Garfield Middle School Grade 6 Summer Reading 2026

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well. As we begin to enter the summer, we would like to encourage all students to embrace summer reading! Our teachers have been doing their best to reach all students, and we do know that students will benefit greatly from reinforcing their skills through continued reading. They will be expected to submit their work in September.

Research tells us that students who read during the summer avoid what is known as "summer slide," which is the loss of academic skills and practice during the summer months**. Studies show that students who don't read over the summer lose as many as 3 months of instruction—that's 1/3 of the year**! Over time, children who do not read over the summer will fall years behind their peers academically.

Remember that tablets, iPads, iPhones, and Android devices are ways in which the summer reading can be downloaded and carried to any place where you can take a traditional book! Some book selections can also be enjoyed on audio books and used in conjunction with the text as well. The Garfield Public Library is another great resource for students.

Notice to Families

Reading material choices may include themes related to LGBTQ+ issues, gender identity, DEI, and other sensitive topics. Parents/guardians are encouraged to review their student's book choices and provide guidance as they see fit.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER ASSIGNMENT: GRADE 6

- **ALL** Students are **required to read 1 FICTION book**. The book can be any genre within fiction (i.e., realistic fiction, fantasy, dystopian, science fiction, historical fiction).
- Books must be **at least 150 pages**.
- Students should read a book they have **not read before**.
- **This will count as a grade for the first marking period.**
- Students will be **REQUIRED** to create/design a **book jacket** for their **finished book**.
- **Book suggestions/ recommendations** can be found on https://www.goodreads.com/
- Once you complete the book, it is recommended that you continue to read as much as possible during the summer!
- 6th grade students will be required to have a notebook, highlighters, post-it notes, and pencils/pens for literature class.

The book jacket will be given to your LITERATURE teacher on September 21, 2026. The assignments will be explained and discussed in detail by the end of the school year. Students will be held accountable for the assigned reading during the first marking period. All work should be the students' own work and not plagiarized from the internet or other sources.

Regards,
The Grade 6 literature teachers of GMS

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Grade 6 Students:

Welcome to Garfield Middle School! Literature classes will be using the Reader's Workshop model. This simply means you are given a choice of what to read over the summer.

Choose 1 book of at least 150 pages that you have not read before.

Create/design the attached **mandatory book jacket.** The assignment will count towards the first marking period. You will be required to purchase a notebook, highlighters, post-it notes, and writing utensils for literature class.

Here are 2 links to ebooks:

1. Chicago Public Schools

https://cps.mackinvia.com/

Use the GUEST login
USER: CPS
Password: CPS

You can only read books that are labeled READ NOW (You cannot read a book labeled PREVIEW)

2. Tumble Books

TUMBLEBOOKS

Scroll down and click on TUMBLEBOOK Library

There are 2 libraries:
The 1st one is for 6th graders and the TEEN CLOUD is for upper grades.

Happy Reading!

See you in September!

The Grade 6 literature teachers of GMS