



ST. MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

May 2024

Dear Rising 6th Grade Students and Parents,

I am so excited to work with you in the coming 2024-2025 school year. I hope you have a restful summer and that you also get to spend your time with a few good books. Your required assignment for summer reading is to choose **1** book from the list that starts on the next page (all books come from either the Lonestar or Bluebonnet Book Lists). Each book has a corresponding project you will complete. **You can find the selected books and their corresponding project on the following pages.**

We will discuss these books and share our projects during the first week of school. The purpose of these activities is to:

1. encourage you to think critically about what you are reading.
2. allow you to share your understanding in creative ways, and
3. foster robust discussion when the school year starts in August.

Your summer reading project will be due the first week of school, on **Friday, August 23, 2024**. We will spend the first week of school using these books and projects. Use the included Summer Reading Project Rubric to further guide your work. As a reminder, 6th graders can participate in the Bluebonnet Challenge (must read at least 10 [Bluebonnet books](#)) and the Lonestar Challenge (must read at least 5 [Lonestar books](#)) during the school year. Students who complete the Bluebonnet Challenge get invited to a special breakfast in the Library, and students who complete the Lonestar Challenge get invited to an ice cream social!

Please don't hesitate to email over the summer if you have any questions. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Smith  
6th Grade Language Arts  
[ssmith@stmes.org](mailto:ssmith@stmes.org)



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## 6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment Options

Choose **1** of the following books and its corresponding project to complete.

Book	Project Description
<p><i>The Grace of Wild Things</i> by Heather Fawcett (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p>The witch undergoes major character changes over the course of the novel. Find 8 quotes from the beginning to end of the novel that demonstrate this change. Compile these quotes (with page numbers) in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>You Are Here</i> by Ellen Oh (Editor) (2024-2025 Lonestar List) (2024-2025 Bluebonnet Book List)</p>	<p>While each of the 13 stories in this novel can stand alone, they are also intertwined throughout the book. As you read, notice and note places where the characters interact across the stories. Once you've finished reading, create a web of all 13 characters to show how they interact. Display this in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>A Rover's Story</i> by Jasmine Warga (2024-2025 Lonestar List) (2024-2025 Bluebonnet Book List)</p>	<p>Resilience and Sophie never actually talk in the novel. Create an email or text chain between them that allows each to respond to the other. Include the big questions they both ask (and go left unanswered) in the novel. Include a minimum of 4 emails or 16 texts. Display this in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>The Probability of Everything</i> by Sarah Everett (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p> <p>Both parts are required for this book.</p>	<p><u>Part 1:</u> Create a time capsule of memories with someone important in your life. Just like Kemi did, ask others to add their own pieces. For each item, include a brief explanation of why it was included (minimum of 4 items).</p> <p><u>Part 2:</u> Write a letter to Kemi responding to some of her worries, fears, or ideas. Use a friendly letter format.</p>
<p><i>Simon Sort of Says</i> by Erin Bow (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p>There are several acts of love shown by family or friends in this novel. These might be times when a person goes out of their way to show kindness or does something above and beyond. As you read, notice and note them. Find quotes to support each act of love. Then display your findings with a brief explanation of what happened. Display this in a visually appealing way.</p>



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<p><i>Wrecker</i> by Carl Hiaasen (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p><i>Wrecker</i> is an action-packed adventure with several historical dates that help readers develop a sense of the Florida Keys and its history. Create a timeline of the dates and events mentioned in the story.</p>
<p><i>Seed in the Sun</i> by Aida Salazar (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p>Several of the characters in the novel are fictional, while others are true figures from history. Create a detailed character chart describing each main character and their role in the novel and/or history. Some will overlap on both sides of this and others will not. Display this in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>Virtually Me</i> by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p>Each of the characters in this novel uses their new school setting to reinvent themselves in different ways. Create a graphic organizer (a chart) that shows how each of the main characters began the school year and how they finished it. Use quotes from the novel to support your thinking. Display this in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>New Dragon City</i> by Mari Mancusi (2024-2025 Bluebonnet Book List)</p>	<p>As you read, notice and note places mentioned in the novel. Create a detailed map using examples from the story. Add at least 8 places. Create a key and display your map in a visually appealing way.</p>
<p><i>The Fire, The Water, and Maudie McGinn</i> by Sally J. Pla (2024-2025 Lonestar List) (2024-2025 Bluebonnet Book List)</p>	<p>Milagro medallions play an important role in this novel. They are symbols of who the people are and what they believe. Design a personalized milagro medallion for 2 of the characters in the novel. (Do not choose Maudie.) Use quotes to support your choices. Then create one for yourself.</p>
<p><i>Ghost of Spruce Point</i> by Nancy Tandon (2024-2025 Bluebonnet Book List)</p>	<p>Create a travel brochure for The Home Away Inn. Include photos or drawings, reasons to come, and quotes from the owners (Parker, Bailey, Paul or Sarah) that talk about what a great place it is. Parker works all summer to advertise the inn — now it's your turn to make a difference.</p>
<p><i>Labors of Hercules Beal</i> by Gary D. Schmidt (2024-2025 Lonestar List)</p>	<p>Each of the "labors" in this novel are based on the labors of Hercules in Greek mythology. Create a graphic organizer (a chart) to demonstrate how each of Hercules Beal's 12 labors correlate to the myths of Hercules. Display your work in a visually appealing way.</p>



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## Reading Project Rubric

	4	3	2	1
<b>Understanding of the Novel</b>	Your understanding of the novel is evident through your project. Through your work, you have captured major themes, or ideas, in the novel.	Your understanding of the novel may be evident through the project.	It is unclear that you understand the bigger themes asked of your project.	You do not demonstrate understanding of the novel through your project.
<b>Creativity, Individuality, Neatness</b>	Your project demonstrates creativity and individual thought in presentation. You have taken time to present your work in a visually appealing way. Examples of ways to do this include: using a straightedge to draw lines, tracing over pencil in a fine-tipped marker, backing any printed and cut paper to give it a border and "finished" look, centering titles / words, etc.	Your project meets most of the expectations set out.	Your project doesn't meet several of the expectations set.	The project meets few of the expectations set.
<b>Evidence of Information and Organization</b>	You followed the specific instructions in the novel assignment. You've included all aspects.	You included some aspects of the project instructions, but not all.	You've included a few of the project elements, but not most.	You completed a different project or did not follow the assignment.
<b>Writing Conventions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Capitalization</li><li>- Usage</li><li>- Punctuation</li><li>- Spelling</li></ul>	Punctuation is correct, spelling is accurate, and there are no major errors in grammar.	There are some errors in writing conventions — a few punctuation, spelling, and/or grammar issues — but not enough to cause difficulty in reading and understanding the text.	Several punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors stand out in the writing.	Punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors are very common and stand out.

Total: \_\_\_\_\_/16