



C.C.A. BALDI MIDDLE SCHOOL
Empowering All Students to Be Successful



Required Summer Reading List for 2020-2021 School Year Students Entering Grade 6

Dear Future Sixth Grader & Parents of a Future Sixth Grader:

Studies have shown that students can lose a month or more of academic progress if they do not continue reading over the summer. This combined with the challenges of our abrupt shift to remote instruction place a priority on staying actively engaged in reading as preparation for next year. As a school, we are committed to providing your child with a rigorous learning environment, which includes maintaining high expectations over the summer. Therefore, the Literacy teachers at Baldi Middle School have instituted a *recommended summer reading* for all students.

Directions: Please select *one novel* from the list below. The list provides three options with three different Lexile levels. The Lexile level corresponds with the difficulty of a text. If you need help selecting a novel, speak with your current Literacy teacher who can point you in the right direction. *You are not required to purchase the novel. [You may borrow an online version of the book from a library](#) or find a free version online for download. If any family anticipates challenges acquiring one of the texts below, please share that concern with your current Literacy teacher.*

1. Bridge to Terabithia: Katherine Paterson (Lexile: 810)

A secret world of their own Jess Aaron's greatest ambition is to be the fastest runner in the fifth grade. He's been practicing all summer and can't wait to see his classmates' faces when he beats them all. But on the first day of school, a new kid, a new girl, boldly crosses over to the boy's side of the playground and outruns everyone. That's not a very promising beginning for a friendship, but Jess and Leslie Burke become inseparable. It doesn't matter to Jess that Leslie dresses funny, or that her family has a lot of money -- but no TV. Leslie has imagination. Together, she and Jess create Terabithia, a magical kingdom in the woods where the two of them reign as king and queen, and their imaginations set the only limits. Then one morning a terrible tragedy occurs. Only when Jess is able to come to grips with this tragedy does he finally understand the strength and courage Leslie has given him.

2. Hoot: Carl Hiaasen (Lexile: 760)

Unfortunately, Roy's first acquaintance in Florida is Dana Matherson, a well-known bully. Then again, if Dana hadn't been sinking his thumbs into Roy's temples and mashing his face against the school-bus window, Roy might never have spotted the running boy. And the running boy is intriguing: he was running away from the school bus, carried no books, and here's the odd part-wore no shoes. Sensing a mystery, Roy sets himself on the boy's trail. The chase introduces him to potty-trained alligators, a fake-fart champion, some burrowing owls, a renegade eco-avenger, and several extremely poisonous snakes with unnaturally sparkling tails. Roy has most definitely arrived in Carl Hiaasen's Florida.

3. Stargirl: Jerry Spinelli (Lexile: 590)

From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, hallways hum "Stargirl." She captures Leo Borlock's heart with one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. Until they are not. Leo urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her - normal.

If you have any questions about Summer Reading, please contact Mrs. Bragg or Mrs. Contoudis before June 12, 2020. We hope you enjoy your summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Choice Board Activities:

Choose **ONE** of the Choice Board Options below to complete during the summer. The deadline for submission will be by the end of the first week of school.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Choice 1: Notes</u></p> <p>As you read your novel, take notes in a notebook or a Google Document/Slides on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Main Characters2. Critical Minor Characters3. Plot (Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution)4. Sequence of events5. Conflicts throughout the novel6. Setting and/or how the setting changes throughout the novel7. Characters interactions with one another: feelings, emotions, actions8. Possible themes or lessons | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Choice 2: Journaling</u></p> <p>As you read your novel, journal in a notebook or a Google Document/Slides the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pick a quote from each chapter that stands out to you.● Write a 5-7 sentence reaction to that quote:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Why did you pick this quote?○ What do you like about it?○ What does it make you think of?● Optional: write a poem inspired by the quote you chose |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Choice 3: Creative Writing</u></p> <p>After you read your novel, in a notebook or a Google Document/Slides do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Write an alternate ending to the novel.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The ending should be creative and involve the characters having a completely different experience than what the story tells.● Your creative writing piece should be 1-2 pages long.● Optional: write a 5-7 sentence paragraph explaining why you made your choices. | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Choice 4: Comic Strip</u></p> <p>After you read your novel, draw a comic strip in a notebook or an online software on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Choose 3 important events from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel to draw in your comic strip chronologically.● Your comic strip should be:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Original, creative, and colorful○ Include dialogue bubbles, thought bubbles and/or narration captions● Optional: write a 5-7 sentence paragraph explaining why you chose those scenes. |

Students will be expected to bring in their completed choice board activity by the end of the first week of school. All students who submit a completed choice board activity will be eligible for the: **Summer Reading Incentive!**