

**PENN-DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**NORTHLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**SUMMER READING**

**GRADE 6**

**2016**

Dear Parents and Students:

All of us who are involved in teaching reading and English acknowledge the value of practicing reading all year long – not just during the school year. For that reason, we have developed a required summer reading assignment because we believe it will help students meet academic challenges in the coming year and encourage them to develop independent reading habits.

Students are required to read two books – one that is required for every student and one the students select from a list. These books are available in community libraries as well as local book stores that have been given our summer reading list.

**Directions for students entering Grade 6:**

- 1. Read the required book, take a Reading Counts quiz, and complete assignment A. (3 worksheets)**
- 2. Read a choice book, take a Reading Counts quiz, and complete assignment B. (3 worksheets)** For the book of choice, we recommend that parent and student discuss the selection for its appropriateness for the individual student. While books are selected carefully, some students/families may be more sensitive to certain topics than others.
- 3. Bring both assignments to school in September.**

**Students may take Reading Counts quizzes during the summer or in September when they return to school.**

This packet of information is also available on the Penn-Delco website at [www.pdsd.org](http://www.pdsd.org).

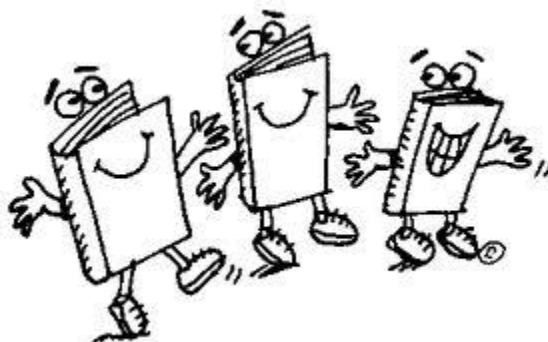
The following places will be resources to help you obtain your summer reading books.

- Aston Public Library
- Barnes & Noble
- Amazon.com

Thank you in advance for your support of this program!

Sincerely,

The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teachers



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts (ELA) Honors

### Required Book

**Eleven by Tom Rogers:** Alex Douglas always wanted to be a hero. But nothing heroic ever happened to Alex. Nothing, that is, until his eleventh birthday. When Alex rescues a stray dog as a birthday gift to himself, he doesn't think his life can get much better. But this day has bigger things in store for both of them. This is a story about bullies and heroes, about tragedy and hope, about enemies with two legs and friends with four, and pesky little sisters and cranky old men, and an unexpected lesson in kindness delivered with a slice of pizza

### Choose one from this list:

- **Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan**  
After losing her adoptive parents in a car accident, 12 year old genius Willow slowly forges new social relationships and creates a surrogate family for herself while awaiting news of a more permanent solution.
- **Hatchet by Gary Paulsen**  
After a plane crashes, 13 year old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness alone. He learns to survive initially with only the help of his hatchet, given to him by his mother. He also learns to survive his parents' divorce.
- **Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse**  
In letters to her cousin, a young Jewish girl chronicles her flight from Russia in 1919 and her own experiences when she must be left in Belgium for a while when the other immigrant to America.
- **So B. It by Sarah Weeks**  
Twelve-year-old Heidi wants to know where she came from. Her mentally disabled mother and she seemed to appear out of nowhere when she was a baby. Now Heidi wants and needs to know the truth.
- **Wringer by Jerry Spinelli**  
As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.
- **Zach's Lie by Roland Smith**  
Thirteen-year-old Jack and his older sister receive a big shock when their father is arrested for drug trafficking. Renamed Zach, the teenager and his mother and sister find themselves in the Witness Security Program. Zach must move to a new town and pretend to be someone he's not, with a past that never was. He'll never be the same again.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts

### Required Book

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### Choose one from this list:

- ***Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko**

In 1939, Moose Flanagan, age 12, moves to Alcatraz Island. His father works at the prison, and his sister Natalie is autistic. Very little was known about autism at the time, and this funny, touching story shows how this family copes with Natalie's problems and their own.

- ***Crash* by Jerry Spinelli**

Crash Coogan, a seventh grade football star, has been an aggressive person from the time he was very young; sometimes, he is too aggressive. He enjoys his rough, macho behavior until he meets an unusual neighbor who forces him to think about his life and his way of treating others.

- ***Rules* by Cynthia Lord**

Twelve year old Catherine's life is filled with rules – some for herself but most of her eight year old autistic brother, David. Catherine wishes for a normal life in which she can enjoy the freedom of being herself without the responsibility of watching David all the time. With the arrival of a girl next door and an unexpected friendship, rules may be what Catherine needs.

- ***The Cay* by Theodore Taylor**

When he and his mother sail on a ship heading to America, Phillip suddenly finds himself stranded on a raft with a man named Timothy. After he loses his eyesight, Phillip must learn to trust Timothy if he is to have any chance of surviving and being rescued from the small island where they have landed.

- ***On My Honor* by Marion Dane Bauer and Dolores Kozielski**

Upon receiving Joel's father's permission, best friends Joel and Tony begin a bike ride to Starved Rock. On the way, they stop to swim in the Vermillion River. Their decisions that day lead to an unthinkable horror and a harsh reality.

- ***Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff**

Twelve-year-old Hollis Woods has been in many different foster homes. After an incident in her last home, she finally ends up with Josie, who is an artist like Hollis. But, Josie is becoming forgetful and it looks as if Hollis will be moved again. While trying to save herself and Josie, Hollis realizes she already has a wonderful family.

# Follow Northley Middle School's Viking Vision



## RESPECTFUL

- Understand character's perspectives
- Be sensitive to other's point of views



## RESPONSIBLE

- Follow ALL directions- do not leave any parts blank
- If you need help- ask parents and friends
- Complete BOTH assignments
- Choose a book that is appropriate for you and your reading level



## READY

- Bring completed assignments to school in September

*Start sixth grade off on a great foot!!! 😊*

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

## BEFORE READING GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

**DIRECTIONS:**

Before reading the book, make predictions about the novel based on the areas below. In the rectangle, write what you predict will happen in the book. Please answer in *complete sentences* and make sure you fill in ALL parts of the graphic organizer or you will not receive full credit.

**Front Cover Illustrations**  
(What does the cover tell you?)

**Clues from the title**  
(What does the title tell you?)

**Clues from the synopsis on the back**  
(What does the summary tell you?)

Based on what I wrote above, I predict that...



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

## DURING READING GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

Graphic Organizers adopted from: Scholastic 50 Graphic Organizers for Reading, Writing & More

**DIRECTIONS:**

As you read the book, write about what is happening in the beginning, middle, and end of the novel using the boxes below. Choose some of the transitions on the left of each box to summarize what is happening in the book. Please answer in *complete sentences* and make sure you fill in ALL parts of the graphic organizer or you will not receive full credit.

**TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

<p>In the beginning On (date) First To begin with The start of It started when It began on (date)</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Not long after Second Next Then The second thing And then</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Next Third...fourth...fifth Now Then As And then</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>After Finally Last At the end After everything In conclusion</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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

## AFTER READING GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

### DIRECTIONS:

After reading the book, answer the questions below explaining how you felt about the novel. Please answer in *complete sentences* and make sure you fill in ALL parts of the graphic organizer or you will not receive full credit. Answer in at least 3-5 sentences per section.

If you could be one character, who would you be? Why?

Which part of the story was most interesting to you? Why?

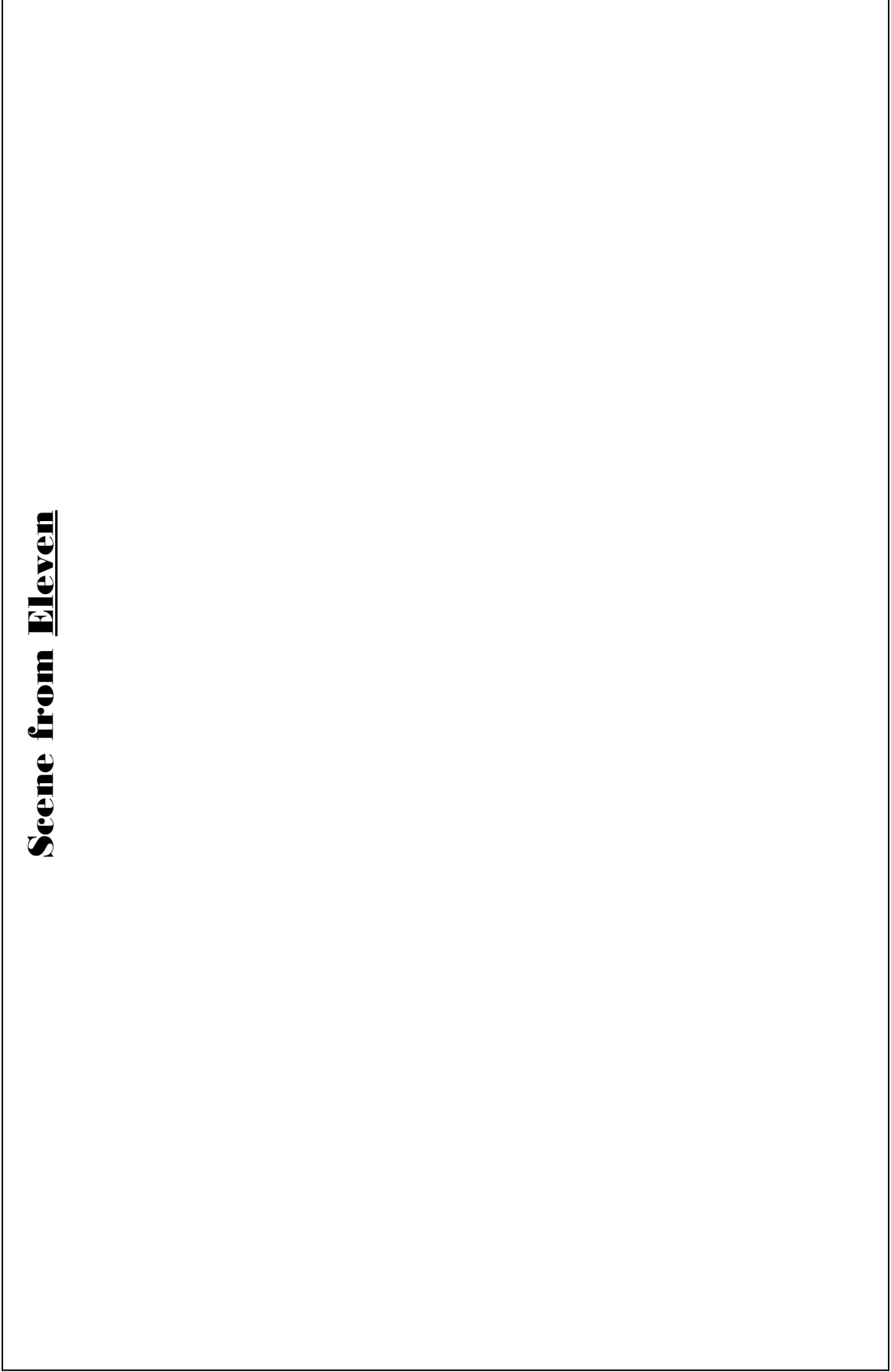
Which part of the book would you change? Why?



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Draw a scene from the story. Make sure your scene is neat and colorful.

Write a caption that describes your scene in a complete sentence. Remember grammar & punctuation.



**Scene from Eleven**

Caption: \_\_\_\_\_



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Complete each section below in at least 5-7 complete sentences.

**Summarize the most important event in the novel.**

(What is the event and why is it so important to the novel?)

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**Describe your favorite part of the novel.**

(What is the event and why is it your favorite part?)

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**Make any connection to the novel.**

(Compare any part of the story to yourself/another story/the world. Explain how and why they are connected to each other.)

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