

Barberton Middle School
Rising 6th Grade
2011 Summer Homework

Welcome to the 6th Grade!

The teachers at Barberton Middle School would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to 6th grade and middle school. We are looking forward to meeting each and every one of you. We anticipate your 6th grade year will be one that you will long remember, and we hope your classes will be intellectually stimulating and academically rewarding (and fun). Keeping your mind active throughout the summer will help you make an easy transition to middle school. We consider it important that you keep your math and reading skills sharp in order to maintain the gains that you made this past academic year—we do not want your hard work to go to waste.

Your math teachers have developed packets to help you with this process and you are encouraged to do them over the course of your long summer vacation.

At Barberton Middle School, we believe that summer reading is an essential part of education and your growth as an adolescent. Summer reading enables students to continue being active readers and thoughtful writers while also preparing them for the upcoming 6th grade school year.

This summer we recommend all incoming 6th grade students read at least two of the novels on the list provided and complete the two assignments described below. We will be addressing these assignments the first week of school.

The novels are available at the Barberton Public Library or at a local bookstore or at the Barberton Board of Education (contact Elissa Young, Curriculum Specialist, at 330-753-1025).

Above all, have a wonderful time this summer!

**Rising 6th Grade
Summer Reading Activities
Summer 2011**

Assignment #1 Choose one book (Book #1) from the list, and write a friendly letter to your teacher, indicating that you have read the book. This letter will be handed to your Language Arts during the first week of school.

Your one-page letter should include the following:

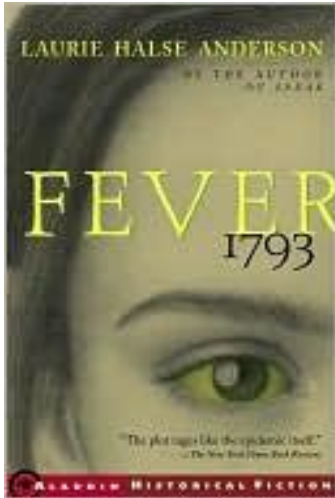
- 1st paragraph: A short introduction, including your name, the elementary school you attended, a few facts about yourself, and the date you completed the book.
- 2nd paragraph: The title and author of the book, a description of one or two of the main characters, the setting, and a summary of the story.
- 3rd paragraph: Your personal rating of the book, for 1-5, with 5 being the highest, plus your reasons for the rating.

Assignment #2 For your other book (Book #2), just take some brief notes on an index card. These cards will be your own personal notes to help you remember the story. Your teacher will conference with you concerning this book once school starts.

A card for each book should include:

- **Title and author**
- **Genre-** type of book (for example: mystery, historical fiction, fantasy, realistic fiction, adventure, etc)
- **Who-** main characters
- **What-** short summary of the story
- **When-** time period of the story
- **Where-** setting of the story
- Your **personal rating** of the book, 1-5, with 5 being the highest, plus your reasons for the rating.

Rising 6th Grade Summer Reading List



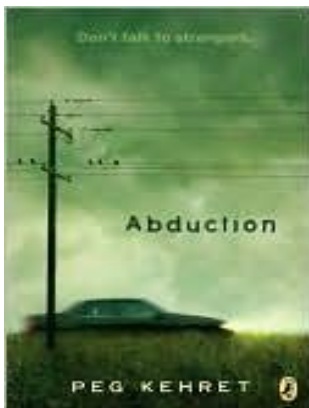
Fever 1793 By Laurie Halse Anderson
Genre: Historical Fiction

During the summer of 1793, Mattie Cook lives above the family coffee shop with her widowed mother and grandfather. Mattie spends her days avoiding chores and making plans to turn the family business into the finest Philadelphia has ever seen. But then the fever breaks out. Disease sweeps the streets, destroying everything in its path and turning Mattie's world upside down. At her feverish mother's insistence, Mattie flees the city with her grandfather. But she soon discovers that the sickness is everywhere, and Mattie must learn quickly how to survive in a city turned frantic with disease.



Double Identity By Margaret Peterson Haddix
Genre: Science Fiction and Fantasy

So my only protection is a kindergarten teacher and a ninety-eight-pound female minister....And they don't even believe I'm in danger. As Bethany approaches her thirteenth birthday, her parents act more oddly than usual. Her mother cries constantly, and her father barely lets Bethany out of his sight. Then one morning he hustles the entire family into the car, drives across several state lines -- and leaves Bethany with an aunt she never knew existed. Bethany has no idea what's going on. She's worried her mom and dad are running from some kind of trouble, but she can't find out because they won't tell her where they are going.



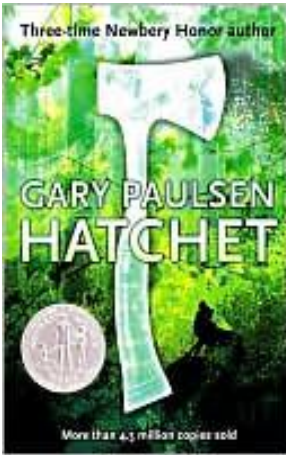
Abduction! By Peg Kehret
Genre: Fiction Mystery

When Matt leaves his kindergarten class for a quick trip to the bathroom, he never imagines what will happen next. He suddenly finds himself in a stranger's car traveling to an unfamiliar place. But who is this man, and is he really a "stranger"? When the school bell rings and Matt is nowhere to be found, his sister, Bonnie, is frantic. She quickly realizes that her little brother is not lost, but missing! And she must do everything in her power to save him...even if it puts her own life in danger.



Peak By Roland Smith
Genre: Fiction

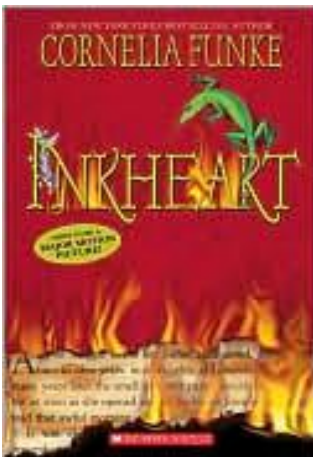
After Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with two choices: wither away in Juvenile Detention or to go live with his long-lost father, who runs a climbing company in Thailand. But Peak quickly learns that his father's renewed interest in him has strings attached. *Big* strings. He wants Peak to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit—and his motives are selfish at best. Even so, for a climbing addict like Peak, tackling Everest is the challenge of a lifetime. But it's also one that could cost him his life.



Hatchet By Gary Paulsen
Genre: Fiction

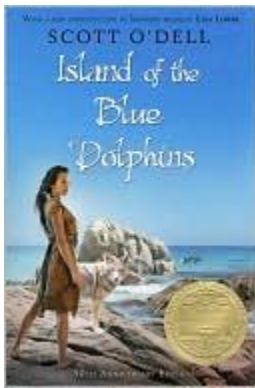
Brian Robeson, 13, is the only passenger on a small plane flying him to visit his father in the Canadian wilderness when the pilot has a heart attack and dies. The plane drifts off course and finally crashes into a small lake. Miraculously Brian is able to swim free of the plane, arriving on a sandy tree-lined shore with only his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present. Will he survive?

****Rising 6th Grade Suggested Books for Advanced Readers****



Inkheart
By Cornelia Funke
Genre: Science Fiction and Fantasy

Meggie's father Mo has an interesting talent: when he reads aloud, things, and sometimes people, come out of their stories and into the real world! But now the evil Capricorn wants to use Mo's talents to bring himself great wealth and power. Then Meggie discovers that maybe Mo isn't the only one who can read things to life. Unfortunately the author does include several instances of mild profanity which seems totally unnecessary in a children's book and is perhaps the biggest detractor from the story.



Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Genre: Fiction

In the Pacific, there is an island that looks like a big fish sunning itself in the sea. Around it blue dolphins swim, otters play, and sea birds abound. Karana is the Indian girl who lived alone for years on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. Hers is not only an unusual adventure of survival, but also a tale of natural beauty and personal discovery.