



Summer Work - Incoming 6th Graders

*This is the summer assignment for the **incoming 6th graders**. The students need to complete the writing prompts, choose and memorize one of the poems along with written response for poem, read two of the novels, and complete math challenge questions & lessons reviews in preparation for the diagnostic assessment that takes place during the first week of school.*

Writing

Directions: Please get a **new** composition book (***you will be using this notebook during the year***) and answer at least **two** from **each** of the following writing styles: Expository, Descriptive, Narrative.

Please Note: If you have answered any of these prompts for a previous summer writing assignment, please choose different prompts.

Expository

1. Explain how disappointments can sometimes have a positive outcome.
2. Each child has a unique place in their family. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the position you hold in your family (youngest child, an only child, middle child etc.).
3. A home in your neighborhood has burned. The family lost everything in the fire, but everyone came out safely. Inform your reader how you plan to help the family recover from the loss.
4. Explain why honesty is important in a friendship.
5. Compare and contrast your home in the day versus the night. Think not only about how it looks different, but also how it sounds different, as well as how your home serves a different purpose in the day than it does at night.

Descriptive

1. Describe your bedroom. Start with what is immediately to your left when you open the door and describe what you see as you go clockwise around your room.
2. While visiting the zoo you encounter an animal that no one has ever seen before. Describe the animal.
3. What is your favorite meal? Describe it in detail, including what it looks, smells, and tastes like.
4. Describe a tree in detail. Maybe it is your favorite tree, one you like to climb, or one that has a tire swing. Describe what it looks like, feels like, and even its smell.
5. Describe a thunderstorm to someone who has never experienced one. Give details about what you see, hear, and smell. Be sure to describe how you feel during the storm.

Narrative

1. Tell what happened when you felt proudest of yourself.
2. Imagine that you spent the entire day with your favorite relative (grandmother, grandfather, cousin, aunt, uncle, etc). Tell us about your day.



3. Imagine that you were invisible for a day. Write about your experience.
4. Retell a popular fairy tale from the villain's point of view.
5. When was the last time you showed great courage? Tell us about your experience.

Poetry

Directions: 1) Choose and memorize **one** of the following poems. You will be asked to recite this poem from memory at the beginning of school. 2) Write a one-paragraph reader's response about the poem you chose, in your composition notebook (the same notebook you used for your writing).

***DAISIES* by Frank Dempster Shaerman**

At evening, when I go to bed,
I see the stars shine overhead;
They are the little daisies white
That dot the meadows of the night.

And often, while I'm dreaming so,
Across the sky the moon will go;
It is a lady, sweet and fair,
Who comes to gather daisies there.

For when at morning I arise
There's not a star left in the skies;
She's picked them all, and dropped them down
Into the meadows of the town.

***A MIDSUMMER DAY* by Dora Goodale**

What is so sweet as a midsummer day,
When no sound greets the ear save a bird's
Happy lay,
Or the rustling of leaves as the wind passes thro';
When the earth is so green, and the sky is so blue!

When the swallows in ecstasy dart thro' the air,



When the breeze is so pure, and the flowers are so
Fair,
When the grain is so folden, the farmer so gay,
O what can compare with a midsummer day!

***THE SWALLOW* by Christina Rossetti**

Fly away, fly away, over the sea,
Sun-loving swallow for summer is done.
Come again, come again, come back to me,
Bringing the summer, and bringing the sun.

When you come hurrying home o'er the seam
Then we are certain that winter is past;
Cloudy and cold though your pathway may be,
Summer and sunshine will follow you fast.

Reading

Directions: Choose **two** of the following books to read over the summer (you will be taking A.R. tests for these at the beginning of the year)

1. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
2. *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko
3. *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli
4. *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George
5. *Ungifted* by Gordon Korman

Math

Complete 6th-Grade Math Minutes: 2-50 (even only). You can print them out or write the problems on loose leaf papers, then show all your work to earn the summer credits. Answer keys are available at the end of the packet. You are welcome to do more than 25 Math Minutes.