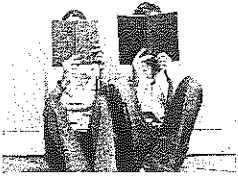


6th Grade ELA Independent Reading



Our goal in 6th grade is to foster a love of reading in each of our students! We are dedicated to creating and maintaining a community of readers. Research has shown that there are essential components in a successful reading program, and we are excited to provide this opportunity to our students and celebrate their reading throughout the year.

Time

Students need time to read in class in order to create a habit of reading and to build stamina. In addition, students need time to discuss choices with classmates, time to analyze their progress, and time to practice fluency & comprehension strategies under the direction of the teacher.

Choice

Students need to make choices in reading that reflect their interests because interest drives engagement. Students should challenge themselves to read books of increasing complexity from a range of genres.

Response

Students will reflect on reading in writing (reading & writing notebooks), facilitate discussions in small groups, and share with others what they are reading through book talks and Flipgrid posts.

Vision

Conversations about reading present a wide range of voices, styles of text, categories of interest, etc. and are essential for helping students develop their own 'to read next' lists. We must commit to helping students define themselves as readers.

Expectations

All readers will develop the stamina to read longer and with greater fluency with daily practice. In order for this practice to take place, students should come prepared with something to read each day in class. All readers will set goals, read regularly each week (both in class and at home), track their progress throughout the quarter, and complete at least one book talk.

The inspiration for our philosophy is best explained by nationally recognized teacher, literacy coach, and author Penny Kittle:

“There is a strong correlation between reading regularly for pleasure (any reading...really, ANY reading, as long as it’s a habit) and academic success, including building vocabulary, an understanding of sentence structure, and an increase in stamina for reading harder texts. It is also clear that the more you read, the better you write.” – (Penny Kittle, 2014)

Independent reading will count as a double daily grade (40%) every nine weeks.

6TH GRADE ELA STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

1. Set a reading goal every quarter.

You are required to read at least one independent novel each quarter but we expect you to challenge yourself! You will monitor your weekly progress and adjust your reading goal each quarter to reflect your progress.

2. Choose "Good Fit" independent novels.

"Good Fit" = Books you CAN and WANT to read

3. Bring your novel to class EVERY day!

We will be working with our independent novels in class, so if you don't have your novel, you won't be able to complete the classwork!

4. Share your reading with the class.

You will have opportunities to give book talks in class, upload book review videos to Flipgrid, write about your reading in your Reader's and Writer's Notebook, and talk to your classmates about what you're reading. You are responsible for creating one Flipgrid each quarter.

5. Enter your novel information into an online form when you finish a book.

You are responsible for "logging" each book when you finish. The form is electronic and is on my website and in Google Classroom. It is your responsibility to enter the book information as soon as you finish reading a book. We will use this to track your progress and grade your independent reading at the end of the quarter.

6. Keep lists of what you've read and what you want to read!

You will keep two running lists in your notebook:

1. Books you've read (title, author, date finished)
2. Books you want to read (title and author)