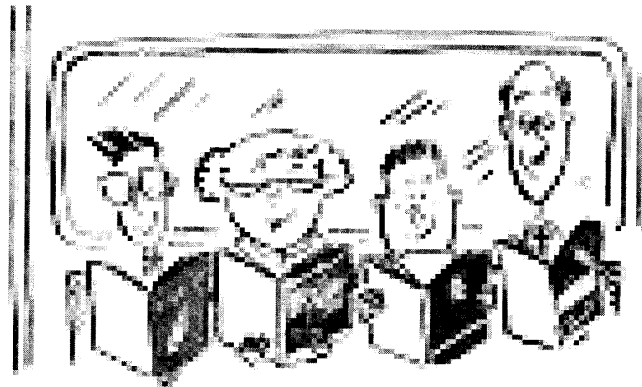


Bridgeport Public Schools
Summer Reading Activities 2009
Sixth Grade

Name: _____ **School:** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



Reading Department
948 Main Street-5th floor
Bridgeport, CT 06604



Bridgeport Public Schools
2008 – 2009

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES BUILDING
948 Main Street – 5th Floor
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604
Telephone (203) 275-1374 Fax (203) 337-2520

READING DEPARTMENT

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer is a time for students to celebrate the completion of a successful school year, and 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 that are grade level appropriate;
- ◆ Reading logs for recording the books that your child has read;
- ◆ After reading response activities
- ◆ 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 or at least twenty 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 your child 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 returned to school in August. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Reading Department at 275-1374. We wish you a safe and relaxing summer!

Sincerely,
The Bridgeport Public Schools Reading Department

Bridgeport Public Schools
Sixth Grade Summer Reading List 2009

These books are available at the Bridgeport Public Libraries.
Please ask the librarian for the location.

Authors	Book Titles	Genre
Blashfield, Jean F.	Oprah Winfrey	Nonfiction
Brill, Marlene T.	Barack Obama, Working to Make A Difference	Nonfiction
Brittain, Bill	The Wish Giver	Fiction
Chang, Ina	A Separate Battle: Women and The Civil War	Nonfiction
Creech, Sharon	Absolutely Normal Chaos	Fiction
Fritz, Jean	Leonardo's Horse	Nonfiction
Jefferis, David	Into Infinity: From Earth to Stars	Nonfiction
Leacock, Elspeth and Susan Buckley	Places In Time: A New Atlas of American History	Nonfiction
Lewis, Barbara A.	Kids With Courage: True Stories About Young People Making A Difference	Nonfiction
Loeschnig, Louis V	Space and Flight Experiments	Nonfiction
Paterson, Katherine	Bridge to Terabithia	Fiction
Paulsen, Gary	The Island	Fiction
Paulsen, Gary	The River	Fiction
Spinelli, Jerry	Wringer	Fiction
Spinelli, Jerry	The Library Card	Fiction
Tate, Eleanora E.	The Secret of Gumbo Grove	Fiction
White, Ruth	Belle Prater's Boy	Fiction
Wright, Betty Ren	The Dollhouse Murders	Fiction

**BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
SUMMER READING LIST: 2009**

GRADE 6

ABBOTT	FIREGIRL THE POSTCARD
ARMSTRONG	STEAL AWAY
AVI	SMUGGLER'S ISLAND
CHOLDENKO	AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS
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
MOHR	GOING HOME
SMITH	THE BOYS OF SAN JOAQUIN
STOLZ	SHADOW OF GHADAMES
YEE	MILLCENT MIN, GIRL GENIUS STANFORD YEE 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

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READING LOG

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READING LOG

MONTH: _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

(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.

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.

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.

(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.

GO ON