## **Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Standard and Honors Students**

#### ALL 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE students should read

- WONDER by R. J. Palacio ISBN 9781524720193 and complete the Book in a Bag assignment. This is worth a test grade.
- THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW by C.S. Lewis ISBN 978-0064471107 A comprehension test will be given the first week of school.

#### **Directions for Book in a Bag:**

Read the book, write a summary, decorate a bag with a scene from the book, place five items in the bag that represent something from the book, bring it to school, and present it to the rest of us!

#### Front of the bag:

The front of the bag should show an original student-made scene from the book. This can be hand drawn and colored with markers or crayons or have cut-outs or other embellishments to decorate the front, but it cannot be images that are printed from a computer!

#### Back of the bag:

On the back of the bag is a one-page summary of the book.

## Side of the bag:

Students should write their first and last name.

## Inside the bag:

Inside the bag students should have <u>five items</u> that show something from the book. Have fun and use your imagination here. Put items in the bag that represent the parts of the book that really captured your attention when you were reading.

Book in a Bag Rubric	Points Possible	Your Points
Neatness. Your project is neat and creative.	10	
Correct Grammar, Punctuation, & Spelling.	10	
<b>Front of Bag:</b> The picture is a scene from the book and is drawn by the student.	20	
<b>Side of Bag:</b> Students first and last name is neatly printed on the side of the bag.	10	
<b>Back of the Bag:</b> The student has a <u>ONE-PAGE</u> summary of the story attached to the back of the bag. This summary is neatly written or printed.	30	
<b>Inside of the Bag:</b> The student has included 5 items that represent parts of the story that were meaningful to him or her.	20	
TOTAL POINTS EARNED	100	

## **Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Standard and Honors English**

Students should read both of the following books:

- Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli ISBN 9780316809061
- The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi ISBN 9780545477116

#### **Project/Test Assignment:**

ALL Students will read <u>Maniac Magee</u> and create the book brochure project. Honors students will complete a writing assignment during the first week of school. To be more confident in understanding this novel, students may find it helpful to write a short summary of each chapter on a sticky note and stick the note in on the last page of each chapter.

ALL Students will read <u>The True Confessions ...</u> and be prepared for a comprehension test.

#### **Brochure Book Report**

Create a brochure for *Maniac Magee*. This should be created using one 8½ x 11 sheet of paper folded into a trifold brochure. Each flap will contain a different literary element from the novel. Follow the format described below. You will be graded on thoroughness and creativity. You need to demonstrate you have read and understood your book within this brochure. There are 6 flaps. <u>Each flap should have a</u> heading and color, and illustrations should be hand drawn. NO digital images.

Written work can be typed.

#### **Cover: Setting**

On the cover, you should include the title of the book, author, and a short sentence about the book, and your name. The design on the front cover needs to show the main setting of the book. This should be an illustration that you have drawn; NO digital images.

#### **Inside panel one: Characters**

List at least 5 characters and how they are related to or connected with the main character. Include a physical description of each character and a description of each character's traits (behaviors). Include a picture of what you think the character might look like, there should be NO digital images.

#### Inside panel two: Conflict

Conflict is what keeps a reader engaged in a novel. List the main conflicts in the story as they occur. What keeps you reading to find out what is going to happen next. This should be neat and done in a creative way. You can use words or pictures but should show the conflicts as they occur.

#### Inside panel three: Theme

The theme is the message that the author intends to teach as you read the story. Write a paragraph about what you believe the author wants you, as a reader, to learn by reading this story. Give specific examples of how the author develops this theme during the course of the story. Authors use literary devices to develop themes. What specific literary devices does the author use to convey a message.

#### Flap: Vocabulary

Reading should expand your vocabulary. Choose ten words from your book that are challenging (that you did not know previously). Write the word, definition, the sentence from your book including the word, and the page number. Illustrate at least 5 of the words.

#### **Back: Review**

Write a one or two paragraph review of the book. Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not? What did you like about the book? Did you like the way the author developed the characters? Did you enjoy the setting of the story? What did you not like? These are the questions that you should answer in your review.

Brochure Rubric (100 points)	Points	Your
Make sure you follow specific directions above.	Possible	Points
Neatness. Brochure looks clean and does not include a lot of	10	
blank space. Each section should have a heading and color.		
Correct Grammar, Punctuation, & Spelling.	10	
(Setting) The front includes a picture of the setting, book title	10	
and author, your name, and 1-sentence about the book.		
(Character) You have included at least 5 characters with physical	15	
descriptions and descriptions of character traits. You have		
included pictures of what you think the characters look like.		
(Conflict) You have listed the conflicts that occur in order. You	15	
can use words or pictures.		
(Theme) You have written at least one paragraph about what	15	
you believe the theme (message) of the book is. You have		
explained how the author develops or creates the message.		
(Vocabulary) At least 10 vocabulary words with definitions, and	15	
the sentences they came from are included. At least 5 words are		
illustrated.		
(Book Review) Information on book is thorough and explains	10	
what you did and did not like about the book.		
Total Score:	100	

## **Incoming 8th Grade Standard and Honors English**

ALL 8th grade students should read both of the following books:

- The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho ISBN #: 978-0-06-231500-7
- Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick ISBN #: 978-0-439-28606-0

#### **Project/Test Assignment:**

Students will read *Feak the Mighty* and create the book brochure project.

All Students will read <u>The Alchemist</u> and be prepared for a comprehension test and honors students will have a writing assignment during the first week of school. To be more confident in understanding this novel, students may find it helpful to write a short summary of each chapter on a sticky note and stick the note in on the last page of each chapter.

#### **Brochure Book Report**

Create a brochure for *Freak the Mighty*. This should be created using one 8½ x 11 sheet of paper folded into a trifold brochure. Each flap will contain a different literary element from the novel. Follow the format described below. You will be graded on thoroughness and creativity. You need to demonstrate you have read and understood your book within this brochure. There are 6 flaps. <u>Each flap should have a heading and have color; art work should be hand drawn. NO digital images on the brochure.</u>

#### **Cover: Setting**

On the cover, include the title of the book, author, and a short sentence <u>about the book</u>, and your name. <u>The design on the front cover needs to show the main setting of the book. This should be an illustration that you have drawn.</u>

#### **Inside panel one: Characters**

List at least 5 characters and how they are related to or connected with the main character. Include a physical description of each character and a description of each character's traits (behaviors). Include a picture of what you think the character might look like. NO digital images.

#### Inside panel two: Conflict

Conflict is what keeps a reader engaged in the story. List the main conflicts in the story as they occur. What keeps you reading to find out what is going to happen next. This should be neat and done in a creative way. You can use words or pictures but should show the conflicts as they occur.

#### Inside panel three: Theme

The theme is the message that the author intends to teach as you read the story. Write a paragraph about what you believe the author wants you, as a reader, to learn by engaging with this story. Give specific examples of how the author develops this theme during the course of the story. Authors develop themes using different literary devices; be specific about this.

#### Flap: Vocabulary

Reading should expand your vocabulary. Choose ten words from your book that are challenging (that you did not know previously). Write the word, definition, the sentence from your book including the word, and the page number. Illustrate at least 5 of the words.

#### **Back: Review**

Write a one or two paragraph review of the book. Some questions you might consider are: Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
What did you like about the book (be specific)?
Did you like the way the author developed the characters?
Did you enjoy the setting of the story?
What did you not like?

Brochure Rubric (100 points)	Points	Your
	Possible	Points
Neatness. Your brochure looks clean and does not include a lot	10	
of blank space. Each section should have a heading and color.		
Correct Grammar, Punctuation, & Spelling.	10	
(Setting) The front includes a picture of the setting, book title and	10	
author, your name, and 1-sentence about the book.		
(Character) You have included at least 5 characters with physical	15	
descriptions and descriptions of character traits. You have		
included pictures of what you think the characters look like.		
(Conflict) You have listed the conflicts that occur in order. You can	15	
use words or pictures.		
(Theme) You have written at least one paragraph about what you	15	
believe the theme (message) of the book is. You have explained		
how the author develops or creates the message.		
(Vocabulary) At least 5 vocabulary words with definitions, and	15	
the sentences they came from are included. At least 3 of the 5		
words are illustrated		
(Book Review) Information on book is thorough and explains	10	
what you did and did not like about the book.		
Total Score:	100	