

Middle School Summer Reading Expectations

6th Grade – Students are to read *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt and **one book of their choice**.

Students in 6th grade will be given a written in class assessment on their assigned book the first week of school.

7th Grade – Students are to read *Tuesdays With Morrie*, by Mitch Albom, and **one book of their choice**.

8th Grade – Students are to read **two books of their choice**.

For Grades 6-8, they must complete **one** of the following activities for each book that will be due the first day of school.

1. **Character Book Selection.** Select a character and then choose **five** books (fiction or nonfiction) for him or her, thinking about what he or she might like and what you think they need to know more about. Scan library shelves or the Internet for ideas. Why did you select the books you did? What do you hope your character will like about or get out of the book? Write one paragraph for each book selected.
2. **A character alphabet.** Choose a character you liked and then create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrate your knowledge of the character. Here is an **example**- If after reading *Spite Fences*, you decided to write Zeke's alphabet it could start like this: A is for the ABUSE Zeke took at the hands of a racist mob. B is for his BENDING OVER BACKWARDS to make sure the visiting civil rights activist could work in obscurity. C is for the CAMERA he gave Maggie so she could begin to look at the world in new ways.
3. **Tangible or intangible gifts.** Select a character and figure out five things you believe your character most needs or wants. Draw or cut out pictures to represent these "gifts" and write to your character an explanation of why you picked these things out for him or her. Minimum two pages.
4. **College application.** Create the application that a character you have just read about could write and submit to a college. Use all the information you know about the character and infer and create the rest of it. On the application include Name, Academic Rank in Class, High School Courses Taken and Grades, Extracurricular Activities and Personal Activities, and Work Experience. Choose one of the following questions to answer in a two-page essay from the character's point of view: what experience, event, or person has had a significant impact on your life? Discuss a situation where you have made a difference. Describe your areas of interest, your personality, and how they relate to why you would like to attend this college.

5. **Awards.** Create an award for each of the main characters based on their actions in the novel. One might be awarded “most courageous” for fighting peer pressure, another might be awarded “wisest” for the guidance he or she gave other characters. **For each award**, write a minimum of one paragraph that explains why this character deserves this award.