



Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy 2017 (in coming) 6th Grade Summer Reading List

Each student is expected to read **two** books over the summer, one **fiction** and one **non-fiction** and watch **one movie**. When you return to school, you will turn in 3 summary sheets and the novel project to your English teacher. You will complete a summary sheet for each of the two books *and* one for the movie. You will also complete a "Novel Project" for the fiction book. You complete **only one** project for your fiction book.

Find a description of each of the books here: bit.ly/2017summerreading

Fiction - Choose One

Awkward by Svetlana Chmakova

Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

The Blackthorn Key by Kevin Sands

A Blind Guide to Stinkville by Beth Vrabel

Backlash by Sarah Darer Littman

Charlie and the Grandmothers by Katy Towell

The Disappearance of Emily H. by Barrie Summy

Ferals by Jacob Grey

5 to 1 by Holly Bodger

Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar

Lost in the Sun by Lisa Graff

How Lunchbox Jones Saved Me from Robots, Traitors, and Missy the Cruel by Jennifer Brown

Non-Fiction - Choose One

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible...on Schindler's List by Leon Leyson

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Tanya Lee Stone

Movie:

The Wizard of Oz. The story of a simple Kansas farm girl caught in a tornado and magically transported to the Land of Oz. Starring: Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger, Jack Haley. Directed by: Victor Fleming (originally released in 1939; mastered and anniversary editions are fine). This film is available through Amazon Instant Video for \$2.99 and the Jefferson Parish Public Library. Be sure that you are watching the correct movie; check date and director.

1. Complete a book summary sheet, one for each book (fiction and non-fiction) and one for the movie. The summary sheets are located on the school website under student forms--summer reading: pftsta.com/SchoolForms.html

2. Fiction Novel Project - Directions

You have the opportunity to express your talents and personality while enjoying a good read! Complete **one project** from the list below for your **fiction** selection. In your project, include the book title, author, and your name.

a. Power Point - Create a PPT presentation that promotes your book to other readers. Include at least 8-12 slides with at least 1 image/graphic per slide. Open with a book jacket image. Your PowerPoint needs to have depth. It should explain the plot, setting, main characters, and main themes. The final slide before your citations should be your opinion of the novel. Each slide should represent a different element of the novel. The presentation should persuade others to read the book. Be sure to include a slide with citations indicating where you found and text, images, video, etc. (www.google.com is NOT acceptable!) If you need help with creating citations, use [Noodle Tools](http://NoodleTools.com) or easybib.com. Once you have your laptop, you will upload your PowerPoint to Google Docs.

b. Characterization Poster for a Major Character – Create a visually appealing poster (at least 8 ½ “x 14”, but no more than a half sheet poster board) that reflects your impression of a major character. Draw, paint, or copy and paste a large, vivid picture that represents how YOU visualize a major character in the novel. On the back, explain in one paragraph (at least 5-7 sentences) what you are representing and how it is relevant in your poster. Written portions must be typed and attached on back.

c. Compile a Scrapbook or Memory Box – Choose one of the major characters in your book and, putting yourself in the place of that character, put together a scrapbook or memory box of his or her special memories and mementoes. Letters, photographs, post cards, and souvenirs are all good items for the memory box and can be easily created. Think about whom your character is close to and what he/she does for fun. Remember this should represent your chosen character! Draw, create, collect or find at least six souvenirs that the main character would have put into his or her scrapbook or memory box. These objects should reflect events in the story or important aspects of your character. Include an explanation next to or with each object describing its significance. Be true to your character!

d. Character Analysis Paper – For a successful character analysis, you must infer abstract traits and values from the literal details contained in a text. Write a five paragraph essay analyzing the main character of your novel. Using evidence from the text to support your conclusions, describe at least three significant personality traits for this character. For each trait you discuss, you must include at least two supporting examples or details. Explore the physical and personality traits of different characters and the way their actions affect the plot of the book. Some suggestions include-

- What positive characteristics does the character possess?
- Does the character have a “fatal flaw”?
- Use examples of dialogue and analyze the way a character speaks. Discuss the words he/she chooses and the way the words affect other characters.
- Tie all of your observations together and explain the way this particular character moves the plot forward.