

Dear Families and Students,

You will note that on our suggested reading lists there are numbers after the titles. **Example:** Hatchet by Gary Paulson **1020L**.

The 1020L refers to the Lexile level of the text. Please see below for a brief explanation of the Lexile Score.

The **Lexile** Framework involves a scale for measuring both reading ability of an individual and the text complexity of materials he or she encounters. The **Lexile** scale is like a thermometer, except rather than measuring temperature, the **Lexile** Framework measures a text's complexity and a reader's skill level.

LEXILE TEXT RANGES TO GUIDE READING	
GRADES	LEXILE TEXT RANGE
11-12	1185L-1385L
9-10	1050L-1335L
6-8	925L-1185L
4-5	740L-1010L
2-3	420L-820L
1	190L-530L

Wishing you all a happy, healthy summer filled with joy and reading.

Sincerely,

Ms. Abby and the Administrative Team

Lawrence Middle School

Incoming Grade Six

Summer Reading Assignments

Reading during the summer months is critical to avoid the “summer slide.” ***Children who do not read over the summer can lose up to two months of reading achievement.*** In order to combat “summer slide,” the School Librarian and the administration have created a summer reading list with a wide variety of suggested readings and several options for students to demonstrate their comprehension of what they have read. Students may choose books off list as well. (No “movie” novels, Wimpy Kids or Percy Jackson please)

The chart below has a variety of assignments to choose from. **ALL STUDENTS** going into **grade 6** are **required** to choose **one assignment** from below. Your assignment will be **due on September 25th**. Teachers and the school librarian will be available to answer questions in September. Reading lists and assignments are posted on the school and library website. Your sixth grade ELA teachers are looking forward to reading and grading your work 😊

Literary Assessment
Write five (5) diary entries from a character’s point of view.
Write a letter from one character to another character.
Create a double-entry journal responding to five (5) details throughout the book.
Write a personal reflection with text-based details explaining whether you agree or disagree with a character’s actions.

****READING INCENTIVE:** Any student who submits a summer reading assignment will be entered into a raffle for a basket of school supplies. A winner from each grade will be chosen and called down during announcements on Oct. 2nd.

Lawrence Middle School Summer Reading Assignments Incoming Grades 7 & 8

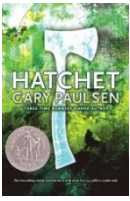
Reading during the summer months is critical to avoid the “summer slide.” ***Children who do not read over the summer can lose up to two months of reading achievement.*** In order to combat “summer slide,” the School Librarian and the administration have created a summer reading list with a wide variety of suggested readings and several options for students to demonstrate their comprehension of what they have read. Students may choose books off list as well. (No “movie” novels, Wimpy Kids or Percy Jackson please)

The chart below has a variety of assignments to choose from. **ALL STUDENTS** entering grades 7 & 8 are **required** to choose **one assignment** from the **Literary Assessment** column and a **second assignment** from the **Art or Technology** column. These assignments will be **due on September 25th**. Reading lists and assignments are posted on the school and library website. Teachers and the school librarian will be available to answer any questions in September. Your new ELA teachers look forward to examining and grading your assignments.

Literary Assessment (A)	Art Assessment (B)	Technology Assessment (C)
Write five (5) diary entries from a character’s point of view.	Design a poster of a character, the setting or the conflict in the book.	Create a PowerPoint, Google Slides or Prezi presentation demonstrating setting, conflict and theme. Include a recommendation and or a book review.
Write a letter from one character to another character.	Create a character Scrapbook That displays what he/she would save; include a brief commentary for each page.	Create a Book Trailer - video book talk or Podcast include a review (opinion) of the book
Create a double-entry journal responding to five (5) details throughout the book.	Create a diorama that displays a setting, scene or important theme from your book.	Create a website for your book and post a playlist/soundtrack for your book.
Write a personal reflection with text-based details explaining whether you agree or disagree with a character’s actions.	Design a new and improved book cover for your book it should include: A clear title and the author’s name, a picture that reflects the books themes, a summary of the plot without giving away the ending and a review (opinion) of the book	Record a brief YouTube film acting out a scene in the book.

READING INCENTIVE: All students who submit a summer reading assignment will be entered into a raffle for a basket of school supplies. A winner from each grade will be chosen and called down during announcements on Oct. 2nd.

Incoming Sixth Grade Summer Reading Selections



Hatchet by Gary Paulsen 1020L

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.



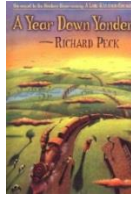
Rules by Cynthia Lord 780L

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.



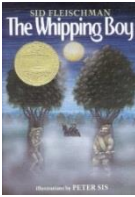
Lawn Boy by Gary Paulsen 780L

Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.



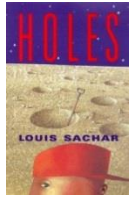
A Year Down Yonder by Richard Peck 610L

In 1937, during the Depression, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice, initially apprehensive about leaving Chicago to spend a year with her fearsome, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois, gradually begins to better understand and admire her grandmother's unusual qualities.



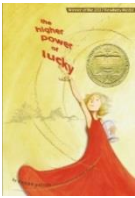
Whipping Boy Sid Fleischman 570L

A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.



Holes by Louis Sachar 660L

Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.



The Higher Power of Lucky by Susan Patron 1010L

Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life.



Heck: Where the Bad Kids Go by Dale E. Basye 860L

When timid Milton and his older, scofflaw sister Marlo die in a marshmallow bear explosion at Grizzly Mall, they are sent to Heck, an otherworldly reform school from which they are determined to escape.



The Wild Robot by Peter Brown 740L

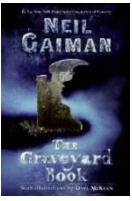
The Wild Robot is a middle-grade novel about a shipwrecked robot that learns to survive by observing and befriending the animal's native to her new island.



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White 680L

Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.

Incoming Seventh Grade Summer Reading Selections



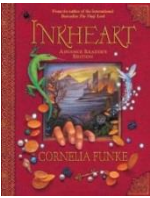
The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman 820L

After the grisly murder of his entire family, a toddler wanders into a graveyard where the ghosts and other supernatural residents agree to raise him as one of their own.



Pax by Sarah Pennypacker 760L

From bestselling and award-winning author Sara Pennypacker comes a beautifully wrought, utterly compelling novel about the powerful relationship between a boy and his fox.



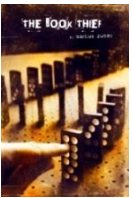
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke 780L

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life. This "story within a story" will delight not just fantasy fans, but all readers who like an exciting plot with larger-than-life characters.



The dark is rising by Susan Cooper 920L

On his eleventh birthday Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.



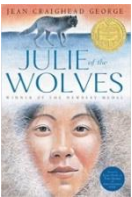
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak 730L

During World War II a young German girl Leisel steals books to sell and also her story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding.



Jacob Have I Loved Katherine Paterson 880L

Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother, and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.



Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead

George 700L

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.



Dragon's Blood 870L

Jakkin, a bond boy who works as a Keeper in a dragon nursery on the planet Auster IV, secretly trains a fighting pit dragon of his own in hopes of winning his freedom.



Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer 600L

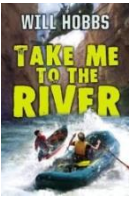
When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.



Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld 790L

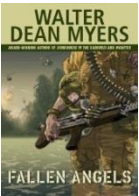
In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery.

Incoming Eighth Grade Summer Reading Selections



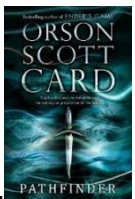
Take Me to the River by Will Hobbs 760L

When fourteen-year-old Dylan Sands joins his fifteen-year-old cousin Rio in running the Rio Grande River, they face a tropical storm and a fugitive kidnapper.



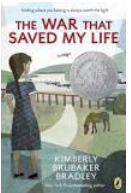
Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers 650L

Seventeen-year-old Richie Perry, just out of his Harlem high school, enlists in the Army in the summer of 1967 and spends a devastating year on active duty in Vietnam.



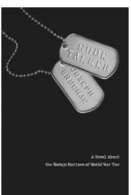
Pathfinder by Orson Scott Card 920L

Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his father's death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him.



The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley 580L

Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him.



Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac 910L

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.



The Yearling by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings 750L

A Pulitzer Prize-winning classic originally published over 50 years ago, Rawling's timeless story of backwoods Florida and the tender relationship of a young boy and his tame fawn continues to delight and enthrall readers.



Stolen by Vivian Vande Velde 860L

A girl finds herself running through the forest at the edge of a village with no memory of anything, even her own name, and later learns that she might be twelve-year-old Isabelle, believed to be stolen by a witch six years before.



All the Broken Pieces Ann E. Burg 680L

Matt Pin would like to forget: war torn Vietnam, bombs that fell like dead crows, and the terrible secret he left behind. But now that he is living with a caring adoptive family in the United States, he finds himself forced to confront his past. And that means choosing between silence and candor, blame and forgiveness, fear and freedom.



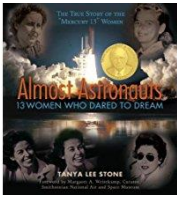
Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam Cynthia Kadohata 730L
CRACKER IS ONE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S MOST VALUABLE WEAPONS: a German shepherd trained to sniff out bombs, traps, and the enemy. The fate of entire platoons rests on her keen sense of smell. She's a Big Deal, and she likes it that way.



Year of Impossible Goodbyes Sook Nyul Choi 840L

It is 1945, and courageous ten-year-old Sookan and her family must endure the cruelties of the Japanese military occupying Korea. Police captain Narita does his best to destroy everything of value to the family, but he cannot break their spirit.

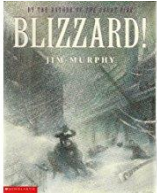
LMS Non-Fiction Summer Reading Selections



Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream, by Tanya Lee Stone 980L

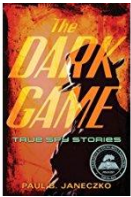
In 1961, thirteen women were tested to see if women were equally qualified to be astronauts as men. You probably don't know their story. There's a reason for

that.



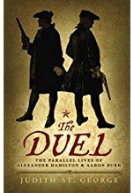
Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America by Jim Murphy 1080L

A three day freak snow storm from Virginia up to the Canadian border and Michigan to the east coast that brought EVERYTHING to a stand-still a must read. Much of the story was about the effect on New York City and the immediate country side but that was not all.



The Dark Game: True Spy Stories by Paul B. Janeczko 1200L

From clothesline codes to surveillance satellites and cyber espionage, Paul B. Janeczko uncovers two centuries' worth of true spy stories in U.S. history. Ever since George Washington used them to help topple the British, spies and their networks have helped and hurt America at key moments in history.



The Duel: The Parallel Lives of Alexander Hamilton & Aaron Burr by Judith St. George 1040L

This is a really great historical portrayal of the parallel lives of Hamilton and Burr. There is so much information packed into such a short book! It really goes more in depth to show Burr and Hamilton's relationship and what ultimately led to the fatal duel.



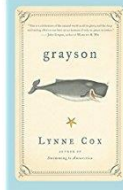
Game Day: Meet the People Who Make it Happen Kevin Sylvester (N/A)

Gr 5-9-Popular athletes enjoy a great deal of attention, but there are many important individuals who operate behind the scenes. Sylvester introduces 20 lesser-known people who have made a career in sports.



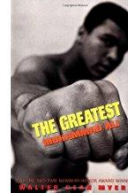
The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact On Us by Tanya Lee Stone 1120

During her unparalleled fifty-year history, Barbie has been the doll that some people love-and some people love to hate. There's no question she's influenced generations, but to what end? Read this book to find out.



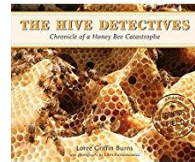
Grayson by Lynne Cox 920L

It was the dark of early morning; Lynne was in 55-degree water as smooth as black ice, two hundred yards offshore, outside the wave break. She was swimming her last half-mile back to the pier before heading home for breakfast when she became aware that something was swimming with her.



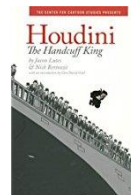
The Greatest: Muhammad Ali by Walter Dean Myers 1030L

An award-winning author presents a riveting account of the extraordinary career and accomplishments of boxer Muhammad Ali. This biography chronicles Ali's impact on race relations inside and outside the sports world.



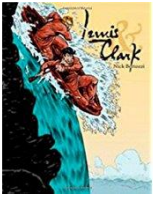
The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe by Loree Griffin Burns 1120L

The mystery of the vanishing honeybees began in the winter of 2006 when beekeeper Dave Hackenberg inspected 400 of his 3000 hives in Florida and discovered that 20 million bees had simply disappeared. He frantically alerted state bee inspectors and other beekeepers that there was some strange new ailment affecting these insects read this book to find the cause



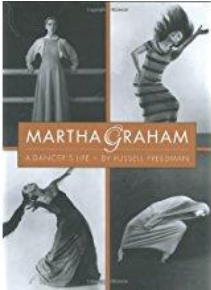
Houdini: The Handcuff King by Jason Lutes & Nick Bertozzi (N/A)

Following Houdini on the morning of his leap (while handcuffed) into the frigid Boston River, readers gain a remarkably complete picture of his world.



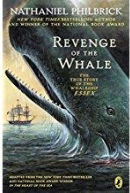
Lewis & Clark by Nick Bertozzi 810L

Meriwether Lewis, a complex and fascinating figure in American history, was a bold explorer and a man haunted by demons. Both sides of his personality are revealed in this saga of his search for a Northwest water passageway to the Pacific.



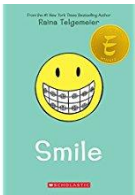
Martha Graham, A Dancer's Life by Russell Freedman 1130L

Freedman once again animates American history through biography; here he adds culture to the mix as he chronicles the inspiring life of legendary dancer Martha Graham. The venerable author hooks readers in immediately with his description of young Martha learning to move her body by watching a lion pace from one side of its cage to the other.



Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex by Nathaniel Philbrick 1170L

In 1819, the Essex, a Nantucket whaleship carrying a crew of 20, began what all thought would be a normal, two-year voyage. Instead, after a year and a half of near-disasters, the ship was rammed by a sperm whale and sank in the Pacific.



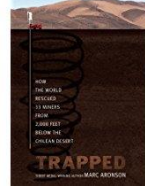
Smile by Raina Telgemeier 320L

Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached.



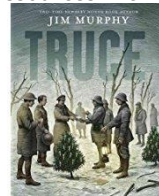
Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board by Bethany Hamilton 960L

In this moving personal account of faith and fortitude, internationally ranked surfer Bethany Hamilton tells how she survived a shark attack that cost her arm--but not her spirit. They say Bethany Hamilton has saltwater in her veins. How else could one explain the passion that drives her to surf? How else could one explain that nothing—not even the loss of her arm—could come between her and the waves?



Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners From 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert by Marc Aronson 1070L

In early August 2010, the unthinkable happened when a mine collapsed in Copiapo, Chile, trapping 33 miners 2,000 feet below the surface. For sixty-nine days they lived on meager resources with increasingly poor air quality.



Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting by Jim Murphy 1160L

On July 29th 1914, the world's peace was shattered as the artillery of the Austria-Hungary Empire began shelling the troops of the country to its south. What followed was like a row of falling dominoes as one European country after another rushed into war. Soon most of Europe was fighting in this calamitous war that could have been avoided. This was, of course, the First World War.



Vietnam by Charlotte Guillain 950L

Vietnam offers complete coverage of this fascinating country, including sections on history, geography, wildlife, infrastructure and government, and culture. It also includes a detailed fact file, maps and charts, and a traceable flag.

Please read and follow the directions below to complete the double-entry journal assignment.

DIRECTIONS:

The **left side** of your table must contain at least five quotations from the reading with page numbers noted. Should you wish to refer to a particularly large selection, you may paraphrase it.

The **right side** of your table must comment on five of these eight points. Your right side can respond to questions such as:

- What strikes you about this?
- What was your first thought when you read this? And then? And then?
- What does this passage/idea make you think of or remember?
- Do you want to challenge or qualify this author's claim? In what ways do you agree with it? Disagree?
- What else have you read/heard/experienced that connects with this author's ideas?
- Does something confuse you or lead to further questions?
- How do you feel about this?

Using the template below, type out your responses (or print and hand write) and have completed assignment prepared to turn in by September 25, 2017. This assignment is meant to help you analyze the text – similar to textual annotation AND prepare you so that you are able to talk about your selected passages in class as well as keep track of which passages you wrote about.

When these are graded, we will be looking for detail. The best way to guarantee earning full credit for this assignment is to comment fully on your passages.

