2017 Summer Reading List – 6th Grade
You are responsible for two summer reads, one required book and one choice book. The required book will be a focus in several of your classes when you return to school.

You must purchase and annotate the following book: Gossamer by Lois Lowry
Annotate the text. Highlighting or underline important plot and character developments. Add questions you have about decisions characters make or if something is confusing. Write important points of understanding in the margins. Write connections or your understanding. Again, this will be used in most of the classrooms to make deeper connections within the first weeks of school.

For your second book, select one of the books below:
Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff (Realistic Fiction)
A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

Wonder by R.J. Palacio (Realistic Fiction)
Ten-year-old Auggie, born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being homeschooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school, where he endures taunts and bullying and struggles to be seen as just another student.

A Year Down Yonder by Richard Peck (Realistic Fiction)
During the recession of 1937, 15-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.

The Cay by Theodore Taylor (Survival Fiction)
Blinded when his ship is torpedoed, Philip is marooned on an island with an elderly West Indian who shows him how to survive and helps him to acquire a new kind of vision.

Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata (Realistic Fiction)
This heart-touching story chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Remember Me to Harold Square by Paula Danziger (Realistic Fiction)
When Frank spends the summer with Kendra and her family in their New York City apartment, a friendship develops as the two teenagers set off on a scavenger hunt exploring the city’s museums, restaurants, and other landmarks.

Four Perfect Pebbles by Lila Perl (Nonfiction)
The six-year ordeal of the Blumenthal family is chronicled in this memoir of Jewish life during the Holocaust from a little girl’s perspective.

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (Survival Fiction)
Headed for Canada to visit his father for the first time since his parents’ divorce, 13-year-old Brian is the sole survivor of a plane crash, with only the clothes he has on and a hatchet to help him live in the wilderness.

Eragon by Christopher Paolini (Fantasy Fiction)
Fifteen-year-old Eragon believes that he is merely a poor farm boy. Soon, he discovers that nothing is further from the truth. When his destiny as a Dragon Rider is revealed, Eragon must flee the tyrannical king Galbatorix.

* Make sure you choose one you have not read as you will be taking A.R. tests once you return to school! *
You will be doing other assignments with your choice books as well, so keep a writing journal to jot down information or things you enjoyed as you read. If you own this book as well, annotate directly in the book!

2017 Summer Reading List – 7th Grade
You are responsible for two summer reads, one required book and one choice book. The required book will be a focus in several of your classes when you return to school.

You must purchase and annotate the following book: Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry
Annotate the text. Highlighting or underline important plot and character developments. Add
questions you have about decisions characters make or if something is confusing. Write important points of understanding in the margins. Write connections or your understanding. Again, this will be used in most of the classrooms to make deeper connections within the first weeks of school.

For your second book, select one of the books below:

**Anne of Green Gables** by L.M. Montgomery (Realistic Fiction)
Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor (Historical Fiction)
Facing a year of night riders and burnings, Cassie and her family continue their struggle to keep their land and hold onto what rightfully belongs to them, despite the difficult battles they must continue to endure.

**Elijah of Buxton** by Christopher Paul Curtis (Historical Fiction)
In 1859, Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, uses his wits to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was supposed to buy a family's freedom.

**A Corner Of The Universe** by Ann M. Martin (Realistic Fiction)
The summer that Hattie turns twelve, she meets the childlike uncle she never knew and becomes friends with a girl who works at the carnival that comes to Hattie’s small town.

**So B. It** by Sarah Weeks (Realistic Fiction)
After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is.

**The Thief Lord** by Cornelia Funke (Fantasy Fiction)
Two brothers, Prosper and Bo, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with--and protection from--Venice's "Thief Lord."

**Flush** by Carl Hiaasen (Environmental Fiction)
When his father is arrested for sinking a boat he is certain is illegally dumping raw sewage into the harbor, young Noah visits his father in jail who teaches him an important lesson about justice--inspiring Noah to finish the job he started using a clever, but legal, plan!

**Eldest** by Christopher Paolini (Fantasy Fiction)
Eragon and his dragon, Saphira, have just saved the rebel state from destruction by the mighty forces of King Galbatorix, cruel ruler of the Empire. Now Eragon must travel to Ellesmera, land of the elves, for further training in the skills of the Dragon Rider: magic and swordsmanship.

**Matched** by Ally Condie (Dystopian Fiction)
Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but when she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen, and Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility.

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You will be doing other assignments with your choice books as well, so keep a writing journal to jot down information or things you enjoyed as you read. If you own this book as well, annotate directly in the book!

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**2017 Summer Reading List – 8th Grade**
You are responsible for two summer reads, one required book and one choice book. The required book will be a focus in several of your classes when you return to school.

You must purchase and annotate the following book: **Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust** by Immaculée Ilibagiza
Annotate the text. Highlighting or underline important plot and character developments. Add questions you have about decisions characters make or if something is confusing. Write important points of understanding in the margins. Write connections or your understanding.
Again, this will be used in most of the classrooms to make deeper connections within the first weeks of school.
For your second book, select one of the books below:
(We will be studying Anne Frank and WWII propaganda. Therefore, books pertaining to that time period are choices to consider. These are the first six below. Of course, you may also choose from the others. )

**Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Nonfiction WWII)
Bartoletti infuses her work with the voices of both former Hitler Youth members and young people who resisted the powerful Nazi movement. These voices stand alongside those of Jewish youths and others who were senselessly and brutally targeted by the Third Reich.

**Under The Blood-Red Sun** by Graham Salisbury (Historical Fiction WWII)
Tomikazu, a Hawaiian-born boy of Japanese descent, must help his family survive when his father and grandfather are arrested after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**The Man From The Other Side** by Uri Orlev (Historical Fiction WWII)
Living on the outskirts of the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II, 14-year-old Marek and his grandparents shelter a Jewish man in the days before the Jewish uprising.

**Between Shades of Gray** by Ruta Sepetys (Historical Fiction WWII)
In 1941, 15-year-old Lina and her family are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards. While fighting for her life, Lina vows to honor her family by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. The plot contains graphic violence.

**Night** by Elie Wiesel (Nonfiction WWII)
Tomikazu, a Hawaiian-born boy of Japanese descent, must help his family survive when his father and grandfather are arrested after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** by John Boyne (Historical Fiction WWII)
Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

**1984** Series: Signet Classics by George Orwell (Classic Fiction)
This classic portrays a terrifying vision of life in the future when a totalitarian government, considered a "Negative Utopia," watches over all citizens and directs all activities, becoming more powerful as time goes by.

**The House of the Scorpion** by Nancy Farmer (Science Fiction)
In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

**Inkheart** by Cornelia Funke (Fantasy Fiction)
Meggie's father, Mo, reads aloud from Inkheart and an evil ruler, Capricorn, escapes the boundaries of fiction and lands in the middle of their living room. Suddenly, Meggie is in the middle of the kind of adventure she has only read about in books.

* Make sure you choose one you have not read as you will be taking A.R. tests once you return to school! *

You will be doing other assignments with your choice books as well, so keep a writing journal to jot down information or things you enjoyed as you read. If you own this book as well, annotate directly in the book!