

## SMM Summer Learning

Dear 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduate and Family,

Congratulations! You have worked hard and reached the end of another year. You should feel proud of your accomplishments. This summer when you are not in the pool or at a theme park, take time to practice the skills you learned by spending time reading and working on IXL for math and ELA. To ensure you are prepared for your 7<sup>th</sup> grade year, your teachers have assembled summer tasks for you. Please review the instructions carefully and complete them thoughtfully.

Summer learning requirements for 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates:

- Read *The Outsiders* and complete dialectical journal (see attached instructions).
- Use iXL to practice the “Foundational Skills” in the attached math handout. Be prepared to take an assessment during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of school (for evaluation purposes and not for a grade).

Optional work to turn in to receive recognition as a Summer Scholar. You will get a special Summer Scholar reward August of next year.

- Read one Sunshine State Book (see list attached) and complete another dialectical journal. If you have enough space in the composition notebook you used for *The Outsiders*, you may use the same one.
- Complete 15 pages from Quick Review Skills Workbook (print selected pages).

The office will be open during much of the summer if you have any questions. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,  
Your Junior High Teachers

\*\* All summer work is due August 13. Return work to your new homeroom teacher. \*\*

## Foundational Skills for 7th Grade Standards

1. greatest common factor
2. least common multiple
3. prime factorization
4. converting metric units
5. adding mixed numbers
6. subtracting mixed numbers
7. multiplying mixed numbers
8. dividing mixed numbers
9. unit rates
10. rounding decimals
11. whole number place value
12. decimal place value
13. converting fractions to decimals
14. converting decimals to fractions
15. adding decimals
16. subtracting decimals
17. multiplying decimals
18. dividing decimals
19. exponents
20. order of operations
21. percent of number
22. comparing decimals
23. volume of rectangular prism
24. equivalent ratios
25. perimeter
26. converting customary units
27. area of parallelogram
28. area of triangle
29. solve 1-step equations
30. area of composite figures

## *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

This summer, you will read *The Outsiders* and create a dialectical journal. *The Outsiders* was written by a teenager about teenagers. It is told in a first-person narration style, with the narrator being a 14-year-old boy. This story deals with issues that are very close to the hearts of teens, whether in the 1960s when this book was written or today.

### **Dialectical Journal Instructions**

The term “dialectic” means the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversations involving questions and answer. Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the text you are reading over the summer. Use your journal to respond and analyze your summer reading book in order to record your reading experience and to facilitate your ability to remember the book in our class discussions during the first weeks of school.

### **Materials:**

You will need a regular composition book with bound pages widely available at local stores. You will be turning in this composition book on the first day of school in the fall. Also, do not type the dialectical journal to prevent plagiarism or unacceptable sharing of the journal. The dialectical journal must be handwritten with neat, legible writing.

### **Procedure:**

See “Dialectical Journal Template” and strategies handouts.

### **Required Number of Entries:**

Include at least one entry for each chapter.

### **Choosing Passages from the Text:**

1. Passages that remind you of your own life or something you’ve seen before
2. Passages that make you realize something you hadn’t seen before
3. Examples of patterns such as recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols, or motifs
4. Passages with confusing languages or unfamiliar vocabulary
5. Events you find surprising or confusing
6. Passages that illustrate a particular character or setting

### **Sample Dialectical Journal Entry:**

Passages from the Text and Page Number	Reader Response
“You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view – until you climb into his skin and walk around in it” (Lee 34).	In this passage, Atticus teaches Scout to imagine the perspective of another person's situation, so that people can truly understand each other and create better relationships. Lee includes this to develop the character of Atticus and his role as father to Jem and Scout; his views influence the children’s actions and attitudes throughout the novel.

# How to annotate text while reading: 11 annotation strategies you might find helpful:

1. Circle any unfamiliar words. Then look them up, and write down the definition. (Hack: If you get the dictionary.com app, you can look up the word in two seconds.)
2. Use question marks to indicate areas of uncertainty.
3. Use stars to indicate anything that seems important, such as themes, symbols, foreshadowing, etc.
4. Use exclamation points to indicate something dramatic, or a key turning point.
5. Circle (or mark somehow) character names any time they are introduced for the first time.
6. Keep a list somewhere, maybe on the inside cover, of all the characters and their traits. Add to this list as new characters are introduced, or as you learn more about existing characters.
7. Write your notes in the margins (best method), on sticky-notes (decent method), or in a separate notebook (least favorable method).
8. Paraphrase (summarize) each chapter after you finish reading it. You only need a few sentences to do this. Write it down at the beginning or end of the chapter.
9. Write down any questions you have about the text – either questions you're willing to wait to find out the answer to as you read further, or questions you want to bring up to your teacher in class the next day.
10. Use a color coded system if that type of thing appeals to you.

You might be wondering why the heck you would annotate anyway(?).

For so many reasons

([https://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/11/12/skills-and-strategies-annotating-to-engage-analyze-connect-and-create/?\\_r=0](https://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/11/12/skills-and-strategies-annotating-to-engage-analyze-connect-and-create/?_r=0))! The most

important reason you would annotate is for a deep understanding of the material. Taking notes on your text helps you comprehend what you're reading on a much deeper level than if you were to just read it straight through.

## 4 major benefits of annotating:

1. It keeps you awake and engaged as you read, and reduces your chances of "fake reading syndrome."
2. It helps you process what you're reading as you're reading it.
3. It slows down your reading, which is actually a good thing.  
Decreasing your pace can often increase your comprehension and retention.
4. It double-whammies as a way to quickly find information *later on*. In other words, when you go back into the book to find something later, you can just read your annotations, which is faster than reading the actual text a second time through.

So how do you annotate? There are so many ways. Just as there are so many types of learners, there are so many techniques that suit different students. You might have to experiment for a while to see what does and does not work for you, but there are some basic annotation principals, or rules, to keep in mind as you figure out your own system.

# Dialectical Journal

## TEMPLATE

### WHAT IS A Dialectical Journal?

A dialectical journal is a notebook comprised of journal entries where a student records observations about the text and interacts and engages with the text on a deeper-level. Each entry should include quotes as well as higher-level analysis.

### STEP 1: Quote

Find a meaningful and important passage from the assigned reading. Look for passages that move the plot along, advance the conflict, include foreshadowing, or have literary merit.

Write the quote and cite it in MLA Format.

"QUOTE" (AUTHOR'S LAST NAME PAGE #).

### Dialectical Journal

CLASS EXAMPLE

"

"

( ).

### STEP 2: Analyze

Write a brief explanation about the quote. What is happening in the quote and why is it important? How does this quote move the plot along or advance the conflict? Does this quote relate to another part within the text? What symbolic or figurative meaning does this quote include and what does it mean?

2-3 COMPLETE AND THOROUGH SENTENCES

### STEP 3: Connect

Connect this quote to one of the class concepts. Why and how does this quote relate to this concept? Be sure to highlight or underline the concept in your explanation.

1-2 COMPLETE SENTENCES.

## Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books 2018-2019 List for Grades 6-8



### **Click'd by Tamara Ireland Stone**

At her summer CodeGirls Camp, Allie Navarro invents Click'd, a friend pairing app. Click'd pairs its users with others who have common interests and then sends them a scavenger hunt to find their matches. A glitch threatens to reveal private information, and Allie must work fast in the school computer lab to find a fix. Can Allie fix her app, win back her friends and get it ready for Games for Good?



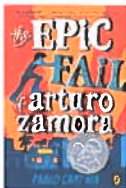
### **A Crack in the Sea by H.M. Bouwman**

A portal between two worlds opens unexpectedly. Those who travel to the second world find solace, but the Raft King wants to change all of that. Relating the tales of three sets of siblings who endure hardships, experience magic, adventures on the sea, and an enchanting second world, *A Crack in the Sea* is a unique tale where the door to the first world may never reopen.



### **Curse of the Boggin by DJ Machale**

There's a place beyond this world where spirits tell their tales, stories that ended too soon, or don't end at all. It's a place for unexplainable things: mysteries without solutions, ghosts and a boggin. They all have a story. Marcus and his friends have found the key to unlock the Library and they need to use it. A strange man in a bathrobe haunts them; fires rage out in an instant, a creepy old lady shows up at Marcus's house. The terror is real.



### **The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya**

Arturo lives in Miami playing basketball and working a few shifts at his Abuela's restaurant. When he meets Carmen, a young girl who moves into Arturo's apartment complex, his stomach is in knots. On top of the problems with his new crush, his town is being threatened by a land developer. With the help of Carmen and the book of poetry of Jose Marti left by his grandfather, Arturo discovers family bonds and community are stronger than ever.



### **The Eureka Key by Sarah Thomson**

When middle school puzzle master Sam and history wiz Martina win a contest for a summer trip across the US, they discover they've been drafted into something vastly more extraordinary. Joining another kid on the trip, Theo, a descendant of George Washington himself, they must follow clues to find seven keys left behind by the Founding Fathers. Together the keys unlock Benjamin Franklin's greatest invention--a secret weapon intended to defend the country. Each key is hidden in a unique location around the U.S., protected with puzzles, riddles, and traps.



### **The Firefly Code by Megan Frazer Blakemore**

Up until a new girl, Ilana, moves to Firefly Lane, Mori and her friends lived a normal life. They never questioned anything in Old Harmonie, their utopian community. Questions arise about the new girl. Where Ilana says she comes from doesn't add up and her behavior is strange. Once they discover the truth they must make tough decisions about their seemingly perfect world.



### **First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Perez**

Punk rocker, Zine maker, Maria Luisa is moving to Chicago with her Mexican-American mother and starting 7th grade in a new school. When she begins her first day with a rebellious start, she needs to figure out how she'll fit in and still hold on to her unique character.

# Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books 2018-2019 List for Grades 6-8, Page 2



## **Forest of Wonders by Linda Sue Park**

Raffa Santana has always loved the mysterious Forest of Wonders. For a gifted young apothecary, every leaf has the potential to unleash a kind of magic. If only Raffa's father would allow him to experiment freely.



## **Frogkisser! by Garth Nix**

Poor Princess Anya! Forced to live with her evil stepmother's new husband, her evil stepfather, has the unfortunate ability to break curses with magic kisses, AND now forced to go on the run when her stepfather decides to make the kingdom entirely his own. She is not alone, aided by a loyal talking dog, a boy thief trapped in the body of a newt, and some extraordinarily mischievous wizards.



## **Ghost by Jason Reynolds**

Running. That's all that Castle Cranshaw aka Ghost has ever known. But never for a track team. His game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: natural talent.



## **The Girl Who Could Not Dream by Sarah Beth Durst**

Sophie loves the hidden shop below her parents' bookstore, where dreams are secretly bought and sold. When the dream shop is robbed and her parents go missing, Sophie must unravel the truth to save them. Together with her best friend—a wisecracking and fanatically loyal monster named Monster—she must decide whom to trust with her family's carefully guarded secrets. Who will help them, and who will betray them?



## **How Lunchbox Jones Saved me from Robots, Traitors and Missy the Cruel by Jennifer Brown**

Video game-loving Luke Abbott has no interest in joining his school robotics team. For one, he really doesn't know much about robotics. Two, the team has a record of losing. And three, his arch nemesis Missy the Cruel and the scary Lunchbox Jones are both on the team! What is with his lunchbox anyways?



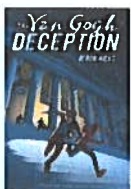
## **Restart by Gordon Korman**

Chase wakes up from a fall off the roof not knowing who he is. When he returns to school, the students know exactly who he is, or at least, who he was. Some of the students act like he is a hero, some seem scared of him, and one utterly despises him. Chase is faced with having to figure out not only who he was, but who he wants to be.



## **Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan**

Julia might be short, but she refuses to let her height be her shortcoming. Encouraged by her mother to audition for the musical The Wizard of Oz, Julia quickly falls in love with the world of theater and all its characters. Over the course of the summer, Julia discovers talents she didn't know she had, forms unlikely friendships, and finds a second home in the theater. It's true what they say-- good things come in small packages.



## **The Van Gogh Deception by Deron Hicks**

When a young boy is discovered in Washington DC's National Gallery without any memory of who he is, a high-stakes race begins to unravel the greatest mystery of all: his identity. As the stakes continue to rise, the boy must piece together the clues of his origins while using his limited knowledge to stop one of the greatest art frauds ever attempted.