



CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
1001 Fort Crook Road North, Suite 200
Bellevue, NE 68005



June 2, 2025

Dear Middle School Parents (6th Grade),

An important part of our middle school is the summer reading program. Reading is an essential life skill. Therefore, CCS wants to help your student maintain their current reading abilities rather than lose them over the summer months. Continuing to read during the summer will further develop fluency, broaden students reading comprehension, and keep their minds engaged.

In preparing for the upcoming school year in our middle school program, Cornerstone requires all students entering grades 6-8 to read and complete a project over a book selected from the summer reading list. These books have been chosen to prepare your student for literary studies in the upcoming school year. All the books are historical fiction and cover topics or countries that will be studied in history class. Below are the requirements for 6th grade.

Students must read a book from the appropriate grade's summer reading list and prepare the grade-appropriate assignment. This assignment is **due on Wednesday, August 27, 2025. The assignment will be graded.** Attached you will find the requirements and format for your student's assignment. In addition to reading a book for the *assignment*, students need to read a book from the discussion reading list as well. Students will be put into literature circles in the early part of the school year, and readers need to be able to discuss elements or answer questions about the characters of the story they read from the list. **Your student will read two books total but will not complete an assignment on the discussion book.**

If your student has already read stories on either of the lists, it is all right for them to re-read one. Research tells us that when we re-read a story, we can catch foreshadowing that we missed the first time, catch hidden meaning, and even missed plot themes. Re-reading is a very worthy exercise.

You can find these books at your local library, on amazon or other online websites. Thank you for encouraging your student to read over the summer and continue to build their reading skills. I encourage you to read these books alongside your student. Doing this can provide gratifying discussion opportunities for you and your student. Enjoy your summer!

Blessings,

Miss Dick and Mrs. Wegner

6th Grade

Discussion Books: *Be prepared for a class discussion in August.*

- Fish in the Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba
- The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelley Pearsall
- Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

Reading List for Book Assignment List: (choose one)

- Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz
- Chains* by Laura Halse Anderson
- Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk

Book Assignment Instructions on the above book selection

Grading Rubric:

____/ **20 Comprehension**

- Book jacket demonstrates a strong understanding of the novel's main ideas and important details.

____/ **20 Style**

- Book jacket's text is engaging to read; the writing compels a potential reader to read the story.
- Illustration is detailed and thoughtful, catching a potential reader's eye and enticing them to read the story.

____/ **10 Mechanics and formatting**

- Book jacket uses correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, capitalization, and formatting.

Teacher Comments:

Total points earned _____/ 50

Instructions

Name _____

Date _____

Book Jacket Activity

student directions



Show your understanding and appreciation of this novel by creating a new book jacket (a front cover and back cover)! Follow the directions below to get started.

1. Create an original **front cover**, with the following elements:
 - The title and author
 - An illustration that exemplifies a significant detail from the story (for example, an important scene, character, or symbol from the novel)
 2. Create the original **back cover**, with the following elements:
 - A one-paragraph summary of the story that does not give away the ending
 - Two 1-2 sentence reviews of the story (blurbs) Example: "This inspiring story offers a thoughtful glimpse into the life of a conflicted teen."
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