

Grade 6 Required Summer Assignments

Math - Miss Cassella and Mrs. Dougherty

Each student should complete the Summer Skills Math book (including brain aerobics). All lessons must be completed and turned on the first day of school.

Literature - Mrs. Blochberger

Congratulations on completing your 5th grade year! I am so excited to have you in 6th Grade Literature class! We will be reading a variety of literary genres including historical fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, and mystery. We will be studying the impact of figurative language, such as similes, metaphors, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, idioms, and much more!

To build great reading habits, you must read. You have **two required assignments for the summer.**

These will be due on August 24, 2020.

Required reading #1: Read or listen to *Five Children & It* by E. Nesbit. It is available as a free audiobook for kids at audible.com or if you prefer to read it has an e-book, it is free on iBooks. This is a fantasy story written in the early 1900s. You may not recognize some words or phrases, but do not let it discourage you from enjoying this story. Write a three-paragraph essay reviewing the book. The review will be formal, so no contractions or slang are to be used in your writing. Your book review must include the following:

- I. Introduction (3-5 sentences)
 - A. Include the title of the book, the author, and the genre
 - B. Your opening paragraph should give a general idea about what the book is about
- II. Body (5 sentences)
 - A. Details about important characters
 - B. Details about the setting
 - C. Details about moments in the plot
- III. Conclusion (3-5 sentences)
 - A. Evaluate the book
 - B. Offer an opinion but do not give away the resolution of the story.

Use the Middle School heading for your book review:

First and last name
BSSVA

Date

6 LIT

Assignment: Book Review

Formatting: You may choose any style font, but the font size needs to be 12. All typed assignments for Literature class must have the Middle School heading. Please double-space your sentences.

Required assignment #2: Write a letter to me describing yourself as a reader. Be sure your letter includes the following:

1. Tell me something about yourself that you would want me to know.
2. Describe what kind of reader you are.
3. Do you prefer reading books or listening to audiobooks? Do you enjoy both?
4. What is your favorite chapter book and why? Be as detailed as possible.
5. What was the biggest challenge you had during e-learning?
6. What are you hoping to learn this year in Literature class?

Send both of your required assignments to me at ablochberger@bssva.org. I have written my letter (see below) so you can get to know a little bit about me. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Please send me an email if you have any questions or need any help with either of these assignments. I cannot wait to meet you! ☺

Peace,

Mrs. Blochberger
ablochberger@bssva.org

Mrs. Blochberger
BSSVA

June 17, 2020
6 LIT

Assignment: Letter

Dear 2023 Students:

My name is Mrs. Aurora Blochberger and I am your Literature teacher for 6th Grade. I am entering my twenty-second year of teaching. I am married to a wonderful man who was a Marine aviator for 27 years. I am a proud mother of two sons, Michael, who is 29 years old, and Joseph, who is 27 years old.

I love reading for enjoyment. I also enjoy listening to audiobooks. Many times, on the drive to school, I will listen to audiobooks instead of listening to music.

One of my favorite chapter books that I have read and listened to is *Maniac Magee* written by Jerry Spinelli. The characters he created in this story were all unique and memorable. The author wrote as if you were with the characters in each situation. The protagonist, Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee, is a thoughtful, caring, and compassionate person despite the circumstances in his life. Life was not easy for him. He was never bitter and he treated everyone with love and respect. No challenge was going to bring him down. His ability to help others was rewarded at the end.

The hardest part of e-learning for me was not to see my students in my classroom. I looked forward to our class discussions about our current lessons. I missed seeing their daily interactions or the ability to address questions immediately. E-mails and comments in Google Classroom were our new normal. It was not a good substitute for live learning.

My goal, as your teacher, is to help you be confident readers and critical thinkers. Books and words are powerful. The stories we read can teach us empathy, awareness, and give us the power to make a difference in our world. I hope you discover something wonderful and new in Literature class. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Peace,
Mrs. Blochberger