

Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District
106 Washington Avenue
Plainview, New York 11803



June, 2016

Dear parents, guardians, and incoming grade six students,

Summer reading provides an excellent opportunity for students to continue to enhance literacy skills developed throughout the school year. It is also an opportunity to engage students in reading for fun and at their own level of interest and ability. To this end, the Plainview–Old Bethpage School District is issuing a Summer Reading List to all middle school students.

Please make every effort to read as much as possible over the upcoming summer. It would be helpful to keep track of the titles and authors of books read to share with teachers upon the return of school in September. While we strongly encourage reading multiple titles, **students must read one book from the attached list.** For the summer of 2016, and in an effort to meet the needs of different styles of learners, students are being given a choice of the type of assessment they can complete to present their understanding and appreciation of their book. They have the option of creating either a book talk video or book talk movie that must be uploaded by (Friday) September 16, 2016. Please consult the following pages in this packet for more details about the requirements and scoring rubrics for this style of assessment. Additionally, students can also choose to complete a more traditional writing assignment crafted by their classroom teacher during the third or fourth week of September. **Please be aware that whichever assessment students choose to complete (the book talk video, the book talk movie, or the traditional writing assignment), their score will contribute to their first quarter average.** Please find two different *optional* reading worksheets enclosed which can serve as note-taking resources toward the first quarter assessment. While it is not a formal assignment, it will certainly help to assist students with their reading comprehension and the organization of their thoughts.

The Middle School teachers and librarians developed a diverse list from titles recommended by the American Library Association, professional journals, and the librarians at our local public library. We invite parents and guardians to carefully review the list in an effort to guide children in making appropriate selections in terms of text difficulty as well as the subject matter discussed. While a text might be appropriate in terms of its complexity, some books might address themes that some families see as too mature for a certain age group. If a student is not able to find an acceptable title from the grade-level list due to content or text complexity, please reach out to Jeffrey Yagaloff at jyagaloff@pobschools.org so an alternate plan can be set *in advance of the opening of the school year*.

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library has received copies of our Summer Reading Lists and will be happy to help you select books. Public libraries provide a great opportunity to use computers, search the Internet, and socialize with peers. In addition, a link will be provided on the district's website to connect you with the 2016 statewide summer reading program, "On Your Mark, Get Set... Read!" For students interested in participating in summer reading contests, please visit the following links:

- <http://www.scholastic.com/ups/campaigns/src-2016>
- http://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/summer-reading/_/N-rs9

On behalf of the Plainview-Old Bethpage schools, we wish you a healthy and enjoyable summer. Please enjoy frequent visits to libraries and book stores. Make literacy, in all of its aspects, a part of the time you spend together this summer.

Ms. Eileen Annino	Ms. Alice Bowman	Mr. Christopher Donarummo	Mr. Jeffrey Yagaloff
<i>Literacy Coordinator</i>	<i>Principal</i>	<i>Principal</i>	<i>ELA Chair</i>

Whenever you read a good book, somewhere in the world a door opens to allow in more light."

~ Vera Nazarian

Summer Reading 2016 / Book Talk Video Project

- A book talk video is an attention grabbing presentation created to catch the audience's attention and persuade them to read the book that you have read. In a sense, you need to be both a salesperson and a performer.
- A book talk movie includes the same required content but, instead of students appearing in the video, they can deliver the same message using various forms of media such as images, video, audio, and voice-overs.

Length of Book Talk Video or Movie:

- Three to four minutes

Procedures:

- Your book talk video or movie should include the following elements:
 - **Introduce the book**
 - Show the book and share with your audience its title, author, publication date, and genre.
 - **Provide a brief summary of the book that includes telling:**
 - The setting of the book
 - Who the main characters are
 - A brief plot summary including the central conflict
 - *You cannot reveal the conflict's resolution because that would take the joy away from a potential reader of the book.*
 - The theme or message of the book
 - Share what you believe the author wants readers to take away from the experience of reading the book.
 - **Conclusion / Recommendation**
 - Tell the audience if you would recommend the book or not and provide reasons why or why not
 - Explain the type of reader this book would appeal to

General tips:

- Remember to be responsible and keep your presentation appropriate to a school setting.
- You should be comfortable enough with your presentation that you do not need to read directly from note cards.
- Present with enthusiasm and speak in a loud, clear, and slow enough manner so you can be easily understood
- If you are presenting using the video format, maintain eye contact with your audience

Samples:

- To get some inspiration, feel free to visit the following links to see some sample videos:
 - http://www.schooltube.com/channel/scholastic_booktalks/
 - <http://www.booktrailersforreaders.com/>

Submission:

- A Google Classroom has been set up for you to upload your video to. Submit your presentation using the following steps:
 - Go to classroom.google.com
 - Log in to your POB GAFE account if needed
 - Username = [first initial][last name]@pobschools.org
 - Password = User specific
 - Navigate to upper right corner +
 - Choose JOIN CLASS
 - Enter the proper code that is specific to the grade and school you will be in for the 2016-17 school year:
 - For students entering into 6th grade at Mattlin Middle School: **8qjxdw**
 - For students entering into 6th grade at POB Middle School: **tkayjk**
 - Within the classroom STREAM click OPEN within the “*Video Submission*” assignment
 - Once open, click on the ATTACHMENT ICON (*paperclip*) to upload your video submission
- To receive full credit for this project, it must be uploaded by (Friday) September 16, 2016.
- The English Department and librarians will be doing their best to develop an electronic database and bulletin boards in the buildings to provide links to your videos and movies so students in the future can watch your recommendations when trying to decide if they should take out the book that you read!

Scoring Rubric for Book Talk Video

Summer Reading 2016 - Book Talk Video Rubric				
Criteria	Mastery	Proficient	Emerging	Incomplete
Introduction	20 points	17 points	13 points	0 points
	All of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	Most of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	Some of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	No information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)
Summary	40 points	35 points	26 points	0 points
	All of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	Most of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	Some of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	No information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)
Conclusion	20 points	17 points	13 points	0 points
	Provides the viewer with a well-supported recommendation and explains to whom the book would appeal to	Provides the viewer with a supported recommendation and explains to whom the book would appeal to	Provides the viewer with a recommendation and/or explains to whom the book would appeal to	Does not provide the viewer with a recommendation or explains to whom the book would appeal to
Eye Contact and Oral Clarity	10 points	8 points	6 points	0 points
	Always maintains eye contact with clear voice, correct pronunciation, and appropriate tempo	Maintains eye contact and voice is mostly clear and audible using somewhat correct pronunciation	Sometimes maintains eye contact and is difficult to understand at times	There is little to no eye contact and it is very difficult to understand
Time Limit	10 points	8 points	6 points	0 points
	Adheres to the three to four-minute time limit	Presentation spans four minutes or longer or in the two to three-minute range	Presentation is exceeds five minutes or spans between one and two minutes	Presentation is less than one minute

Scoring Rubric for Book Talk *Movie*

Summer Reading 2016 - Book Talk Video Rubric				
Criteria	Mastery	Proficient	Emerging	Incomplete
Introduction	20 points	17 points	13 points	0 points
	All of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	Most of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	Some of the information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)	No information is presented (title, author, publication date, and genre)
Summary	40 points	35 points	26 points	0 points
	All of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	Most of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	Some of the information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)	No information is presented (setting, main characters, brief plot summary with conflict, theme/message)
Conclusion	20 points	17 points	13 points	0 points
	Provides the viewer with a well-supported recommendation and explains to whom the book would appeal to	Provides the viewer with a supported recommendation and explains to whom the book would appeal to	Provides the viewer with a recommendation and/or explains to whom the book would appeal to	Does not provide the viewer with a recommendation or explains to whom the book would appeal to
Creativity	10 points	8 points	6 points	0 points
	The presentation is highly creative and uses images, video, and/or audio in an exciting and original manner	The presentation is creative and uses images, video, and/or audio to engage the viewer	The presentation attempts to engage the viewer through the use of images, video, and/or audio	There is little to no eye attempt to engage the viewer through the use of images, video, and/or audio
Time Limit	10 points	8 points	6 points	0 points
	Adheres to the four to five-minute time limit	Presentation spans six minutes or longer or in the three to four minute range	Presentation is exceeds seven minutes or spans between two and three minutes	Presentation is less than two minutes

10 Easy Ways to Get Children to Read this Summer

1. Get your child a library card at your local public library. It's free!
2. Sign your child up for Summer Reading at the local public library and enjoy free programs with fun activities, storytelling, reading contests, crafts and more.
3. Read with your child every day. Take advantage of "waiting" time to share books: on trips, at the doctor's office, in line at the grocery store.
4. Take a basket of books for reading breaks from the sun, water, and sand at the beach, lake, or pool.
5. Read on your own and talk to your child about what you're reading.
Families who share reading experiences raise children who read well.
6. Visit the library every week and bring the whole family.
7. Need books in languages other than English? Ask a librarian!
8. Use the closed captioning during TV shows so children see the words as they hear them.
9. Keep a list on the refrigerator of the books everyone has read during the summer.
10. Discover the world by reading books from your local public library.
Choose a subject of interest for the entire family, so that every family member can share what they have learned and share ideas.

For more information visit www.summerreadingnys.org

Summer Reading at New York Libraries is a program of the Office of Cultural Education in the New York State Education Department and is funded through the Federal Library Services and Technology Act, with funds awarded to the New York State Library by the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**Plainview-Old Bethpage School District
Mattlin & Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle Schools
Incoming Grade 6 Summer Reading List - Summer 2016**

- Baker, E.D. *The Tales of the Frog Princess* series
Fantasy
Twists on the classic tale.
- Balliett, Blue. *The Calder Game* (all titles by author)
Mystery
Art crimes, pentominoes codes, patterns, and ingenious puzzles will challenge readers to solve these mysteries.
- Campbell, Jeff. *Daisy to the Rescue: True Stories of Daring Dogs, Paramedic Parrots and other Animal Heroes*
Non-fiction
With their love and companionship, animals help to make our lives better every day. But sometimes, to our utter amazement and everlasting gratitude, animals literally save our lives. *Daisy to the Rescue* celebrates over fifty of these heroic animals.
- Choldenko, Gennifer. *If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period*
Realistic Fiction
Two seventh-grade girls deal with wealth, weight, and other issues and try to stand up to a mean but influential classmate.
- Condie, Ally. *Matched* (all titles in the series)
Science fiction
Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her, so when Xander appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows he is her ideal mate--until Ky Markham's face appears for an instant before the screen fades to black.
- Cottrell Boyce, Frank. *Framed*
Mystery
Dylan and his sisters try to make the family business profitable, but when some strange men appear in their town with some famous paintings and their father disappears, they consider turning to crime.
- Creech, Sharon. *Ruby Holler*
Realistic Fiction
A funny yet poignant novel about downtrodden siblings who refuse to be squished together.
- Cushman, Karen. *The Midwife's Apprentice*
Newbery Honor
In medieval England, a homeless girl known only as Brat, is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife and, in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains a place in the world.
- Daneshvari, Gitty. *School of Fear* series
Fantasy
Four children are sent to the School of Fear to overcome their phobias.

- Deedy, Carmen. *The Cheshire Cheese Cat; a Dickens of a Tale*
 Fantasy
 An unlikely alliance forms between a cheese loving cat and a community of mice in an inn in England.
- Deuker, Carl. *Night Hoops*
 Realistic Fiction
 While trying to prove he's good enough to play varsity basketball, Nick must deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate.
- Dowd, Siobhan. *London Eye Mystery*
 Mystery
 Kat and Ted, whose brain is wired differently, try to solve the mystery of Kat's cousin's disappearance from the London Eye ferris wheel.
- Draper, Sharon. *Out of My Mind*
 Realistic
 A brilliant 5th grader with cerebral palsy discovers a device that will allow her to speak for the first time.
- Emerson, Kevin. *Carlos is Gonna Get it*
 Realistic Fiction
 Recounts the events that occur at the end of seventh grade, when a group of friends plan to trick Carlos, an annoying "problem" student who says he is visited by aliens, while they are on a field trip in the mountains.
- Ferris, Jean. *The Marigold series (Once upon a Marigold, Twice upon a Marigold, and Thrice Upon a Marigold)*
 Fantasy
 A bad queen, a troll, some romance, and some tragedy all mixed up to create these humorous stories.
- Frost, Helen. *Salt: A Novel of Friendship in a Time of War*
 Verse novel
 Twelve-year-olds Anikwa, of the Miami village of Kekionga, and James, of the trading post outside Fort Wayne, find their friendship threatened by the rising fear and tension brought by the War of 1812.
- Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Nory Ryan's Song* companion novel *Maggie's Door*
 Historical Fiction
 When a terrible blight attacks Ireland's potato crop, Nory's courage and ingenuity help her family and neighbors survive.
- Gliori, Debi. *Pure Dead Magic* (all titles in the series)
 Fantasy
 Things go awry at the Strega-Borgia castle in this hilarious fantasy series.
- Gownly, Jimmy. *The Dumbest Idea Ever!*
 Graphic novel/Biography
 Recounts the author's adventures as he grows from an eager-to-please boy into a teenage comic book artist.

- Green, Tim *Football Genius* (all titles in the series) (also Baseball Great series)
Sports
Lots of football action (or baseball) mixed with fun escapades of two 6th graders.
- Hershey, Mary. *10 Lucky Things That Have Happened to Me Since I Nearly Got Hit by Lightning*
Realistic Fiction
Effie thinks her life is practically perfect until the Valentine's Day fiasco at school.
- Hesse, Karen *Out of the Dust*
Historical Fiction/Verse Novel
In a series of poems, fifteen year old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the depression.
- Horvath, Polly. *Everything on a Waffle (and The Trolls, and The Pepins and their Problems)*
Newbery Honor
Every type of food comes on a waffle in the restaurant where Primrose stays while waiting for her parents to return.
- Korman, Gordon. *Schooled*
Realistic Fiction
When his grandmother breaks her leg Cap is forced to go to public school for the first time.
- Kurlansky, Mark. *Frozen in Time: Clarence Birdseye's Outrageous Idea About Frozen Food*
Biography
Nonfiction for kids interested in science, biography, and early entrepreneurs, this work explores the life story of Clarence Birdseye, the man who revolutionized the frozen food industry and changed the way people eat all over the world.
- Law, Ingrid. *Savvy (and Scumble, and Switch)*
Fantasy/Newbery Honor
The Beaumonts each possess a "savvy" supernatural power that comes to them at age 13.
- LaFevers, R. L. *Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos* (all titles in the series)
Fantasy
Eleven-year-old Theodosia has the ability to detect black magic and ancient curses that are attached to objects in the Museum of Legends and Antiquities, where her father is the curator.
- Lisle, Janet Taylor. *Highway Cats*
Fantasy
Mangy highway cats are changed forever by the arrival of 3 kittens.

- Martin, Ann. *The Doll People series*
 Fantasy
 The adventures of the 100 year old doll Annabelle as she tries to find Auntie Sarah, missing since 1955.
A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray
 Realistic Fiction
 The adventures of a stray as she finds friends and a home.
- McKay, Hilary. *Saffy's Angel*
 Historical Fiction
 Saffron discovers she's adopted and leaves her English home to find her roots in Italy.
- Peters, Marilee. *Patient Zero: Solving the Mysteries of Deadly Epidemics*
 Non-fiction
 Engrossing true stories of the pioneers of epidemiology who risked their lives to find the source of deadly diseases.
- Pullman, Philip. *Spring-Heeled Jack*
 Adventure
 A Victorian hero attempts to help 3 orphan children in London in this hilarious story with comic book style illustrations.
- Reeve, Philip. *Starcross and Larklight*
 Science Fiction
 Arthur, his sister Myrtle, and their mother accept an invitation to take a holiday at a resort in the asteroid belt, where they become involved in a dastardly plot involving spies, time travel, and mind-altering clothing.
- Rex, Adam. *True Meaning of Smekday*
 Science Fiction
 "Tip" Tucci is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted.
- Sachar, Louis. *The Boy Who Lost his Face*
 Realistic Fiction
 A hilarious romp through junior high.
- Sage, Angie. *Magyk* (all titles in the Septimus Heap series)
 Fantasy
 Ten-year-olds Septimus Heap and Jenna are threatened by the evil wizard DomDaniel, who intends to finish off the entire royal line.
- Schlitz, Laura Amy. *Splendors & Glooms*
 Newbery
 Was Clara kidnapped by a puppeteer who performed at a party in her house?
- Shusterman, Neal. *The Schwa was Here and Antsy Does Time and Ship Out of Luck*
 Realistic Fiction
 Friendship between Antsy and his "invisible-ish" friend the Schwa who is tired of blending into his surroundings.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Bomb: Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*

Non-fiction

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Eggs*

Realistic Fiction

Mourning the loss of his mother, nine-year-old David forms an unlikely friendship with independent, quirky, thirteen-year-old Primrose, as the two help each other deal with what is missing in their lives.

Loser

Realistic Fiction

Donald's exuberance and supportive family help him not to feel like he is a loser.

Wilson, G. Willow *Ms. Marvel (all titles in series)*

Graphic novel

Kamala Khan, a Pakistani American girl from Jersey City who lives a conservative Muslim lifestyle with her family, suddenly acquires superhuman powers and, despite the pressures of school and home, tries to use her abilities to help her community.

Wardlaw, Lee. *101 Ways to Bug Your Teacher* (all titles in the 101 Ways series)

Realistic Fiction

Steve has to come up with a way to keep his parents from making him skip a grade and entering the Invention Convention.

Yolen, Jane *Devils Arithmetic*

Historical Fiction

Hannah resents stories of her Jewish heritage until she experiences the horrors of a concentration camp and learns why we must remember the past.

Student Name: _____

Summer Reading 2016

This is a note-taking worksheet for you to log information on concerning your reading selection. This is *optional* and is not the actual assignment your teacher will be giving you in the first quarter. It is a great way for you to record your thoughts during the process of reading as well as immediately after completing your text choice. This can be especially important if you plan on reading your choice very early into the summer because it can serve as a study tool as you prepare for your first quarter assignment.

- What is the **title** of your selection?
 - _____
- What is the **author's name** of your selection?
 - _____
- Describe the **setting** of your selection:
 - What are the key **locations** where your story takes place? Describe them briefly.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - Explain **when** your story takes place. Does it take place during a certain month, year, season, or time period? Does most of the action occur during day or night? Ask yourself if there is anything of importance concerning this.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Describe **two major characters** and **one minor character** from your selection.

○ **Major Character One:**

▪ Name:

▪ _____

▪ Describe the physical appearance of this character:

▪ _____

▪ Provide a few comments about this character's actions, personality,
and what others think of him/her:

▪ _____

○ **Major Character Two:**

▪ Name:

▪ _____

▪ Describe the physical appearance of this character:

▪ _____

▪ Provide a few comments about this character's actions, personality,
and what others think of him/her:

▪ _____

○ **Minor Character One:**

▪ Name:

▪ _____

▪ Describe the physical appearance of this character:

▪ _____

▪ Provide a few comments about this character's actions, personality,
and what others think of him/her:

▪ _____

- The **conflict** is the major problem that occurs in a story. Stories almost always have an external conflict that exists between the central character and an additional source (for example, person vs. person, person vs. society, person vs. nature) and often have an internal conflict, such as when a character has a “battle” with him/herself over something such as a tough decision.

○ What are the external and internal conflicts in the story that you selected?

○ _____

- The **plot** of a story is its basic storyline and it generally follows a classic pattern of development. Reflect on how the plot progresses and summarize each step of its development.

- **Exposition** (This usually occurs at the very beginning of the story and provides background information and serves to introduce the characters, conflict, and setting):

- ---

- **Rising Action** (This is the portion of the story when the conflict develops beyond its initial introduction):

- ---

- **Climax** (This describes the turning point in a story when things change for the better or worse):

- ---

- **Falling Action** (This concerns the resolution of the conflict when a protagonist often “wins” or “loses” against his/her antagonist. It helps lead the story to its conclusion):

- ---

- **Resolution** (This serves as the conclusion of a story when conflicts are resolved, creating a sense of normalcy for characters):

- ---

- **Themes** are topics and broad ideas discussed in a story (for example, relationships, maturity, or freedom) and **morals** are lessons that readers take away from a story based on the featured characters’ experiences (for example, “Never judge a book by its cover.”).

- What topics are featured in your selection?

- ---

- What lesson about life does the author want you to learn from this story?

- ---

Name: _____

Summer Reading 2016
Incoming Grade Six
Optional Note-Taking Sheet



After finishing your book, feel free to take notes on the following items to help you remember it.

- Title:
- Author:
- Setting (time and place):
- Main character (appearance and character traits):
- Conflict (the major problem in your book):

- Plot (beginning, middle, and end):

- Themes and Morals (lessons about life):

- Would you rate this book as poor, fair, good, or excellent? Why?

- Did you enjoy the story? Why?

- Who should read this book? Why?