



Dear Upcoming Seventh Grade Parents and Students:

May 2019

Attached is the 2019 Summer Reading Project. Reading over the summer will increase reading comprehension levels to better prepare students for the year ahead. My hope is to have our children emulate the loyalty, kindness and humility found in these characters and themes and to develop a love of reading!

The first book to be selected is from the attached Lamplighter Book List. Quest students should choose a second novel from the attached Classic List.

The attached "Persuasive Speech" assignment is due the first day of school, and an Accelerated Reader quiz will be taken on each novel when returning to school. (A computer will be set up in the office during the summer Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 to 2:00 for students who would like to take the AR quizzes sooner.)

Barnes and Noble has been given our summer book list to make viewing/purchasing more convenient. I would be grateful for any novel donations at the start of the year!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Rachel Kelly  
MS Language Arts  
rkelly@gcsocala.com

2019 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer LA Project  
SAMPLE: Persuasive Speech Sample

Write a persuasive speech that will be delivered to your class. Use the persuasive techniques studied in sixth grade. Your audience is your class. A sample speech and techniques are attached. Your speech should be approximately 300 words or one double spaced (size 12, Times New Roman) page. The sample below is 315 words. The speech does not have to be memorized. When returning to school, proper delivery techniques will be discussed and time given to practice. A small amount of research (if applicable) will add a large amount of strength to your argument. Have fun with this! Choose a topic you are truly passionate about. Remember, you are convincing your classmates to adopt a certain point of view or to take a particular action.

Persuasive Techniques

\*\*\*Not all techniques can be used with all topics. Use your best judgment.

Use emotion

Be logical

Use specific info/facts/examples

Be assertive (no "I think/I feel")

Exaggerate without losing believability

Bandwagon ("everyone else is doing it")

Testimonial (expert confirmation)

Repeat argument in different ways

SAMPLE

You, my classmates, need to recycle. You've heard it before, but now it's time to actually listen. With a finite amount of space on this planet, and a growing population, we NEED to recycle. When is the last time you used an aluminum can? Did you recycle it? If so, that aluminum can be back on the shelf in two months. Did you throw it in the trash? Then it's now in our landfill, and it will stay there for five hundred years. Our planet was not given to our generation in the best shape, so we need to decide how we are going to leave it. Recycling laws are made by individual states. Florida has NO LAWS in place. Florida only has goals, but we can't wait for those goals to hopefully come to fruition. We need to act now. On average, you generate four and a half pounds of waste EVERY DAY. Only a pound and a half gets recycled. So, for every American, almost three pounds of waste PER DAY go into a landfill. Let's do the math. There are 320 million people in the US. That's 960 million pounds of waste that go to a landfill every day. Our largest landfill in Florida will be FULL in twelve years. Our state government is currently looking to use our wetlands. This will negatively impact our environment in ways that we don't even understand. Start recycling! Start simply; even one water bottle or can will make a difference. Make the effort to recycle, and soon it will become a habit that you can pass on to others. You'll be saving energy. You'll be saving money. You'll be saving our planet! Make the effort. Together we can increase Florida's pathetic recycling percentage from its current thirty eight percent. We need to do more!

# 2018-2019 Lamplighter Book List

## Middle School Summer Reading List

*Ashes* by Laurie Halse Anderson

5.6 level and 11 pts.

As the Revolutionary War rages on, Isabel and Curzon have narrowly escaped Valley Forge, but their relief is short-lived. Before long they are reported as runaways, and the awful Bellingham is determined to track them down. With purpose and faith, Isabel and Curzon march on, fiercely determined to find Isabel's little sister Ruth, who is enslaved in a Southern state where bounty hunters are thick as flies.

*Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk

4.8 level and 9 pts.

Twelve-year-old Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny, isolated piece of the starkly beautiful Elizabeth Islands in Massachusetts. Abandoned and set adrift in a small boat when she was just hours old, Crow's only companions are Osh, the man who rescued and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their fierce and affectionate neighbor across the sandbar. Crow has always been curious about the world around her, but it isn't until the night a mysterious fire appears across the water that the unspoken question of her own history forms in her heart. Soon, an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.

*Genevieve's War* by Patricia Reilly Giff

4.0 level and 5 pts.

Thirteen-year-old American girl Genevieve has spent the summer of 1939 at her grandmother's farm in Alsace, France. Then she makes an impulsive choice: to stay in France. It proves to be a dangerous decision. World War II erupts. The Nazis conquer Alsace and deport the Jews and others. A frightening German officer commandeers a room in Meme's farmhouse. And when Gen's friend Remi commits an act of sabotage, Gen is forced to hide him in the attic right above the Nazi officer's head. *Genevieve's War* is a gripping story that brings the war in occupied France vividly to life. It is a companion work to *Lily's Crossing*, a Newbery Honor Book.

*Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly

9.7 level and 18 pts.

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as 'human computers' used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. It is the powerful story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program.

*Red: The True Story of Red Riding Hood* by Liesl Shurtliff

4.3 level and 8pts.

Red is not afraid of the big bad wolf. She's not afraid of anything . . . except magic. But when Red's granny falls ill, it seems that only magic can save her, and fearless Red is forced to confront her one weakness.

*Once Was a Time* by Leila Sales

5.1 level and 9 pts.

In the war-ravaged England of 1940, Charlotte Bromley is sure of only one thing: Kitty McLaughlin is her best friend in the whole world. But when Charlotte's scientist father makes an astonishing discovery that the Germans will covet for themselves, Charlotte is faced with an impossible choice between danger and safety. Should she remain with her friend or journey to another time and place? Her split-second decision has huge consequences, and when she finds herself alone in the world, unsure of Kitty's fate, she knows that somehow, some way, she must find her way back to her friend. Written in the spirit of classic time-travel tales, this book is an imaginative and heartfelt tribute to the unbreakable ties of friendship.

*Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team* 6.8 level and 9 pts.  
by Steve Sheinkin

This is an astonishing underdog sports story and more. It's an unflinching look at the U.S. government's violent persecution of Native Americans and the school that was designed to erase Indian cultures. Expertly told by three-time National Book Award finalist Steve Sheinkin, it's the story of a group of young men who came together at that school, the overwhelming obstacles they faced both on and off the field, and their absolute refusal to accept defeat.

*Unbreakable Code* by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

5.8 level and 11 pts.

Mr. Quisling is definitely up to something mysterious, and Emily and James are on high alert. First, there's the coded note he drops at a book event. Then, they uncover a trail of encrypted messages in Mark Twain-penned books hidden through Book Scavenger. What's most suspicious is that each hidden book triggers an arson fire. As the sleuthing friends dig deeper, they discover Mr. Quisling has been hunting a legendary historical puzzle: the Unbreakable Code. This new mystery is irresistible, but Emily and James can't ignore the signs that Mr. Quisling might be the arsonist.

# CLASSICS

## Sixth Grade Novels

*Number the Stars* written by Lois Lowry (4.5 level, 4 AR points, fiction)

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

*The Giver* written by Lois Lowry (5.7 level, 7 AR points, fiction)

While training to be the Receiver of Memory, Jonas experiences joy and sadness for the first time. He becomes convinced his society has given up too much, and he can no longer accept the sameness.

*The Old Man and the Sea* written by Ernest Hemingway (level 5.1, 4 AR points, fiction)

In this beautiful, symbolic story an old fisherman catches a giant marlin, only to have sharks strip it to the bone.

## Seventh Grade Novels

*The Cay* written by Theodore Taylor (level 5.4, 4 AR points, fiction)

After the freighter on which Phillip and his mother were traveling from wartime Curacao to the U.S. is torpedoed, the boy finds himself dependent on an old West Indian for survival.

*The Island of the Blue Dolphins* written by Scott O'Dell (level 5.4, 6 AR points, fiction)

Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

*White Fang* written by Jack London (level 7.4, 13 AR points, fiction)

This classic tale tells of a savage dog's transformation through love.

## Eighth Grade Novels

*The Alchemist* written by Paulo Coelho (level 6.4, 6 points, fiction)

An Andalusian shepherd boy travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of a treasure buried in the Pyramids. What starts out as a journey to find worldly goods turns into a meditation on the treasures found within.

*The Call of the Wild* written by Jack London (level 8.0, 7 AR points, fiction)

Buck, a dog that has been forced into the harsh life of a sled dog, befriends a man seeking his fortune in the Klondike gold fields, and must ultimately decide whether to stay with his master or obey his instinct to join the wolves.

*The Lord of the Flies* written by William Golding (level 5, 9 AR points, fiction)

After a plane crash strands them on a tropical island while the rest of the world is ravaged by war, a group of British school boys attempts to form a civilized society but descends into brutal anarchy.