**Sixth Grade Expectations**

**School Year 2018-2019**

Dear Parents,

We are often asked what skills are necessary for students entering sixth grade. The following are the minimum skills required of your child for him/her to perform as a sixth grade student. These skills are very basic; mastery of these skills is essential to a successful student of the sixth grade. **Failure in either Math or Language Arts will result in retention.** A 70% year-end average is the minimal passing grade. ***If your child is ending the fifth grade with minimal grades (i.e. 70’s), it will be extremely important that he/she start the school year with mastery in the basic skills below.*** We know that you are as concerned as we are about your child’s academic success and that you will work with your child over the summer in order to maintain his/her mastery of these skills.

In addition to academics, we are planning an out-of-town field study next year to Nature’s Classroom. Please note this trip will cost **approximately $335**. This notice is to allow you to pre-plan your finances this summer. A parent meeting will be held after the first few weeks of school to give you the specifics of the trip.

**Language Arts:**

* Write legibly in print and cursive styles.
* Write in complete sentences including punctuation and capitalization.
* Restate the main idea of written text in your own words.
* Write an essay in paragraph form.
* Be able to demonstrate comprehension of written or verbal material.

**Mathematics:** (***calculators are not relied on*** – if your child depends on the “fraction button” on a calculator, it is very important that they are able to compute without this!)

* Know all multiplication facts (zero through 12) by memory. (\*major skill)
* Primary focus (work on this over the summer!) to be ready for middle school math: **Fluency with fractions! Be able to add, subtract, and multiply fractions and reason about fractional parts (ex: What does 1/3 of a quantity look like?)**

**Responsibility:**

* Homework is expected to be turned in **on time!** **No late work will be accepted.**
* Make-up work due to absences is the responsibility of the students.
* Extra credit is **NOT** given to pull up failing grades due to student neglect.
* Student Agenda Mates should be written in daily by the students and signed daily by the parents.
* Students are to follow the CSLA code of conduct and dress code at all times. (Self-discipline cards will be used in all classes as needed.)

Thank you for your support,

Ms. Striker & Ms. Heisig

Sixth Grade Team

6th Grade Summer Reading

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| **Project** | Create a 5-song “Soundtrack” for the book. Your soundtrack must be done in PowerPoint or Google Slides. You must include an “Album Cover” with the title and author of the books, original artwork depicting a scene or theme from the story, and your name. For **each song** you choose, include the following:   * Song title and artist * Song lyrics * Paragraph explaining the song’s significance to the books   **SONGS MUST BE**  **SCHOOL APPROPRIATE!** | On a poster, create a timeline for the book. Your timeline should include the following information:   * Title and author * 8-10 major events from the book * And illustration with a 2-3 sentence caption for each event listed * Captions should be typed, cut out and pasted on the poster   Your poster must be neat. All illustrations should be in color. | Create a collage of quotes, thoughts, ideas, and pictures related to the book. Along with your collage, include a 1-2 page explanation of each item’s significance to the novel.   * Collage should be completed on construction paper or unlined copy paper * You may cut out words or images from magazines or print from the internet * Explanation should be typed | Create a scrapbook page for each major character in novel and include the following information for each character:   * Name of character * Illustrations and captions of significant scenes from the novel involving the character * Relationship to the main character * Basic information about the character: age, hobbies/interests, school or occupation | Write a condensed children’s book version of the novel. It should be designed to be read by children in grades 1-3.   * At least 8 pages * Original illustrations * Include main events from the story * Story text should be typed |
| **Rubric** | Album Cover 15  Song Lyrics 25  Explanation of Significance 50  Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation 10  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total 100 | Illustrations 40  Captions 40  Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation 10  Neatness 10  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total 100 | Collage 40  Explanation of Significance 50  Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation 10  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total 100 | Basic information 20  Illustrations 30  Captions 30  Relationship 10  Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation 10  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total 100 | Illustrations 40  Story 40  Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation 10  Neatness 10  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Total 100 |

This summer, you will read a Carl Hiaasen novel. Your choices are *Chomp*, *Scat,* *Hoot*, and *Flush*. This series of books will be our first book club of sixth grade. You will be able to check out a book from our collection at CSLA. In addition to reading the book, you need to complete the Notice and Note bookmark (attached) to help you with your thinking. **Don’t forget to include page numbers**. These notes will be helpful when we meet to talk about the books in August.

When you have finished reading, you will pick **ONE** activity from below. You will bring your complete project on the first day of school, along with your book.

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| **Contrast and Contradictions**  **Notice and Note Bookmark Sheet**  Remember to write down your page numbers as you complete the sheet  When you are reading and a character says or does something different from how they’ve been acting all along.   * You should ask yourself: “Why is this character doing/ acting like that?” |

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| **Memory Moment**  When you are reading and the author interrupts the action to tell you a memory.   * You should ask yourself: “Why might this memory be important?” |

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| **Again and Again**  When you are reading and you notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over.   * You should ask yourself: “Why does this keep showing up again and again?” |

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| **Words of the Wiser**  When you are reading and a character (who is probably much older) takes the main character aside and gives serious advice.   * You should ask yourself: “What is the life lesson, and how might this affect the character?” |

**Notice and Note Bookmark Sheet**

Remember to write down your page numbers as you complete the sheet

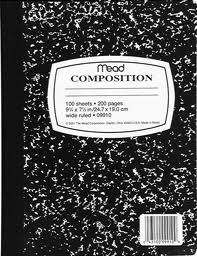
|  |
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| **Aha Moment**  When you are reading and suddenly a character realizes, understands something, or finally figures something out.   * You should ask yourself: “ How might this change things?” |

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| **Tough Questions**  When you are reading and the character has to ask him/herself a really difficult question   * You should ask yourself: “What does this question make me think about?” |

Summer Science Project

In sixth grade, you will have a “Scientist Notebook” that will be used every day in class. Your project over the summer is to research a topic and then decorate the outside of your notebook with information about the topic. You will present your notebook and what you learned to the class during the first days of school.

Steps:

1. **Choose** a topic from the list below. There are two topics for each month. If you have a sibling in the same grade with the same birthday, please choose separate topics.
2. **Research** your topic using books, magazines, etc. You may use the Internet, but use at least one non-Internet source as well. You need to know the following information:
   1. Description of the Process / Topic – Tell the steps that are taken, etc.
   2. A visual representation (infographic, chart, diagram, graph, etc.)
   3. How the topic impacts our Earth.
3. Purchase a **Composition Book (this counts as 1 of the 4 needed for the year!)**
4. **Decorate** the outside cover of the composition book with the three required pieces of information about your topic. Your decorations should include both text (hand-written in your handwriting) and images (printed or hand-drawn.) The decorations should cover the front and back outside cover of the composition book. We will “cover” the books with protective film on the first day so they will last all year.
5. **Prepare** to give a short presentation (3-5 minutes) on the first day of school about the three required pieces of information regarding your topic.

Choose a topic from the list based on when your birthday is.

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| **Your Birthday** | **Option #1** | **Option #2** |
| January | How Mud Batteries Work | Turning Trees into Paper |
| February | Changing Saltwater into Freshwater | How Food Fuels Your Body |
| March | Turning Coal into Energy | Changing Wind Energy into Electrical Energy |
| April | How Tornadoes Develop | How 3D Printers Work |
| May | How the Sun’s Energy Causes Wind | Turning Coal into Diamonds |
| June | Changing Polluted Water into Drinking Water | How a Hydropanel Works |
| July | How Airplanes Fly | Photosynthesis |
| August | Harnessing Nuclear Energy | How Cars turn Gasoline into Kinetic Energy |
| September | Changing Running Water into Electricity | How a Microwave Oven Works |
| October | Crude Oil into Gasoline | How Footsteps can be Converted into Electricity |
| November | How Sunscreen Works | How Batteries are Made |
| December | How a Volcano Erupts | How Saltwater Power / Osmotic Power Works |

**Sixth Grade Service Learning**

At CSLA, we encourage lifelong learning and the importance of serving others. Over the summer, sixth grade students will be expected to perform some type of service learning. This service learning can come in many different forms. Here are some ideas:

* Service learning through church, synagogue, or other religious group
* Service learning through Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girls Club, or Boys Club
* Volunteering in many different places
* You may consider volunteering at the same place you did before fifth grade, or you may do something completely different.

Fill out the CSLA Summer Service Learning Project form and bring it to school on the first day. **One of our first seminars will include information about the service learning project!** Your child should be prepared to write about this experience during the first week of school. A good idea would be for your child to keep a journal about this experience, with names & events included to remind them of what the experience was all about. Have fun while serving your community!

A few extra notes…

* Go ahead and purchase extra supplies at the start of the year when they are on sale (pencils, sharpeners, erasers, paper, 1 or 2 extra comp books, etc.)
* Students benefit from having their own reusable water bottle and staying hydrated! Please label with name.
* We will give info regarding the infamous Nature’s Classroom field trip at the beginning of the year! This trip costs $280 - $335 (all-inclusive) and a payment schedule will be offered. Tentative Dates: May 6-10, 2019
* We can always use extra tissues and paper towels!
* Rest, relax, and recharge this summer! We look forward to getting to know your child in August!

6th Grade Wish List

Masking Tape

Metallic Sharpies

Clear Contact Paper

Binder Clips

Double Sided Tape

Colored Copy Paper

Sheet Protectors

Address or Shipping Labels

Board Games

Clorox Wipes

Packing Tape

Color / Patterned Duct Tape

Command Hooks