May 2025

Dear Parents of Almost 6th-Graders,

Your 5th graders have worked hard all year and acquired many important skills. To avoid losing those precious skills, students entering 6th grade for the next school year will be required to do some reading and math over the summer.

Summer can give the kids a little more time for reading than they might have during the school year; so let's take advantage! Research confirms that students who don't read over the summer typically score lower on reading comprehension tests when they return to school. Reading, like any skill, requires practice and it's important that students take the time to read over the summer in order to keep their skills sharp.

**Students will need to read a total of at least two (2) books before school begins again in August.** One of these can be a book of their choice that is at least 150 pages, and the other book will be a specific title assigned by the classroom teacher. They will need to write a brief response to the book on the worksheets provided and turn these into their Literature teacher during the first week of school. The book chosen by the teacher will be the same for all students entering 6th grade and there will be lessons and activities planned for the first week of school based on this novel. **Students will receive a grade in Literature for the two books that they read over the summer.**

In addition to reading, students will be asked to maintain what they've learned in **math by utilizing Khan Academy.** They will be required to do **60 exercise minutes of Math per month** (June, July, August). This practice must be on skills and no credit will be given to watching videos. A grade will be given at the start of the school year worth **20 points per month**.

Other things that students can do to maintain those Math skills are:

- Practice their basic math facts with flashcards or using a standard deck of playing cards
- Play an online math game
- Do a math worksheet

**Required Book Title: Esperanza Rising** **by Pam Muñoz Ryan**

Have a great summer!
Happy reading and help keep those math skills sharp!!

Mrs. Zwirner and Mrs. King

# Book Response Worksheet - Rising 6th Graders

Name:_____ Book Title: _____

Author:_____ Genre: _____

Please answer in complete sentences.

**1. Summary:** Write a summary of main events of the book, including the setting of the book and plot details (Use the “Someone Wanted But So Then” strategy that you learned in 5th grade).

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