

LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Secondary Language Arts

Danny A. Robertozzi, Ed.D
Superintendent

Denise Cleary
Assistant Superintendent

John S. Kolibas
Board President



Patricia Tartivita, Ed. D
Supervisor Secondary Language Arts

Administration Building
2 East Gibbons Street
Linden, New Jersey 07036

908.486.2800 x 8024
ptartivita@lindenps.org

June, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Summer is a great time to read, especially for children. With no school and no homework, there are usually plenty of extra hours to fill. Encourage your child to fill those hours with reading. Research shows that students experience learning and reading loss when they are not taking part in active education. Participating in a summer reading activity is an excellent way to prevent such reading loss.

To support our belief in reading, the Linden district requires a summer reading assignment. This year, the assignment for grades 6 through 8 is to read **ONE** of the selected books and complete a **handwritten** Annotated Reading Log, as well as an in-class Summer Reading Assessment. Each grade level has been given a selection of four books, along with the corresponding Lexile level for each selection. In addition, a synopsis of each book has been provided. Encourage your child to challenge themselves!

HONORS LEVEL STUDENTS are required to read the highest Lexile level books at each grade level.

ELLs (English Language Learners)- Students exiting the ELL program will choose their reading from the general grade level selections. Students who are currently enrolled in the ESL program will work with their ESL teachers in order to select materials that are aligned with their individualized needs and English proficiency levels.

Students will be required to bring their **handwritten** Annotated Reading Log to school on **Friday, September 15, 2017**. In an effort to encourage individual and thoughtful responses, only **handwritten** logs will be accepted unless a student's IEP indicates otherwise. The summer reading assessment will be given in class during the first full week of school. The log and assessment will be counted towards the first marking period.

Limited copies of each book will be available at the Linden Public Library, located on E. Henry Street. In addition, the selected books will be available at Barnes and Noble on Central Avenue in Clark, on Kindle, and from various online sources. The Annotated Reading Log and book list will be on the Linden Public Schools website at www.lindenps.org. If you have any questions, or if you have difficulty obtaining a book, you may contact me at my office at (908) 486-2800 ext. 8024.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Sincerely;

Patricia Tartivita, Ed.D
Supervisor, Secondary Language Arts

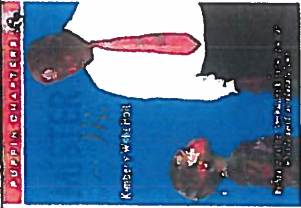
Enclosures

Summer Reading and Lexile Levels

A word about Lexile levels: A Lexile level is one of many tools used to measure reading ability. It is determined by text complexity, and can be used to help a student choose material that is at an appropriate difficulty level. Within a range from 100L below to 50L above his or her Lexile measure, a reader is expected to comprehend the text well enough to understand it, while still experiencing some reading challenge.

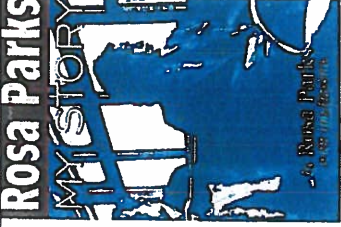
Grade Level	Approximate Lexile Level
5	620-950
6	690-1020
7	780-1090
8	820-1140
9 through 12	1110-1385

Entering 6th grade September 2017

Author	Title	Cover	Genre	Lexile	Year/ Pages	Summary
Holt	Mister and Me ISBN-13: 978-0698118690		Dramatic Fiction	710	1998/ 80	<p>In a small Louisiana mill town in 1940, Jolene doesn't remember her father, but that doesn't mean she wants a new one. As far as she's concerned, she and Momma and Grandpa are doing just fine on their own. So, when Leroy Redfield, a tall logger with a booming laugh, starts taking Momma dancing on Friday nights, Jolene is determined to get him out of their lives. Somehow, though, the man just won't go away, and as he patiently works to gain Jolene's acceptance, Jolene finds herself letting go of her resentment.</p>

Peck	A Long Way from Chicago ISBN-13: 978-0142401101		Modern-Classic-Fiction-Humor	750	2004/ 148	<p>Although the narrator, Joey, and his younger sister, Mary Alice, live in the Windy city during the reign of Al Capone and Bugs Moran, most of their adventures occur "a long way from Chicago," during their annual down-state visits with Grandma Dowdel. A woman as "old as the hills," "tough as an old boot," and larger than life ("We could hardly see her town because of Grandma. She was so big, and the town was so small"), Grandma continually astounds her citified grandchildren by stretching the boundaries of truth. In eight hilarious episodes spanning the years 1929-1942, she plots outlandish schemes to even the score with various colorful members of her community, including a teenaged vandal, a drunken sheriff and a well-to-do banker. Readers will be eager to join the trio of Grandma, Joey and Mary Alice on such escapades as preparing an impressive funeral for Shotgun Cheatham, catching fish from a stolen boat and arranging the elopement of Vandalia Eubanks and Junior Stubbs. Like Grandma Dowdel's prize-winning gooseberry pie, this satire on small-town</p>
------	--	---	------------------------------	-----	--------------	---

Clements	A Week in the Woods ISBN 13:978-0689-82596-5		Action Adventure	820	2002/ 160	<p>The fifth-grade week in the Woods is a beloved tradition of Hardy elementary where Mark Chelmsley (the fourth) is is pretty much killing time before his parents sent him off to an exclusive prep school. But then Mark realizes the week may be a chance to prove to Mr. Maxwell that he's not just another of the slacker rich kids the teacher can't stand. But it might be too late for Mark to change Mr. Maxwell's opinion of him. On the first day of the week, the tension between teacher and student explodes, and in a reckless moment, Mark puts not only himself, but also Mr. Maxwell, in grave danger. Can two such strong adversaries work together to save their lives?</p>
----------	---	---	---------------------	-----	--------------	--

Parks	Rosa Parks: My Story ISBN-13: 978-0141301204		Auto - biography	970	1999/ 208	<p>Rosa Parks is best known for the day she refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus, sparking the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott. Yet there is much more to her story than this one act of defiance. In this straightforward, compelling autobiography, Rosa Parks talks candidly about the civil rights movement and her active role in it. Her dedication is inspiring; her story is unforgettable. "The simplicity and candor of this courageous woman's voice makes these compelling events even more moving and dramatic." -<i>Publishers Weekly</i>, starred review</p>
-------	---	---	------------------	-----	--------------	---

REVIEW THIS PACKET BEFORE READING YOUR NOVEL.

Summer Reading: Annotated Reading Log

This is one of two assessments you will complete using your summer reading novel. This "Summer Reading: Annotated Reading Log" will be due the first Friday of school. The second assessment will be a handwritten IN-CLASS essay using your annotated reading log as a helpful resource.

Task: Complete the attached **Summer Reading: Annotated Reading Log**. This log that will be scored using the attached rubric. Be sure to review the rubric before answering questions. When you see the "*", use it as a key to help define unknown or unfamiliar terms throughout the Annotated Reading Log.

Requirements: All logs must be handwritten. Typed copies will not be accepted.

"Reading furnishes the mind with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours."

John Locke

DUE DATE: Friday, September 15, 2017

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher: _____

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

PART II. Directions: *Short Answer Responses: Use RACE to respond to each short answer question.*

***Restate question, Answer question, Cite textual evidence, Explain response---** **RACE**

11. Find a sentence from the book that you found surprising or intriguing. Why does this sentence deserve attention?

12. How would you have resolved the major conflict in the story?

Summer Reading Rubric: Annotated Reading Log

	Task Completed	Student Check	Teacher Points	Teacher Comments
1	READ NOVEL: I read the novel in its entirety.		____/10	
2	COMPLETED ANNOTATED READING LOG: Part I After reading the novel, I completed all five requirements of the annotated reading log on pages 1-5.		____/50	
3	COMPLETED SHORT RESPONSE QUESTIONS: Part II I responded to the short response questions on pages 6 of the Annotated Reading Log using <u>RACE</u>		____/40	

Rubric Breakdown for Annotated Reading Log

NOVEL:

- 10pts: I read the entire novel and that is evident in my responses
- 5pts: I skimmed through the novel and that is evident in my responses
- 0pts: I didn't read the novel and that is evident in my responses

ANNOTATED READING LOG PART I: graphic organizer

- 50pts: My Annotated Reading Log has all requirements: text evidence in quotation marks, page numbers, restated questions and explained analysis
- 40pts: My Annotated Reading Log is **missing one** of the five required elements
- 30pts: My Annotated Reading Log is **missing two** of the five required elements
- 20pts: My Annotated Reading Log is **missing three** of the five required elements
- 10pts: My Annotated Reading Log is **missing four** of the five required elements
- 0pts: I didn't put any effort into my Annotated Reading Log and it is evident

ANNOTATED READING LOG PART II: short answer responses

- 40pts: I constructed a well-thought out RACE response to the short answer question using textual evidence that was thoroughly explained
- 30pts: My short answer RACE response is **missing one** aspect of RACE
- 20pts: My short answer RACE response is **missing two** aspects of RACE
- 10pts: My short answer RACE response is **missing three** aspects of RACE
- 0pts: I did not answer the short responses at all