

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

### TCMS 2009-2010 Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List and Assignment

The Language Arts department at Terrace Community Middle School supports the fundamental tenet of providing students with a text-rich environment in order to develop their understanding of text and skill in developing ideas. The more students read, the better readers they become and research shows that students who read during the summer perform better in the fall when school resumes.

Welcome all incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students!!!

**Directions: Please choose one from the 8 titles on the list and complete the attached assignment.**

\* A summer reading assignment, which is to be completed while reading the novel, will be posted online as of June 4, 2009 <http://www.tcmstornadoes.com/> (Once you are on the main page, choose 6<sup>th</sup> grade from the menu on left and then choose Kimmitz or Whittemore's web page.)

Students are expected to read the novel and complete the summer reading assignment **before** the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of school, the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>. This assignment will be included as part of a project grade which will be completed during the first quarter. (The remainder of the project will be assigned in class.)

If you have any questions, please contact one of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teachers below:

[melinda.whittemore@tcmstornadoes.com](mailto:melinda.whittemore@tcmstornadoes.com) OR [rebecca.kimmitz@tcmstornadoes.com](mailto:rebecca.kimmitz@tcmstornadoes.com)

Author	Title (Choose One Science Fiction or Fantasy novel)
Lowry, Lois	<b>The Giver</b> : Sci-Fiction -When Jonas turns 12, he is singled out for special training from The Giver. Now, it's time for Jonas to receive the truth. There is no turning back.
Lowry, Lois	<b>Gathering Blue</b> : Sci-Fiction -Kira, an orphan with a twisted leg, lives in a world where the weak are cast aside. When she is given a task that no other community member can carry out, Kira soon realizes she is surrounded by many mysteries and secrets--and an extraordinary power of her own.
Lowry, Lois	<b>The Messenger</b> : Sci-Fiction -Matty has always been proud to be Village's Messenger. But now that Village is closing its once-welcoming doors, Matty must make one last journey through the treacherous forest, and must make a great sacrifice to save the place he loves.
Colfer, Eoin	<b>The Naturalist</b> : Sci-Fiction set in the future-- an orphaned boy, "saved" from deadly parasites & raised in a special home.
Farmer, Nancy	<b>The House of the Scorpion</b> : Sci-fiction set in the future--a boy is a clone, living in Mexico & must escape to freedom or die
Downer, Ann	<b>Hatching Magic</b> : Fiction/Fantasy-a girl helps a magician from the past find a missing dragon
Joseph Bruchac	<b>Whisper in the Dark</b> : Fiction/fantasy -when a spooky, Indian legend comes true for a young girl.....
Ridley Pearson	<b>The Kingdom Keepers</b> : sci-fiction/fantasy novel about Disney World

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**2009 Summer Reading Assignment for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders –**

1. Select **ONE** book to read from the Summer Reading list of 8 titles.
2. Complete the following assignments *as you are reading* the novel:
  - a. Story Map: Setting and Character information; Include a sequence of events for the plot (explained at bottom of page).
  - b. Character Map

Helpful Tip: Include page numbers as you are identifying elements so that you may easily return to these sections in the novel. You may also choose to highlight/underline important passages as you read that help you to clarify story elements.

**STORY MAP: Print and complete**

A story map is used to map the events in a story. This mapping of plot allows readers and writers to visualize the key features of stories.

Novel Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell how the novel title relates to the plot of the book.

**Setting** (Where, When, Time, Place, Mood) – Also include a colorful drawing of the setting from the beginning of the novel on a separate sheet of plain white paper.

**Characters & their descriptions:**

Main character (protagonist): \_\_\_\_\_

Antagonist: (force or person against main character): \_\_\_\_\_

Helps the main character (“sidekicks”): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PLOT:** the events of a story that show the characters in action. Write down the sequence of events, in chronological/time order, that show the action involving the main character. These can be typed or written on a separate sheet of paper. Include between 10 and 20 important events. Label the following within these events:

1. Problems/Conflicts: the struggles between two opposing forces (another character, nature, rules of a society, their own values, duties etc.)
2. Climax: the highest point of a plot; the turning point of the story.
3. Resolution: the point at which the main conflict or problem is worked out/solved.

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

Novel Title \_\_\_\_\_

Main Character's Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Character Map: Print and Complete

What does the character do and say that tells you about his/her personality? (include page #s and quotes) Identify their personality traits (i.e. adventurous, bold, naïve).

How does the character look (physical traits) and feel (internal conflicts going on inside)?  
- Include a colorful drawing on a sheet of plain paper.

What do others in the story (include their names) think about the character and why?

How I feel about the character? (*text-to-self*)