



Grade 6 Summer Reading Requirement 2018

Students are required to read five books over the summer, including *Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis and four free-choice books.

The books on this list are divided into general categories. Choose free-choice books from different categories. Students may listen to audio books but not exclusively. On the form below, please list the five books. Any other books read can be listed on a separate sheet of paper.

Important! This signed summer reading form is due the first week of school. The form will count as a quiz grade for the first marking period. **Students will receive a 100% quiz grade in English class if the form is handed in on time and a 0% if handed in late.** The form must be handed in to Mrs. Laurie Sears or Mrs. Ann Liu in the library.

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Author</u> | <u>Category</u> | <u>Rating*</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. <i>Elijah of Buxton</i> | Christopher Paul Curtis | Required | |
| 2. _____ | | | |
| 3. _____ | | | |
| 4. _____ | | | |
| 5. _____ | | | |

* Rate the books from 1 to 5 stars, 5 being the best rating.

Student Name and Grade (printed legibly) _____

Parent Name and Signature _____

REQUIRED READING

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis

Eleven-year-old Elijah is the first child born into freedom in Buxton, Canada, a settlement of runaway slaves. When a former slave steals money from Elijah's friend, who has been saving to buy his family out of captivity in the South, Elijah embarks on a dangerous journey to America in pursuit of the thief. Along the way, he discovers firsthand the unimaginable horrors of the life his parents fled—a life from which he'll always be free, if he can find the courage to get back home. (Historical Fiction)

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENT

Please read the required reading book in August shortly before school begins to keep the information fresh! Your required grade-level reading book will be the basis for your first class discussions and in-school writing assignment. As you are reading *Elijah of Buxton*, jot down notes, bookmark passages, and write annotations that will help you answer the questions below. **Do not write an essay**, just keep the questions in mind as you read and take notes in the margins. When you return to school in the fall, you will refer to these notes as you write a brief in-class essay during your English class. You will be required to refer to at least three passages from the book to support your answer.

Elijah of Buxton Questions:

1. Throughout the book, Elijah attempts to demonstrate that he is not “fra-gile” (Curtis 10).
 - Why does Ma call Elijah *fragile*?
 - How does Elijah demonstrate that he is not *fragile*?
 - When does Elijah realize that he is no longer *fragile*?
2. The Buxton Settlement Creed is “One helping one to uplift all” (Curtis 30).
 - What does this creed mean?
 - How do the citizens of Buxton help one another?
 - Why is a strong sense of community important in Buxton?

2018 SUMMER READING FREE-CHOICE TITLES

Visiting Author (May 2018) – Laura M. Elliott (selected works)

Annie Between the States
A Troubled Peace
Under a War-Torn Sky
Across a War-Tossed Sea
Hamilton and Peggy! A Revolutionary Friendship
Suspect Red

Recommended Books to Read Before Leaving Middle School

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
Around the World in Eighty Days by Jules Vern
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
A Cricket in Times Square by George Seldon
D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths by Ingrid and Edgar D'Aulaire
Island of the Blue Dolphin by Scott O'Dell
James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood by Howard Pyle
Phantom Tollbooth by Norman Juster
Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi
Rip Van Winkle and Other Tales by Washington Irving
Stuart Little by E.B. White
Swiss Family Robinson by Johann David Wyss
The Time Machine by H.G. Wells
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne
Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

General Fiction

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
Baseball Genius by Tim Green
Beneath and Above by Roland Smith
The Bridge to America by Linda Glaser
Chester and Gus by Cammie McGovern
Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloane
Cryptid Hunters by Roland Smith
Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan
El Deafo by Cece Bell

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya
Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein
The Ethan I Was Before by Ali Standish
Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by J.K. Rowling
Fantasy League by Mike Lupica
Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
Flora and Ulysses: the Illuminated Adventures by Kate DiCamillo
Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer Holm
Ghosts, Sisters, or Smile by Raina Telgemeier
Ghosts by Jason Reynolds
The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman GN
The Greenglass House by Kate Milford
Half a World Away by Cynthia Kadohata
Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly
Holes by Louis Sachar
Hour of Bees by Lindsay Eagar
The House With a Clock in Its Walls by John Bellairs
Ice Dogs by Terry Lynn Johnson
Incredible Magic of Being by Kathryn Erskine
Island of Dr. Libris by Chris Grabenstein
Island of Thieves by Josh Lacey
Kid Owner by Tim Green
The Last Gargoyle by Paul Durham
The Last Mission by Harry Mazer
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
Million Dollar Throw by Mike Lupica
Moo by Sharon Creech
Ninth Ward by Jewell Park Phodes
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate
Only Game by Mike Lupica
Orphan Island by Laurel Snyder
Out of the Wild Night by Blue Balliett
Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings
Restart by Gordon Korman
Sees Behind Trees by Michael Dorris
Throwing Heat by Fred Bowen
Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes
True Legend by Mike Lupica
True Talents by David Lubar
The Walk On by John Feinstein
Wild Robot by Peter Brown
Wilder Boys by Brandon Wallace
Wishtree by Katherine Applegate
Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

Fiction Series (*read any book in the series*)

Accelerati by Neal Shusterman
Athlete vs. Mathlete by W.C. Mack
Alex Rider by Anthony Horowitz
All the Wrong Questions by Lemony Snicket
Brian's Saga: Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
The Brotherband Chronicles by John Flanagan
City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau
Descendants by Melissa de la Cruz
Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
Game Changers by Mike Lupica
The Giver by Lois Lowry
Heroes of Olympus by Rick Riordan
House of Robots by James Patterson
The Incurrible Children of Ashton Place by Maryrose Wood
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke
Joey Pigza by Jack Gantos
Keepers of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger
Legend by Marie Lu
The League of Unexceptional Children by Gitty Daneshvari
Logan Family by Christopher Paul Curtis
Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard by Rick Riordan
The Mazer Runner by James Dashner
Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson
The Missing by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs
Moon Base Alpha by Stuart Gibbs
Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein
Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart
The Ranger's Apprentice by John Flanagan
Seeds of America by Laurie Halse Anderson
Shadow Children by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Spy School by Stuart Gibbs
A Tale Dark and Grimm by Adam Gidwitz
Theodore Boone by John Grisham
Treasure Hunters by James Patterson
Trials of Apollo by Rick Riordan
The Unwanteds by Lisa McMann
Wings of Fire by Tui Sutherland
Wonder Stories by R.J. Palacio

Nonfiction

Alexander Hamilton: The Making of America by Teri Kanefield

Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin

Boys in the Boat (Young Reader's Edition) by Daniel Brown

Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America's First Black Paratroopers by Tanya Lee Stone

The Dangerous Book for Boys by Conn Iggulden and Hal Iggulden

Engineer Academy: Are You Ready for the Challenge? by Steve Martin

Exploring Space: From Galileo to the Mars Rover and Beyond by Martin Jenkins

For Boys Only: The Biggest, Baddest Book Ever by Marc Aronson and HP Newquist

Grand Canyon by Jason Chin

Guys Read: Terrifying Tales by Jon Scieszka (read any *Guys Read* books)

Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly

If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People by David J. Smith

Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way by Land, Sea and Air by Stewart Ross

Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin

Lion: A Long Way Home by Saroo Brierly

Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War by Steve Sheinkin

Music: Investigate the Evolution of American Sound by Donna Latham

The Notorious Benedict Arnold: a True Story of Adventure, Heroism and Treachery by Steve Sheinkin

The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny and Fight for Civil Rights by Steve Sheinkin

Science Made Simple: Weather Climate Change by John Woodward

Scientists in the Field (read any book in this series, including the below)

- *Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold, Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine* by Mel Boring
- *Polar Bear Scientists* by Peter Lourie
- *Project Seahorse* by Pamela Turner
- *Sea Turtle Scientist* by Stephen Swinburne
- *Stronger Than Steel: Spider Silk DNA & the Quest for Bulletproof Vests, Sutures and Parachute Rope* by Bridget Heos
- *Tapir Scientists* by Sy Montgomery
- *Whaling Season: a Year in the Life of an Artic Whale Scientist* by Peter Lourie

Shark Life: True Stories about Sharks and the Sea by Peter Benchley

Titanic: Voices from the Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson

War to End All Wars: World War I by Russell Freedman

World War II for Kids by Richard Panchyk

World Without Fish by Mark Kurlansky

Memoir & Biography

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

Diego Rivera: An Artist for the People by Susan Goldman

Elon Musk: Tesla, Space X and the Quest for a Fantastic Future by Ashlee Vance

Facing the Lion by Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark by Debbie Levy

John Muir: My Life With Nature by John Muir and Joseph Cornell

Lafayette and the American Revolution by Russell Freedman

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-Li Jiang

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor by Caren Stelson

Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different by Karen Blumenthal

Books in Verse

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Crossover, Booked and Rebound by Kwame Alexander

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life by Kwame Alexander

The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano by Margarita Engle

The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Poetry

Dream Keeper and Other Poems by Langston Hughes

Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets by Kwame Alexander

The Trouble With Poetry and Other Poems by Billy Collins

You Come, Too by Robert Frost