tending to Grace by Kimberly Newton Fusco

Cornelia, a high school student, is forced to confront the truth about herself and her mother after her mom runs off with a boyfriend, leaving her in the care of an eccentric aunt.