

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



June, 2016

Dear parents, guardians, and incoming grade five 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 and will be required to complete a writing assignment in September that will contribute to their first quarter average.** Please find an *optional* reading worksheet enclosed which can serve as a note-taking resource 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
Literacy Coordinator *Principal* *Principal* *ELA Chair*

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

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 5 Summer Reading List - Summer 2016**

- Appelgate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan*
Newbery Medal
A baby elephant tries to find a better life for Ivan, a gorilla, who has only ever lived in a circus-themed mall.
- Avi. *Who Stole the Wizard of Oz*
Mystery
A rare edition of *The Wizard of Oz* is stolen and Becky is accused of stealing it.
- Babbitt, Natalie. *Jack Plank Tells Tales*
Adventure
Jack starts out as a pirate, but he isn't good at it, so he tries his luck at a variety of jobs on land.
- Banks. Kate. *Dillon Dillon*
Realistic
Dillon discovers he's adopted, which leads him on a journey of self-discovery.
- Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Down the Rabbit Hole: The Diary of Pringle Rose* (all titles in the series)
Historical Fiction
A new and exciting entry in the Dear America series, this one takes place during the Chicago Fire of 1871.
- Basye, Dale *Heck* (all titles in the series)
Humor
Two children are sent to Heck, an otherworldly reform school from which they try to escape.
- Bell, Cece. *El Deafo*
Realistic/Graphic novel
The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower."
- Betancourt, Jeanne. *My Name is Brain Brian*
Realistic
Brian hates school and is a member of the Joker's Club, but maybe it's all because he's dyslexic.
- Bruchac, Joseph. *The Arrow Over the Door*
Historical Fiction
A story of the Revolutionary War told from the alternating viewpoints of a Quaker boy and an Indian boy.

- Christopher, Matt. *Play Ball! Hook Shot Hero The Home Run Kid Races On*
 Realistic
 Any of these sports titles are acceptable written by the number one children's sports writer.
- Coerr, Eleanor. *Mieko and the Fifth Treasure*
 Historical Fiction
 Meiko's hand is badly damaged after the bombing of Japan in 1945, and she fears she has lost the key to her artwork, calligraphy.
- Creech, Sharon. *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup*
 Realistic
 With the help of her grandmother, Rosie manages to work out some problems with her best friend Bailey.
- Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bud, Not Buddy*
 Historical Fiction
 Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.
- DiCamillo, Kate. *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*
 Fantasy
 A toy rabbit is loved, lost, and learns to love again in this heart-warming adventure story.
- Ellis, Sarah. *Several Lives of Orphan Jack*
 Historical Fiction
 Jack is trouble-free until he turns 12, and then he just can't seem to stay out of trouble.
- Fleischman, John. *Phineas Gage; A Gruesome But True Story about Brain Science*
 Non-Fiction
 The true story of a construction worker who survived the shooting of an iron bolt through his brain.
- Frederick, Heather Vogel. *The Mother-Daughter Book Club (series)*
 Realistic
 When the mothers of four sixth-grade girls with very different personalities pressure them into forming a book club, they find, as they read and discuss "Little Women," that they have much more in common than they could have imagined.
- Gantos, Jack. *Joey Pigza Loses Control (all titles in the Joey Pigza series)*
 Newbery Honor/Humor
 Joey knows that he's always wired, and medication doesn't always help, as he struggles to cope with ADD.

- Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Eleven*
Mystery
Sam thinks he may have been kidnapped, but his learning disabilities prevent him from discovering the truth on his own.
- Gifford, Peggy. *Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little* (all titles in the series)
Realistic
Moxy will do anything she can to avoid reading her summer reading book.
- Greenberg, Dan. *Secrets of the Dripping Fang* series
Fantasy
The Schluffmuffin twins must escape the Giant Ants who have tried to adopt them.
- Gutman, Dan. *Mickey & Me* (all titles in the Baseball Card Adv. and Homework Machine series)
Baseball card stories are all time-travel, and the homework series is a machine is a computer that does homework.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Found* (all titles in the series)
Science fiction
When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel.
- Hannigan, Katherine. *Ida B... and her plans to maximize fun, avoid disaster and (possibly) save the world*
Realistic
Ida B is happy being home schooled and playing in the orchard, but her mother's cancer changes all that.
- Haworth, Danette. *Violet Raines Almost Got Struck by Lightning*
Realistic
Violet's world is turned upside by a new girl from Detroit who seems to be trying to steal her best friend.
- Holm, Jennifer. *Penny from Heaven*
Newbery/Historical Fiction
Penny learns a secret about her father's death.
- The Fourteenth Goldfish*
Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager--which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.
- Kehret, Peg. *Shelter Dogs; Amazing Stories of Adopted Strays*
Non-fiction
True stories of 8 dogs, rescued from shelters, who went on to do great things and even change the lives of their owners.

- Kessler, Liz. *The Tail of Emily Windsnap* (all titles in series)
 Fantasy
 After finally convincing her mother that she should take swimming lessons, Emily discovers she's a mermaid.
- Klise, Kate. *43 Old Cemetery Road* series and *Regarding the Fountain* series
 Humor
 Both series are mostly written in letters. Old Cemetery series is ghost stories.
- Korman, Gordon. *No More Dead Dogs* (all titles in series: *Dive*, *Everest*, and *Island Adventure*)
 Realistic
 Things change around school when Wallace refuses to read another book about a dog who dies.
- Mack, W.C. *Athlete vs. Mathlete* (all titles in the series)
 Sports/Realistic
 Perfect for fans of Matt Christopher and Andrew Clements alike, this is a lighthearted and hilarious look at what happens when brains meets brawn meets basketball.
- Mass, Wendy. *11 Birthdays* (all titles in this series: *13 Gifts*, *Candymakers*, *Finally*, *The Last Present*, and *Graceful*)
 Realistic
 A variety of titles about girls and birthdays and children in a candy factory.
- Myracle, Lauren. *Ten* (and sequels: *Eleven*, *Twelve* as well as the *Flower Power* series)
 Realistic
 Winnie's celebrates her unique style through her first years with a double-digit age as she has many new experiences.
- Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *The Boys Start the War* (all titles in this series: *Malloy girls & Hatford boys*)
 Realistic
 The four Hatford boys and the three Malloy girls will do anything to get one up on each other in this fun-filled war of wits.
- Nobleman, Marc Tyler *Boys of Steel: the Creators of Superman* (nonfiction)
 Biography
 Chronicles how writer Jerry Siegel and illustrator Joe Shuster created the character of Superman and, after being turned down by several editors, finally published their first comic book featuring the Man of Steel in 1938.
- Norton, Mary. *The Borrowers* (all titles in the series)
 Fantasy/Classic
 A tiny family lives under the floorboards of a country house and recycles borrowed items from the human "beans" above.

- O'Connor, Barbara. *Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia or How to Steal a Dog: A Novel*
Realistic
A spelling bee might just be the ticket to Disney World. Stealing a dog may help her get some money for her family.
- Park, Barbara. *The Kid in the Red Jacket*
Realistic
Howard's life is destroyed when his family moves across country, or is it?
- Park, Linda Sue. *Project Mulberry: a novel*
Realistic
Julia and Patrick learn about tolerance and patience while working on their silkworm project.
- Patterson, James. *Middle School, the Worst Years of my Life* (all titles in the series)
Humor
Rafe and Leo try to make MS more fun by trying to break every rule in the school's code of conduct.
- Pennypacker, Sara. *Clementine's Letter* (all titles in the series)
Realistic
Clementine hatches a plan to prevent her beloved teacher from being selected to go on a research trip to Egypt.
- Pitchford, Dean. *The Big One-Oh*
Realistic
Charly plans a blow-out 10th birthday party, but first he needs to make some friends.
- Scieszka, Jon.
Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Mostly True Stories of Growing up Scieszka
Autobiography
- Spinelli, Jerry. *Jake and Lily*
Realistic
Jake and Lily are twins and have always felt the same--like two halves of one person--but the year they turn eleven and Jake begins hanging out with Bump Stubbins, everything changes.

- Summy, Barrie. *I So Don't Do Mysteries* (all titles in the series)
Mystery
Sherry helps her ghost mom solve mysteries.
- Talgemeier, Raina. *Smile* (all titles in the series)
Graphic novel
An autobiography in graphic novel format describes how the author lost two of her front teeth in an accident when she was twelve, and her subsequent struggles with various corrective dental techniques throughout adolescence.
- Wood, Maryrose. *The Incurrible Children of Ashton Place* series
Humorous/Mystery
Miss Lumley is the governess trying to train three cursed wolf children to be civilized.
- Wynne-Jones, Tim. *Rex Zero* (all titles in the series)
Historical Fiction
In 1962 Canada, it seems everyone is nervous about the possibility of nuclear war, but Rex has other things to concern him.
- Yolen, Jane. *Bad Girls, Sirens, Jezebels, Murderesses, Thieves and Other Villains*
Non-fiction
Readers meet twenty-six of history's most notorious women, each with a rotten reputation. But authors Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple remind us that there are two sides to every story.



Name: _____

Flash! Graphic Organizer

Title: _____

Author: _____

<u>Setting</u>	
Time:	
Place:	

<u>Description of Characters</u>	

<u>Beginning of Story</u>	<u>Middle of Story</u>	<u>End of Story</u>