

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nickname Game

By: Gordon Korman

Welcome to 6<sup>th</sup> grade! This school year is one to remember, as this is your first year of middle school. To start off the school year right, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teachers are expecting you to read Gordon Korman's The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nickname Game and complete a paper bag book report as an assessment of this novel. The students at DMS have worked very hard all year and are leaving school this year as better readers and writers. As you know, good readers and writers read and write DAILY. Recent brain research shows us that practice is necessary in order to master strategies that are critical to the success of reading and writing. The research states that "unless students read regularly during school breaks, they can fall behind three months in their reading achievement" (Scholastic Instructor, 2005). Students who read through the summer are shown to increase their reading ability. Reading is not a natural skill, just like activities such as baseball or playing an instrument. The more you practice the better you will become.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teachers are expecting you to read Gordon Korman's The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nickname Game. You are to read the book and complete the paper bag book project according to the instructions that are included in the packet. In this packet you will find the instructions for this project, notecards and colored pencils. These items will help you complete the project.

The due date for your project is **Friday, August 12, 2017**. Do not wait until the last minute to read and complete your project. Read for 20-30 minutes each night and complete your project.

We look forward to working with you during the school year.

Sincerely,

The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teachers

Ms. Altman, Mrs. Day, and Mr. Kaluzavich

## Paper Bag Book Report

You will be completing a paper bag book report as an assessment for this novel/story.



### **On the Outside....**

For this book report, you must consider each the following: **setting, plot, main character, and theme.**

There are four panels on a paper bag. You will be expected to dedicate one panel of your brown paper bag to each of these four elements.

1. For the setting, you must include the time and place (if there is more than one time/place include those too). As well, you must create a small illustration to add to this panel that illustrates one of the main settings in the novel.
2. You must summarize the plot in a few sentences – keep it short and sweet. Many times, this is more difficult than writing a lengthy description.
3. Tell about the main character on the third panel. Do not focus on the physical and the obvious. Tell how this character changed throughout the story. What happened to him/her to cause this change etc.? You can include the obvious information (family background, physical traits etc.). However, don't include ONLY this information. As well, list the other major/minor characters in the story by name on this panel.
4. The final panel must be about the theme of the book. What is the theme(s) and what are your feelings about the message in this novel?



- The information for each panel must be **neatly written/typed on a small piece of paper and glued/taped to the bag**. You won't need any more than a paragraph or so for each panel.
- Drawings/visuals are welcome, but optional
- **Be sure to include the title of the novel, author and your name clearly on the outside of the bag**

### **On the Inside...**

You must include **10 items** in your bag that have some significance to the story. Be imaginative... Think outside of the box. You can use toys, modeling clay, or anything else that may represent something important from the story.



**Make sure each item that you pick is unique and include a one sentence descriptor attached to the item about its significance.**

*You will be expected to share your book report with the class (inside and out) and will be marked on: inclusion of the setting, plot, major character, theme and conventions (for the outside of the bag), your ten items inside the bag and your overall speaking/listening skills during the presentation. This will give you a total mark out of 50 for this book report.*

***Have fun and do your best!***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Paper Bag Book Report Rubric**

<b>Category</b>	<b>4 – Excellent</b>	<b>3 - Good</b>	<b>2 – Fair</b>	<b>1 - Inadequate</b>
<b>Setting</b>	Includes ALL settings and times that were important to the book, as well as an appropriate illustration	Includes most of settings and times that were important to the book, as well as an appropriate illustration	Includes either some settings and times that were important to the book or an appropriate illustration	Includes incorrect or incomplete settings/times and/or an incomplete illustration
<b>Plot</b>	Includes ALL key events to story, without retelling the entire book; includes only the most necessary information	Includes most key events to story, without retelling the entire book; includes only the most necessary information	Includes some key events to story, but excludes other important events	Includes an inadequate explanation of the plot, excluding many of the key events
<b>Main Character</b>	Includes ALL important information about the main character (including how s/he changed over the course of the story, as well as the more obvious character traits)  ALSO, names ALL other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes most important information about the main character (including how s/he changed over the course of the story, as well as the more obvious character traits)  ALSO, names most/all other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes some important information about the main character, but excludes other Information  ALSO, names some other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes little important information about the main character OR chooses a minor character rather than the main character  May or may not include other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story
<b>Theme</b>	Includes a complete description of the theme(s) of the book AND a well explained personal opinion concerning the theme(s)	Includes a good description of the theme(s) of the book AND a well explained personal opinion concerning the theme(s)	Includes some information about the theme(s) of the book, but omits the personal opinion about the theme(s)	Includes incomplete/ inaccurate information about the theme(s) and may or may not include an opinion about the theme(s)
<b>Conventions</b>	All spelling and punctuation is correct; title, author and name are included	Most spelling and punctuation is correct; title, author and name are included	There are many errors with conventions; title, author and name are included	There are multiple errors with conventions; key information missing

**On the Inside: Students will receive one mark for each unique item that they have included inside the paper bags for a total of ten marks (Be sure to label each with a sentence strip)**

Total: \_\_\_\_\_