

# 6th Grade

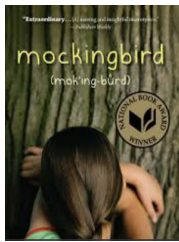
## Summer Reading Book List



**EQ: In the face of adversity, what causes some individuals to prevail while others fail?"**

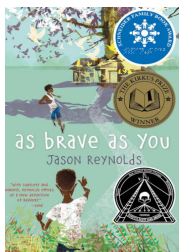


***Stargirl*** by Spinelli, Jerry  
In this story about the perils of popularity the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.



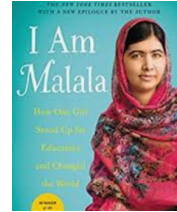
***Mockingbird*** by Erskine Kathryn  
Ten - year - old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her

father.



***As Brave As You*** by Jason Reynolds  
When two brothers decide to prove how brave they are, everything backfires—literally! Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn

for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia—in the COUNTRY! The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Thunderstruck, Genie peppers Grandpa with questions about how he hides it so well (besides wearing way cool Ray-Bans).



***I Am Malala*** by Malala Yousafzai  
Malala describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to

pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her.



***Crossover*** by Kwame Alexander  
"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm

Delivering," announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh and Jordan must come to grips and realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their stories heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.



***Thirst*** by Varsha Bajaj  
Minni lives in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited to a few hours a day and the communal taps have long lines. Lately, though, even that access is threatened by severe water shortages and thieves who

are stealing this precious commodity—an act that Minni accidentally witnesses one night. Meanwhile, in the high-rise building where she just started to work, she discovers that water streams out of every faucet *and* there's even a rooftop swimming pool. What Minni also discovers there is one of the water mafia bosses. Now she must decide whether to expose him and risk her job and maybe her life. How did something as simple as access to water get so complicated?

## Summer Project - *A Road Map to Success* *First Stop: 6th Grade*

### Welcome!

Hello rising sixth graders, and welcome to Baldwin Middle School! Your sixth grade teachers can't wait to begin working with you. While we want you to enjoy your summer vacation, taking a "brain break" for the **entire** summer can cause you to lose some of the skills that you worked hard on learning this year.

This summer we would like you to read **ONE** title from the *6th Grade Summer Reading Book List* or select a book of your choice. We encourage you to read as many additional titles as you wish. As you read, be sure to stop and jot your ideas and noticings on the book, asking yourself, "***In the face of adversity, what causes some individuals to prevail while others fail?***" In other words, "*When faced with difficulties, why do some people overcome them, while others may not?*"

Taking notes on your reading helps you to understand the story and to think about its connection to life and the world in which we live. It will also help you remember the story when you return to school.

***Please know that at the end of September, you will be participating in a Socratic Seminar. Each student will be sharing their views and ideas based on the book they chose to read. Your teacher will ask you to reflect on the seminar as an in - class assignment. This will count as a written grade towards your first - quarter grade entered into eSchool for your sixth grade year.***

### Task and Resources

**Task:** Read one book and begin reflecting on the essential question:

- ***In the face of adversity, what causes some individuals to prevail while others fail?***" In other words, "*When faced with difficulties, why do some people overcome them, while others may not?*"

**In order to complete this task, you will need to do the following:**

1. Read **one** text of your choice from the *6th Grade Summer Reading Book List* or a **book of your choice** that aligns to the above essential question.
2. Prepare to participate in a Socratic Seminar when you return to school by:
  - ☐ **Reflecting** on the essential question: ***In the face of adversity, what causes some individuals to prevail while others fail?***" (*When faced with difficulties, what causes some people to overcome them, while others may not?*)
  - ☐ **Annotating** - Stop and Jot your noticings and ideas on post-it notes or in your notebook.
  - ☐ **Choosing and writing down one** quote from the beginning, middle, and end of the text that is relevant and made an impact on you. At least three quotes in total.



## BALDWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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May 15, 2023

Dear 5th Grade Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We hope this letter finds you and your child in good health and high spirits as we approach the summer break. As the school year comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the summer reading assignment and provide some guidance for your child's smooth transition into 6th grade.

Reading during the summer is crucial for maintaining and enhancing your child's literacy skills. It helps them develop vocabulary, comprehension, critical thinking, and fosters a lifelong love for reading. We have carefully selected age-appropriate books for your child to enjoy over the summer break.

Please ensure your child reads at least one book of their choice from the attached book list. On their return to school in September, learners will be participating in a Socratic Seminar. They will reflect on the essential question and share their views on the book they chose to read. To prepare for this and to hold onto their thinking, learners should:

- **Annotate** by “**stopping and jotting**” important ideas or noticings as they read on post-its or in a reader’s notebook, or any other note-taking system that works for them.
- **Choosing and writing down one** quote from the beginning, middle, and end of the text that is relevant and made an impact on you. At least three quotes in total.
- Learners should also be able to answer the questions on the bookmark that is included in this packet.

The books suggested on the list are available at the Baldwin Public Library. Please encourage your child to engage with the books actively by discussing the plot, characters, and their thoughts about the story. We also recommend encouraging them to explore other books of their interest throughout the summer.

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I wish you all a safe and restful summer break!

Sincerely,

Dr. Carol McGill  
Supervisor of ELA 6-12