

## Dear Student,

Since good readers make good writers and good writers make good thinkers, each student entering Takoma Park Middle School in August is encouraged to complete reading assignments in preparation for the fall semester.

### The Particulars

- Choose a book and articles which will help you with **English, social studies, or science classes.**
- Select a particular format in which to present the book with your peers. Your peers and teachers may request that you share your book on *Wake Up, Takoma!*
- All written drafts for the specific subjects participating in summer reading are due by **Friday, September 4, 2009.**
- These assignments **may help** students meet first quarter requirements.

### Choosing a Book

- Please do not select previously read works or elementary school titles.
- Select titles that are **on** or **above** your grade level.
- Consult the web page:

[www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/takomaparkms](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/takomaparkms)

Are you having difficulty getting a book? Do you have any other questions? Please contact our school librarian, Kathy\_A\_Giesey@mcpsmd.org, to get assistance in locating and checking out books from our school library over the summer. Refer other questions to the English Resource Teacher, Deborah\_D\_Pleasant@mcpsmd.org.

## Reading Assignment:

***Choose a book(s) and complete the following activities.***

### 1. Read One Novel:

Select one book of your choice. You may refer to the public library, the ALA website (ALA.org), the Black-eyed Susan list, or the TPMS favorites book list for ideas.

**or**

Read as many books of your choice to help you meet the state requirement of a minimum of 25 books read per year.

### 2. Construct a Map:

For the novel you read for English, create a map of the novel's setting.



### 3. Read and Collect Articles for a Science Fair Project:

Explore topics for next year's science fair project or access the list online from the school's website under **Calendar and News** link or the **English** page and begin reading and compiling material to support your topic.

## Writing Assignments:

Submit the **notes or drafts** of your written work to the teacher indicated by **September 4, 2009.**

### 1. Mini-Book Report (English)

Complete the mini-book report forms for outside reading which you may print on-line or pick up from your English teacher before school ends. If you need more forms and cannot download them, come by the school and pick up forms in the Main Office or the Guidance Office.

### 2. Map (Social Studies)

Create a map of what you imagine your novel's setting to be. Include the necessary map elements.

### 3. Annotated Bibliography (Science)

Compile a folder of readings or make an annotated bibliography of materials read on this topic. If you need assistance with completing an annotated bibliography, go to [www.noodletools.com](http://www.noodletools.com).

Dear Parents,

It seems that everyone has ideas about how best to teach our children. But amid the debate, one sound practice is evident: the practice of reading. Over and over, educational researchers have proven the equation: *good readers = good writers = good thinkers*. No one disputes the findings. Reading promotes mental growth in our students, the capacity to process information and the ability to understand themselves and the world around them. We teachers and parents in the Blair Cluster can help to shape this potential growth in a positive manner by providing the opportunity for each child to select, read, and respond to various types of writing. Successful completion of these assignments will benefit your child as he or she progresses through our curriculum. We owe it to our students to prepare them for an increasingly complex and competitive world.

Sincerely,  
Grade 6 Teachers

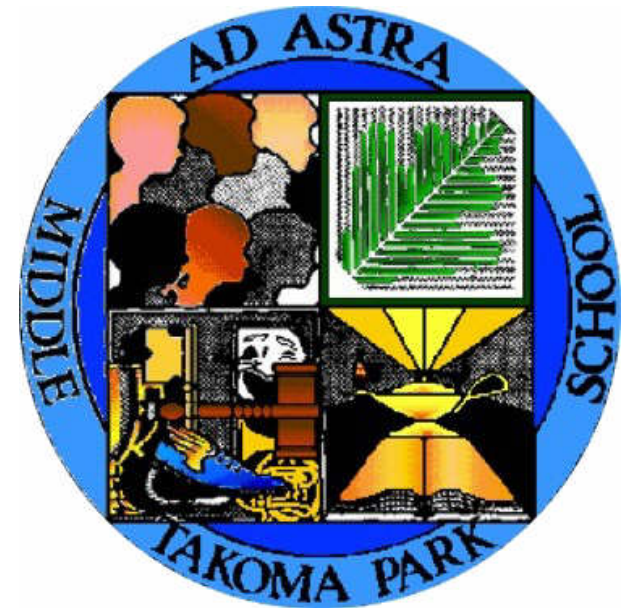
## Titles Taught at Takoma Park Middle School Grade 6

*(Do NOT choose these titles for summer reading.)*

*Banner in the Sky*  
*Belle Prater's Boy*  
*The Black Cauldron*  
*Bridge to Terabithia*  
*Child of the Owl*  
*The Comedy of Errors*  
*Dragon Wings*  
*The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm*  
*The 18<sup>th</sup> Emergency*  
*Esperanza Rising*  
*The Fear Place*  
*Going Home*  
*Having Our Say*  
*Holes*  
*Journey to Topaz*  
*Maniac McGee*  
*Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*  
*My Side of the Mountain*  
*On My Honor*  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*  
*Ruby Holler*  
*Secret of Gumbo Grove*  
*Taking Sides*  
*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*  
*Tuck Everlasting*  
*Where the Red Fern Grows*  
*The White Mountains*  
*The Witch of Blackbird Pond*  
*A Wrinkle in Time*  
*The View from Saturday*  
*Yolanda's Genius*

*Students who want to get ahead on reading books they might be assigned may read titles from this list. However, they may not be used for the summer reading assignment. There is no guarantee that sixth grade English teachers will teach every title listed.*

## Takoma Park Middle School



## Summer Reading Program 2009

### Grade 6