

**Bridgeport Public Schools**

**Summer Reading Activities**

**Sixth Grade**

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

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Reading Department  
948 Main Street-5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Bridgeport, CT 06604**



**Bridgeport Public Schools**  
2010 – 2011

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES BUILDING**  
948 Main Street – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604  
Telephone (203) 275-1371 Fax (203) 337-2520

**VICTORIA EGRI**  
Director of Reading/Literacy  
VEgri@bridgeportedu.net  
June 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer is a time for students to celebrate the completion of a successful school year, and to continue to enjoy reading by choosing books that are of interest to them.

This packet has been developed to assist you in continuing to enhance your child's literacy experiences during the summer months. As your child reads through the summer he/she will build new vocabulary as they improve their ability to read fluently and with comprehension. This packet includes:

- *Summer Reading Lists;*
- *Reading logs for the Connecticut Governor's Reading Challenge;*
- *Sight word vocabulary practice;*
- *Story Maps; and*
- *CMT practice activities.*

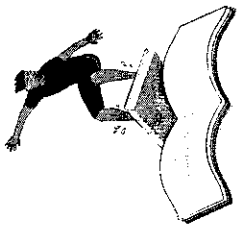
This Summer Packet is not intended to be done during one sitting, but spread throughout the summer months. Set aside a time each day, or a few days a week, when your child will read a book from the list for at least 20 minutes a day.

Please take your child to the public library where there is a special section of books specifically for Bridgeport Public School Students. The librarians will assist in choosing appropriate books to read. You may even find a book that you would love to read! Then encourage your child to complete one of the response activities.

The completed packet should be brought to school in August. If you have any questions, please contact the Reading Department at 203-275-1374. We wish you a safe and relaxing summer!

Sincerely,

**Victoria Egri**  
Director of Reading/Literacy



# CONNECTICUT READS 2010

The Governor's Summer  
Reading Challenge



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite book was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I liked this book because \_\_\_\_\_

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# CONNECTICUT READS 2010

The Governor's Summer Reading Challenge

## Summer Reading Journal



**MAKE WAVES at your library!**

# CONNECTICUT READS 2010

## THE GOVERNOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Title of Book

# of Pages  
(Grades 6-12)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book

# of Pages  
(Grades 6-12)

14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_
21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_
25. \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of pages read (Grades 6-12 only) \_\_\_\_\_

**BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
SUMMER READING LIST: 2010**

**GRADE 6**

ABBOTT	FIREGIRL THE POSTCARD
ARMSTRONG	STEAL AWAY
AVI	SMUGGLER'S ISLAND
CHOLDENKO	AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS AL CAPONE SHINES MY SHOES
FUNKE	THE THIEF LORD
FUSCO	TENDING TO GRACE
HADDIX	THE SHADOW CHILDREN Series
HALE	THE PRINCESS ACADEMY
HAMILTON	COUSINS
HANSEN	I THOUGHT MY SOUL WOULD RISE AND FLY
MIKAELSEN	SPARROW HAWK RED
MILLS	MAKEOVERS BY MARCIA
SMITH	THE BOYS OF SAN JOAQUIN
STOLZ	SHADOWS OF GHADAMES
YEE	MILLCENT MIN, GIRL GENIUS STANFORD WONG FLUNKS BIG TIME

Bridgeport Public Schools  
2009 Suggested Summer Reading List  
Grade 6

- ***The View From Saturday*** (E.L. Konigsburg)
- ***Bud, Not Buddy*** (Christopher Paul Curtis)
- ***What Could Go Wrong?*** (Willo Davis Roberts)
- ***The Twenty-One Balloons*** (William Pene DuBois)
- ***Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief*** \*\* and series\*\* (Wendelin van Draanen)
- ***Someone is Hiding on Alcatraz Island*** (Eve Bunting)
- ***The Breadwinner*** \*\* and series \*\* (Deborah Ellis)
- ***A Week in the Woods*** (Andrew Clements)
- ***Because of Winn-Dixie*** (Kate DiCamillo)
- ***Behind the Bedroom Wall*** (Laura E. Williams)
- ***Dealing With Dragons*** \*\*and series\*\* (Patricia C. Wrede)
- ***Artemis Fowl*** \*\* and series \*\* (Eoin Colfer)
- ***A Long Way from Chicago*** \*\* or \*\* ***A Year Down Yonder*** (Richard Peck)
- ***Under the Blood Red Sun*** (Graham Salisbury)
- ***Cousins*** (Virginia Hamilton)
- ***Half Magic*** (Edward Eager)
- ***Running Out of Time*** (Margaret Peterson Haddix)
- ***Where the Red Fern Grows*** (Wilson Rawls)
- ***The Duplicate*** (William Sleator)
- ***Woodsong*** (Gary Paulsen)
- ***Ryan White: My Own Story*** (Ryan White)
- ***Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*** \*\*and series\*\* (Jack Gantos)
- ***The Secret of Platform 13*** (Eva Ibbotson)
- ***PS Longer Letter Later*** \*\* or \*\* ***Snail Mail No More*** (Paula Danziger, Ann M. Martin)
- ***The Man in the Ceiling*** (Jules Feiffer)
- ***The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More*** (Roald Dahl)
- ***Millicent Min: Girl Genius*** (Lisa Yee)
- ***The Thief Lord*** (Cornelia Funke)
- ***Ties That Bind, Ties That Break*** (Lensey Namioka)
- ***Homeless Bird*** (Gloria Whelan)
- ***Baseball in April and Other Stories*** (Gary Soto)
- ***Guts: the true stories behind Hatchet and the Brian Books*** (Gary Paulsen)
- ***Stand Tall, Harry*** \*\* or the sequel \*\* ***Harry Scores a Hat Trick*** (Mary Mahony)

**Bridgeport Public Libraries Current Young Adult Magazines**

**Boy's Life (ages 11 and up)**  
**Cobblestone (ages 9-14)**  
**Cousteau Kids (ages 8-12)**  
**Cricket (ages 9-14)**  
**Faces (ages 9-14)**  
**Hopscotch for Girls (ages 6-12)**  
**National Geographic World/Kids (ages 6-14)**  
**New Moon (for girls ages 8-14)**  
**Ranger Rick (ages 6-12)**  
**Sports Illustrated for Kids (ages 8 & up)**

**Connecticut Newspapers**

**Bargain News-weekly**  
**Bridgeport Jewish Ledger-weekly**  
**Connecticut Post-daily and Sunday**  
**Danbury News and Times- daily and Sunday**  
**Fairfield Citizen News- weekly**  
**Hartford Courant- daily and Sunday**  
**New Britain Herald-daily**  
**New Haven Register-daily and Sunday**  
**New London Day-daily**  
**Norwalk Hour-daily and Sunday**  
**Stamford Advocate-daily and Sunday**  
**Trumbull times-weekly**  
**Waterbury American Republic-daily and weekly**  
**Westport News-weekly**

## Summer Reading Response

Name:

Title of Book:

Author of Book:

Genre of Book:

(ex. Mystery, fantasy; adventure; contemporary fiction; historical fiction; etc.)

1. Why did you select this book and what were your expectations?

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2. Explain how your expectations were realized or not realized.

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3. How does this book relate to other books you have read?

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4. How does this book relate to personal knowledge or experience?

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5. Did this book change any of your opinions or thoughts?

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3. How does this book relate to other books you have read?

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4. How does this book relate to personal knowledge or experience?

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5. Did this book change any of your opinions or thoughts?

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Have you ever made a decision that you regretted? Alexander Selkirk did and it cost him four years and four months of unbearable loneliness. Read on to find out what happened.



### A Real Adventure

1. Even people who haven't read the famous book often know about Robinson Crusoe. This tale of a sailor stranded on a deserted island appeals to most imaginations. What makes it even more captivating is that some of the story really happened.
2. The author of *Robinson Crusoe* was an English writer named Daniel Defoe. Like most writers, Defoe was always looking for a good story. He certainly found one the day he learned about Scotsman Alexander Selkirk.
3. Selkirk was a sailor, and many exciting stories could be spun from life at sea. The experience Selkirk related, however, was probably a far cry from what Defoe had expected.
4. Almost from his birth in the mid-1670s, Selkirk loved the sea. So, by his late teens, he had made sailing his career. In 1703 he became an officer on a ship called *Cinque Ports*. It was one of a group of ships heading toward South America. Captain Straddling commanded Selkirk's ship.
5. Captain Straddling was very disagreeable and often argued with his crew. Unfortunately, Selkirk was quickly at odds with Straddling and they often quarreled bitterly. When the ship began leaking, Selkirk grew even more outspoken. He felt that, even with repairs, the ship wasn't seaworthy. Angrily, he told the captain he wanted to be put ashore, and the captain readily agreed.
6. The captain deposited him on one of the Juan Fernandez Islands in the Pacific Ocean. It lay several hundred miles from the South American coast of Chile. When he thought about it more carefully, Selkirk was terrified when he realized he was completely alone. While there was plenty of wildlife on the island, no other people lived there. It was too late, however, for the dismayed Selkirk to change his mind. He was barely made it to shore before Captain Straddling sailed his ship away.
7. Selkirk couldn't waste time lamenting his fate. No matter how much he regretted what he had said, he couldn't change his situation. There was no telling how long he would be marooned on the island. He needed to plan for the months or, as it turned out, years that he would be stranded. Among his supplies were a musket (early rifle), some bullets, gunpowder, a few sailing instruments, and other tools, including a hatchet. His sea chest also contained some extra clothes, cloth scraps, and bedding. These materials helped him to build a shelter and to obtain food.
8. As time passed, Selkirk found materials on the island to meet most of his needs. Fruits and fish were plentiful. Wild goats also provided food and clothing when his became worn. He even made pets of some of them. He also tamed some of the wild cats on the island, but pets were no substitute for people.
9. Anxious to get back to civilization, Selkirk constantly searched for passing ships. He had to be careful, though. A couple of times, pirate ships saw his signal fires, and then he had to hide. Pirates were more likely to harm him than to help him.
10. At last, one day in 1709, Selkirk spotted two British ships. They approached close enough to see and rescue him. After four years and four months of being alone, Selkirk was welcomed on one of the ships and arrived back in England in 1711.
11. Even though Selkirk had returned in 1711, Defoe didn't complete *Robinson Crusoe* until 1719.

GO ON

## A Real Adventure

(A5 Context Clues)

1. Lamenting means

- A. expressing regret
- B. forgetting the past
- C. arguing about the past
- D. crying but in relief

(D3 Beliefs)

2. What is the reader supposed to believe about Selkirk?

- A. that he was courageous
- B. that he was resourceful
- C. that he had a temper
- D. all of the above

(A4 Prediction)

3. Where would the following sentence best fit in paragraph 9?

**Ships didn't pass often.**

- A. before sentence 1
- B. after sentence 2
- C. after sentence 1
- D. none of the above

GO ON

(C1 Connection)

4. Name something that you or a friend did that you or they have regretted because it had negative effects. Use the regrettable situation in the passage to help you answer the question.

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(C1 Connection)

5. How would you feel and what would you do if you were left alone on an island like Selkirk? Use the passage to help you answer the question.

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GO ON

(C1 Connection)

6. If Selkirk were alive today, what would you most like to ask him? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

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GO ON

Just when a fly thinks it's safe landing on a plant, the plant snaps closed and digests it for dinner. Read the story to learn about plants that catch their food, and how they go about it.



### Flesh-Eating Foliage

1. In order to stay alive, plants need nitrogen – a chemical element in the form of a gas. Most plants get nitrogen from the soil. But in certain regions the soil does not provide enough nitrogen. To stay alive, some plants have developed an ability to get their nitrogen from another source. They have become carnivores – or meat eaters – able to prey on insects in the ground and the air.
2. By far the best-known carnivorous plant, the Venus flytrap, grows in the bogs of North and South Carolina. The flytrap feeds on crawling insects like ants and spiders – but it especially loves flies. The tip of its leaves are, as its name suggests, a trap! Like a jaw, the plant's trap is divided in half. Both halves are lined with stiff, bristly hairs. Some of these are "trigger" hairs. When a wandering insect touches a trigger hair, the trap snaps shut. Then the salivating shrub floods its victim with digestive juices. After several days, the flytrap has completely digested the bug. Then the jaws swing open, and the greedy greenery awaits its next meal!
3. Other carnivorous plants dine in a similar manner. *Butterworts* wait for a bug to crawl into their sticky leaves. Once the insect is stuck in place, the butterwort rolls its leaves closed. The leaves unroll only after the bug has been dissolved by the plant's digestive juices. When an insect lands on the slippery leaf of the *pitcher plant*, it slips downward. Bristly hairs push the insect into a pool of digestive juices at the bottom of a jug-shaped funnel. California's *cobra plant* has leaves that look a lot like the heads of snakes. Each leaf has a red (most insects love that color!) forked tongue that is covered in hairs. The *sundew* is an octopus-like plant. Its tentacles hold insects tightly in the leaves.
4. By now you might be picturing dank, damp swamps filled with flesh-eating monster-plants. One North Carolina legend even suggests that the Venus flytrap came to Earth from outer space. The fact is, however, that these meat-eating plants have simply developed a special way to survive.

GO ON

(C1 Connection)

4. Name something that you or a friend did that you or they have regretted because it had negative effects. Use the regrettable situation in the passage to help you answer the question.

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(C1 Connection)

5. How would you feel and what would you do if you were left alone on an island like Selkirk? Use the passage to help you answer the question.

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GO ON