

2009-2010
Entering 6th Grade
Required Reading List

Reading Assignment #1:

1. **Required Reading**- read the two required books below

- Tuck Everlasting, by Natalie Babbitt
- The Watsons Go to Birmingham- 1963, by Christopher Paul Curtis

2. **AR Test**- You will take an AR test on both required reading books during your first few visits to the Library and Computer Lab.

3. **Write a letter** to Mrs. Girby and send it to her at:

Mrs. Linda Girby
St. Vincent de Paul School
6571 Larkspur Drive
Mobile, AL 36619

The letter should tell your thoughts about one of the books above. She will be looking forward to hearing about your personal thoughts about the book. In your letter, include enough detail so she knows that you read the book carefully, but remember this is not a summary of the plot...she wants to know what you think about the book. Your letter should be postmarked no later than August 10, 2009. Be sure to say enough. Letters should be about one and a half pages handwritten. Please use blue or black ink.

Here are some suggestions as to what you can include in your letter:

- Which character do you find most appealing? This may not be the main character of the story. Tell me why this character appeals to you. Do you relate to this character? Would you want this character to be your friend? Give specific examples from the book to support your choice.
- Ask a question based on what you wonder about. That is, what do you think the author is trying to say here? Or why does a character do or say something? It is important to compose an open-ended question. An open-ended question is a thinking question. It can't be answered with a "yes" or "no" response. After you create your question, respond to it. Remember to use specific examples from the book to support your answer.
- Describe how you felt [saddened, hopeful, relieved, angry, etc.] while reading this book. What events or characters made you feel this way? Remember to use specific examples from the book to support your answer.

Assignment #2: My Word Bank

For each book you read keep a list of words that are unfamiliar to you. After you generate your list of words, select ten words. Use a 5"x8" index card to create a word bank card for each of the ten words. I included a format card and a sample card. Note cards should be turned in the first day of school.

Word Bank Card Format

Word

Part of speech

Definition

Synonym

Antonym

Quote from the book, page #, name of book and author

Original student sentence

Example

Ubiquitous

adjective

-being or seeming to be everywhere at once

synonym: encompassing

antonym: absent

"In some places the ubiquitous vines had been woven into living wreaths and other fanciful patterns." Pg. 55 Fablehaven, Brandon Mull

As I walked into my brother's room, the ubiquitous aroma of dirty sweaty socks overwhelmed me. Yuck!