

## *6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment*

**Q: Why do we require a summer reading assignment at TVS?**

**A: Just as physical exercise keeps our bodies healthy and in shape, reading and responding to literature will keep our reading skills sharp and creates a lifelong love of books!**

Research indicates that students who have access to books and a curriculum that encourages independent reading, along with support from encouraging adults, experience a gain in reading skills as opposed to a loss over the summer months. Therefore, ALL students at TVS middle school are strongly encouraged to complete the Summer Reading Assignment.

### **The Goals of Summer Reading at TVS:**

1. To avoid the “summer slide”-- a term used to describe the loss of literacy skills experienced by students following the summer break.
2. To encourage independent reading at all levels and foster a love of literature.
3. To reinforce skills like comprehension, making connections, summarizing, writing, and even public speaking! Students will be presenting their tri-fold posters in the first week of school--this is a great way to introduce their classmates to new titles. Also, the posters themselves are a great library display!

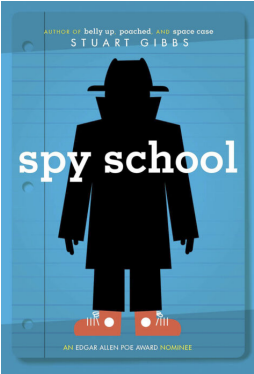
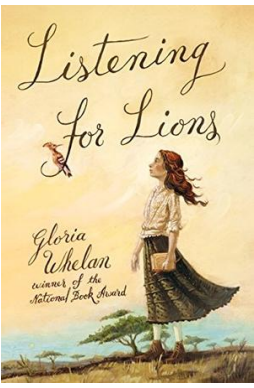
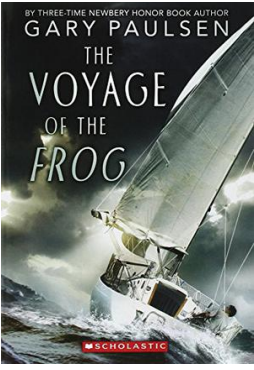

### **Variety is the spice of life!**

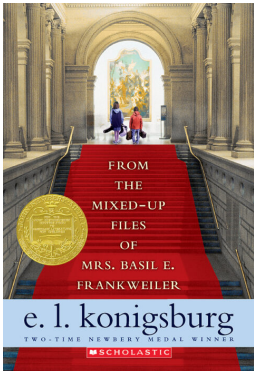
Students may choose a book from the following list-- curated from Sunshine State Readers' 22/23 book list and several selections that extend the 5th-grade curriculum and introduce students to the 6th-grade curriculum as well! Choosing the “right” book should be a family conversation-- there are books from a variety of genres and topics so students can find a book that suits their interests and reading levels!

Questions and concerns regarding the assignment can be directed to the grade-level ELA teacher.

<p><i>6th and 7th Grade ELA</i>  <i>Ms. Weld</i>  <i>aweld@tvsnaples.org</i></p>	<p><i>7th and 8th Grade ELA</i>  <i>Mr. Butler</i>  <i>mbutler@tvsnaples.org</i></p>
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## *Incoming 6th-grade student book list:*

	<p><b><i>Spy School</i> by Stuart Gibbs</b></p> <p>Can an undercover nerd become a superstar agent? Ben Ripley sure hopes so, and his life may depend on it. He may only be in middle school, but he's already pegged his dream job: C.I.A. or nothing! Unfortunately, Ben is so nerdy and awkward that he can barely get to school and back without a mishap. Then he is recruited for a magnet school with a focus on science that's actually a front for a junior C.I.A. academy. Could the C.I.A. really want him? Unfortunately, it's a case of mistaken identity. After a series of hilarious misadventures, Ben realizes he might actually be a halfway decent spy if he can survive all the attempts being made on his life!</p>
	<p><b><i>Listening for Lions</i> by Gloria Whelan</b></p> <p>Africa is the only home Rachel Sheridan has ever known. But when influenza strikes down her missionary parents, she is left vulnerable prey to her family's wicked neighbors. Surrounded by greed and lies, Rachel is entangled in a criminal scheme and sent to England, where she is forced into a life of deception. Like the lion, she must be patient and strong, awaiting the moment when she can take control of her own fate—and find her way home again at last.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Voyage of the Frog</i> by Gary Paulsen</b></p> <p>This survival story is set in the sea. David Alspeth, 14, sails into the Pacific on the 22-foot Frog to scatter the ashes of the boat's owner, his beloved uncle Owen. A freak storm leaves David adrift for days in which he encounters sharks, a near-collision with a tanker, and the awful dragging loneliness of sitting in a becalmed boat. David finds a relationship with the boat and the elements themselves, and when the wind returns, he discovers how far he has traveled (in more than miles).</p>
	<p><b><i>The Boy Who Spoke Dog</i> by Clay Morgan</b></p> <p>When Jack washes up on a mysterious island after a deadly storm, there's no one to help him, except for the dogs. The sheepdogs on the island have eyes that speak right to Jack's heart, especially one dog—Moxie. But when angry beasts called Fangos threaten to destroy the island, Jack and his companions must fight to save it. Once the battle ends, Jack is changed. Will he ever be the same again? Told from Jack's and Moxie's points of view, this adventure reveals how loyalty between boy and dog becomes a means for survival and hope.</p>



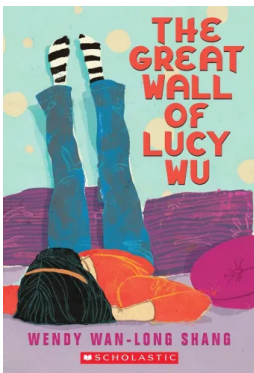
*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg

When Claudia Kincaid decides to run away, she chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing her younger brother Jamie has money and thus can help her with a serious cash-flow problem, she invites him along. Once settled into the museum, Claudia and Jamie find themselves caught up in the mystery of an angel statue that the museum purchased at auction for a bargain price. The statue is possibly an early work of the Renaissance master, Michelangelo. Her quest leads her to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, the remarkable old woman who sold the statue, and to some equally remarkable discoveries about herself.



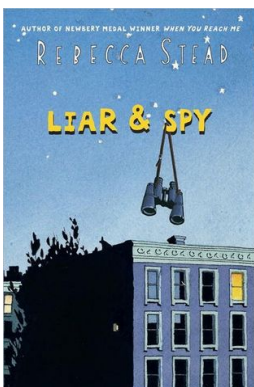
*Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell

Black Beauty spends his youth in a loving home, surrounded by friends and cared for by his owners. But when circumstances change, he learns that not all humans are so kind. Passed from hand to hand, Black Beauty witnesses love and cruelty, wealth and poverty, friendship and hardship . . . Will the handsome horse ever find a happy and lasting home?



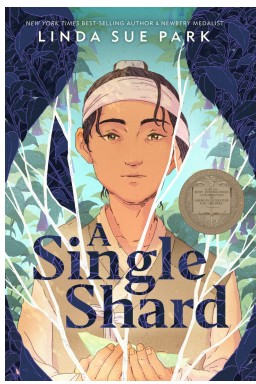
*The Great Wall of Lucy Wu* by Wendy Wan-Long Shang

Lucy Wu, an aspiring basketball star and interior designer, is on the verge of having the best year of her life. She's ready to rule the school as a sixth grader, go out for captain of the school basketball team, and take over the bedroom she has always shared with her sister. In an instant, though, her plans are shattered when she finds out that Yi Po, her beloved grandmother's sister, is coming to visit for several months — and is staying in Lucy's room. Lucy's vision of a perfect year begins to crumble, and in its place come an unwelcome roommate, foiled birthday plans, a bully who tries to scare Lucy off the basketball team, and a Chinese school with the annoying know-it-all Talent Chang. A wonderfully funny, warm, and heartfelt tale about the ways life often reveals silver linings in the most unexpected of clouds.



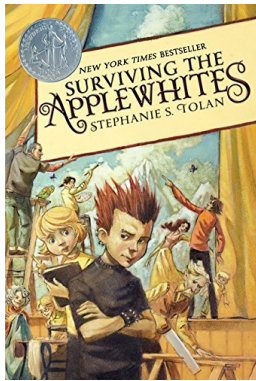
*Liar and Spy* by Rebecca Stead

Liar & Spy is an inspired, often-funny story about destiny, goofy brilliance, and courage. When seventh grader Georges (the S is silent) moves into a Brooklyn apartment building, he meets Safer, a twelve-year-old coffee-drinking loner and self-appointed spy. Georges becomes Safer's first spy recruit. His assignment? Tracking the mysterious Mr. X, who lives in the apartment upstairs. But as Safer becomes more demanding, Georges starts to wonder: how far is too far to go for your only friend? Liar & Spy is an inspired, often-funny story about destiny, goofy brilliance, and courage.



*A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park

Tree-ear, an orphan, lives under a bridge in Ch'ulp'o, a potters' village famed for delicate celadon ware. He has become fascinated with the potter's craft; he wants nothing more than to watch master potter Min at work, and he dreams of making a pot of his own someday. When Min takes Tree-ear on as his helper, Tree-ear is elated—until he finds obstacles in his path. But Tree-ear is determined to prove himself—even if it means taking a long, solitary journey on foot to present Min's work in the hope of a royal commission, even if it means arriving at the royal court with nothing to show but a single celadon shard.



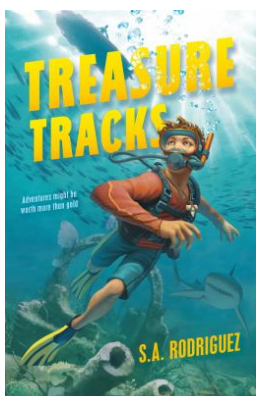
*Surviving the Applewhites* by Stephanie Tolan

The side-splittingly funny Newbery Honor Book about a rebellious boy who is sent to a home-schooling program named Jake Semple—and he is notorious. Rumor has it he managed to get kicked out of every school in Rhode Island, and actually burned the last one down to the ground. Only one place will take him now, and that's a home school run by the Applewhites, a chaotic and hilarious family of artists: poet Lucille, theater director Randolph, dancer Cordelia, and dreamy Destiny. Jake thinks surviving this new school will be a breeze . . . but is he really as tough or as bad as he seems?



*The Neptune Project* by Polly Holyoke

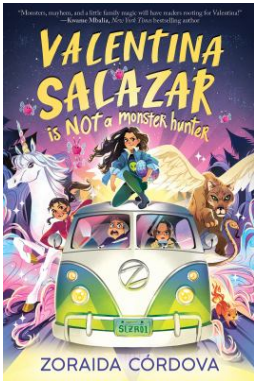
With her weak eyes and useless lungs that often leave her gasping for air, Nere feels more at home swimming with the dolphins her mother studies than she does hanging out with her classmates. Nere has never understood why she is so much more comfortable and confident in the water than on land until the day she learns the shocking truth—she is one of a group of kids who have been genetically altered to survive in the ocean. These products of the "Neptune Project" are supposed to build a better future under the waves, safe from the terrible famines and wars and that rock the surface world.



*Treasure Tracks* by S. A. Rodriguez

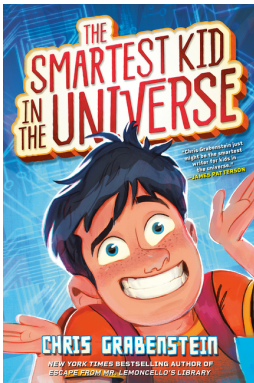
Twelve-year-old Fin joins his abuelo on a secret quest to find a long-lost treasure at sea. But when their first mission takes a near-deadly turn, leaving his grandfather weak and unable to speak, Fin's left to navigate the quest alone. Well, not exactly alone--his boring, totally unadventurous dad agrees to help out. With danger lurking at every turn, Fin dives in to track his legacy and save Abuelo's life. Between Dad's constant worrying, unwanted diving babysitters, and harrowing encounters in the deep sea, the boy finds himself in a race against time to locate the treasure. If he can't do it, he might lose Abuelo for good.





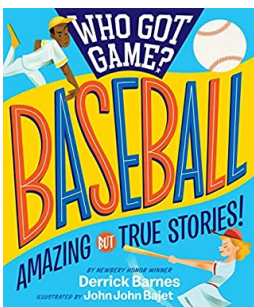
*Valentina Salazar Is Not a Monster Hunter* by Zoraida Córdova

It takes a REALLY special person to accidentally burn down the school yard while chasing a fire-breathing chipmunk. But nothing about Valentina Salazar has ever been "normal." The Salazars are protectors, tasked with rescuing the magical creatures who sometimes wander into our world, from grumpy unicorns to chupacabras... to the occasional fire-breathing chipmunk. When Val's father is killed during a rescue mission gone wrong, her mother decides it's time to retire from their life on the road. She moves the family to a boring little town in upstate New York and enrolls Val and her siblings in real school for the first time. But Val is a protector at heart and she can't give up her calling. So when a mythical egg surfaces in a viral video, Val convinces her reluctant siblings to help her find the egg before it hatches and wreaks havoc. But she has some competition: the dreaded monster hunters who'll stop at nothing to destroy the creature... and the Salazar family.



*The Smartest Kid in the Universe* by Chris Grabenstein

Twelve-year-old Jake's middle school is about to be shut down--unless Jake and his friends can figure out how to save it. When Jake spies a bowl of jellybeans at the hotel where his mom works, he eats them. But those weren't just jellybeans, one of the scientists at his mom's conference is developing the world's first ingestible information pills. And THAT'S what Jake ate. Before long, Jake is the smartest kid in the universe. But the pills haven't been tested yet. And when word gets out about this new genius, people want him. The government. The mega-corporations. Not all of them are good people! Can Jake navigate the ins and outs of geniusdom and save his school?



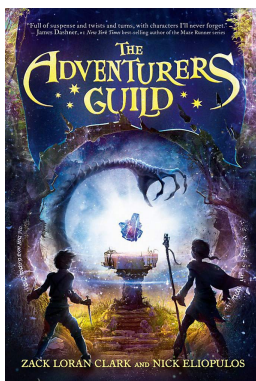
*Who Got Game?: Baseball* by Derrick Barnes & John John Bajet

Meet unsung pioneers, like John "Bud" Fowler, William Edward White, and brothers Moses Fleetwood Walker and Weld Walker, four African Americans who integrated white teams decades before Jackie Robinson. Discover unforgettable moments, like the time a 17-year-old girl named Jackie Mitchell struck out Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Marvel at records. Did you know that Japanese superstar Sadaharu Oh has a whopping 113 more career homers than Hank Aaron? This lively illustrated collection of shiny nuggets of baseball lore will transform you into a superfan who knows the game better than anyone else.



*The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA* by Brenda Woods

On Gabriel's twelfth birthday, he gets a new bike--and is so excited that he accidentally rides it right into the path of a car. Fortunately, a Black man named Meriwether pushes him out of the way just in time and fixes his damaged bike. As a thank you, Gabriel gets him a job at his dad's auto shop. Gabriel and Meriwether become friends, and Gabriel learns that Meriwether drove a tank in the Army's all-Black 761st Tank Battalion in WWII. Meriwether is proud of his service, but has to keep it a secret because talking about it could be dangerous. Sadly, danger finds Meriwether, anyway, when his family receives a frightening threat. Gabriel fears that Meriwether will be forced to take the law into his own hands.



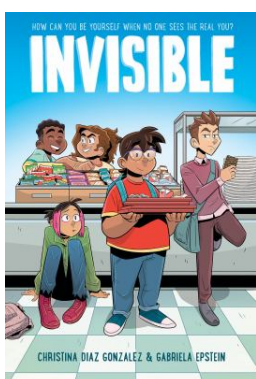
*The Adventurers Guild (Book 1)* by Zack Loran Clark & Nick Eliopoulos

In one of the last cities standing after the world fell to monsters, best friends Zed Kagari and Brock Dunderfel have high hopes for the future. Zed desperately wishes to join the ranks of the Mages Guild, where his status as Freestone's only half elf might finally be an asset. Brock, the roguishly handsome son of merchants, is confident he'll be welcomed into the ranks of the Merchants Guild. But just as it seems the boys' dreams have come true, their lives take a startling turn . . . and they find themselves members of the perilous Adventurers Guild.



*Scout Is Not a Band Kid* by Jade Armstrong

A young girl in middle school will do whatever it takes to meet her favorite author--even if it means joining her school band! A contemporary graphic novel about making your dream come true--and the friends you make along the way. When Scout learns that her favorite author is doing an exclusive autograph session at the end of the year, she's determined to be there! She officially needs a plan...and when she finds out that her school's band is heading to the same location for their annual trip, an idea takes shape. As it turns out, learning how to play an instrument when you can't even read music is much, much, MUCH tougher than expected.



*Invisible: a Graphic Novel* by Christina Diaz Gonzalez; Gabriela Epstein (Illustrator)

Can five overlooked kids make one big difference? There's George: the brain Sara: the loner Dayara: the tough kid Nico: the rich kid And Miguel: the athlete And they're stuck together when they're forced to complete their school's community service hours. Although they're sure they have nothing in common with one another, some people see them as all the same . . . just five Spanish-speaking kids. Then they meet someone who truly needs their help, and they must decide whether they are each willing to expose their own secrets to help . . . or if remaining invisible is the only way to survive middle school.

## *Summer Reading Choice Board Project*

**Directions:** After reading your chosen summer reading book, choose **ONE** check box from **EACH** column. You must choose a task from P,S, **and** C. After you've completed all 3 chosen tasks, create a tri-fold poster board that includes your choices displayed in a creative way. See the tri-fold details and example project on page #7. Your tri-fold will be shared with your classmates during the first week of school and the project will count as an extra credit grade for Q1.

**Paragraph = five well-developed sentences.**

<b>P<sub>lot</sub></b>	<b>S<sub>etting</sub></b>	<b>C<sub>haracters</sub></b>
Choose a Plot Task	Choose a Setting Task	Choose a Character Task
<input type="checkbox"/> Write 2 paragraphs explaining the major conflict in the book. What is the problem and how is it resolved or not resolved?  <input type="checkbox"/> Write a 3-4 paragraph letter to the author arguing for a different ending  <input type="checkbox"/> Create a comic strip including the major characters, the conflict, and the climax. Include a 3-5 sentence explanation of the comic.  <input type="checkbox"/> Identify a major theme in the book. In 2 paragraphs, explain the theme's message, using at least one direct example from the text.  <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a theme song for the book - Print the lyrics and beside them, explain how they fit the book. (A minimum of 5 sentences total)	<input type="checkbox"/> Move the story to a different time period (the past or future). Rewrite one paragraph from the book in this new time period. In another paragraph, explain how this change might affect the story.  <input type="checkbox"/> Draw and label a place where an important event occurs in the book with a 3-5 sentence summary of the event.  <input type="checkbox"/> Create a Venn diagram of the setting of the book and your own neighborhood. Include five qualities of each neighborhood in bullet point form. In 3-5 sentences, answer the question: Are your communities more similar or different?  <input type="checkbox"/> Find and clip 3 current event articles from a newspaper and use at least 2 sentences to explain each article relates to the book. Learning about how current events relate to time, place, and characters in a book help develop opinions about what we experience in real life.	<input type="checkbox"/> Imagine you find a diary belonging to one of the main characters. In 2-3 paragraphs, create a diary entry from the character's perspective.  <input type="checkbox"/> Write an "About Me" section that the protagonist might put on their social media page. This should be one paragraph.  <input type="checkbox"/> Draw the protagonist with three objects that are important to them. Use at least 1-2 sentences to explain the significance of each object. (3-6 sentences total)  <input type="checkbox"/> Create and print a word cloud online. Type in the words that help describe your favorite character in the book- you should have a minimum of 20 words in your cloud. <a href="http://www.wordle.net/create">http://www.wordle.net/create</a>


# Tri-Fold Poster Example

The tri-fold poster should:


- Prominently display the book title and author
- Be eye-catching- i.e. colorful background/graphics/images
- Be neat and organized
- Include information on all three elements of your chosen book; Plot, setting, and characters
- Use complete sentences and include all required elements of your chosen tasks
- Utilize the entire tri-fold space- i.e. No large blank spaces or small writing/pictures
- Be brought with you to ELA class on the first day of school

## Plot

**The Mockingbird**



- A creature that should never be killed because it is harmless and even provides song for the enjoyment of others.
- Boo Radley and Tom Robinson are basically blameless individuals who are at the mercy of society, yet society is cruel to Boo and ultimately Tom is murdered.




## Pocket Watch

- From Boo Radley  
Jem feels that he is grown up and carries this pocket watch to symbolise how he feels he has matured. This is unacknowledged by those around him
- From Atticus (67)  
When he is allowed to keep the pocket watch from Atticus this symbolises a passing on of family values and Atticus' acknowledgement of Jem's maturity

## To Kill a Mockingbird

By Harper Lee

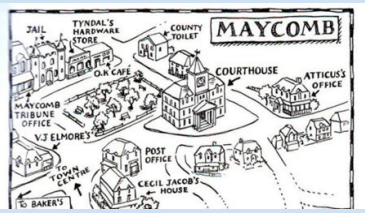


## Setting

Venn Diagram

Tomato	<p>Red flesh</p> <p>Mushy</p> <p>Savory</p>	<p>Fruit Round</p> <p>Smooth-skinned</p>	<p>Apple</p> <p>White flesh</p> <p>Firm</p> <p>Sweet</p>
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The book takes place in ....



## Characters

facebook Scout Finch Login

Scout Finch is a very unusual little girl, both in her own opinion, and in her social position.

**Basic Information**

**First Name:** Scout

**Birth Date:** May 28, 1961

**Location:** Maycombville, Alabama

**Relationship:** Daughter of Atticus Finch

**Personal Information**

**Activities:** Enjoys all the outdoor activities. Playing outside with Dill & Jem.

**Interests:** Neighbor Boo Radley. Loves to read and spending time with her dad, reading. Friends

**Personality:** Intelligent, Tomboy, Good-Hearted, Adventurous, Innocent, Nature-Lover

**Favorite Music:** Classic music

**Favorite Books:** Newspaper, Classic Tales, All kinds of books that would make her happy

**Contact Information**

**Address:** 100 Maycombville Avenue, Alabama 35000

**Phone Number:** 205-555-1211

Scout Finch is the main character....  
She likes....she does....she says....

