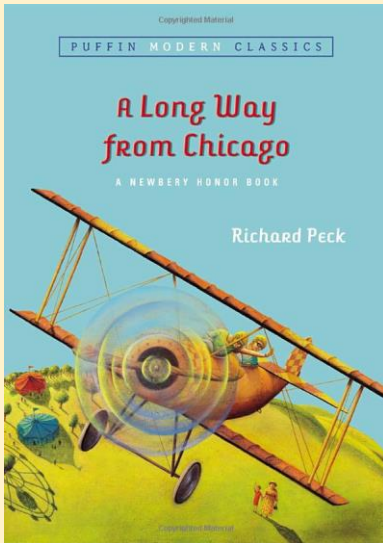




Summer Reading Assignments for Rising 6th Graders

Welcome to Sixth Grade Humanities!



Please read [*A Long Way from Chicago*](#), by Richard Peck and complete *one* of the following assignments. Please bring your copy of the book to class on our first full day of classes, as well as your choice of assignment.

Choice #1 - Book Review & Advertisement

1. This may be typed or neatly handwritten and should include 8-10 quality sentences. The title of the review should be the title of the book (underlined or italicized on the top line). The review itself should contain the book title and author in your opening sentence. This review should touch on what the book is about - everyone will have read this book, so you don't need to worry about giving any spoilers! Be sure to mention a few key characters and explain the setting(s) of *when and where* it takes place. Share *your* opinion of the book and share things you liked/did not like. Include a recommendation for the audience you think would most enjoy this read: boys who like sports, readers who like mysteries, etc. At the end of your review, please give the book a star rating on a scale of 1-5 (5 = high). Remember to showcase quality writing and constructive information!

2. On blank white paper (8.5 x 11) design a poster or new cover design to advertise the book. You can draw/color, use pictures from the internet or magazines, or use a combination of these. The poster/cover must include the title and author and should be neat, creative, colorful, and connected to the story.

Choice #2 – Character Interview

1. This may be typed or neatly handwritten. Craft 10 quality, interview questions that you would like to ask a key character in the book. Questions should be open-ended, thoughtful, meaningful, and showcase significant moments about the character and the story. Some good question starters are:

- “What did you think about...?”
- “How did you feel when...?”
- “Why did you choose to...?”
- “If you could go back to...?”

2. Next, put yourself in that character's shoes. Pretend you are that character and answer each of the 10 questions as he/she would respond. Answers should demonstrate knowledge of the book as well as the character's point-of-view. You may include text evidence, quotes, and other support with your character's responses.

*3. **Optional Extension Activity** - For a creative extension, make a quality podcast (audio recording) or video recording of your interview with your character. Your voices/appearances as both interviewer and as the character being interviewed should be unique to each role.



Summer Reading Assignments for Rising 6th Graders

Choice #3 – Story Quilt

1. Prepare a “quilt” for your book following the directions below for each square. This activity includes both illustrations/art and writing (which may be typed/cut/pasted or neatly hand-written). Divide a large piece of white paper (18 x 24), small or standard poster board into six equal parts, and complete the following tasks for each of the six squares:

Square 1: Include the title & author, along with a decorative illustration (like a cover design) of the book.

Square 2: Share a few key characters (at least 2). State their names and a brief description (a sentence or two is enough) of each. Choose a fun quote from each character and include that with each description (remember to use quotation marks and cite the page number).

Square 3: Using at least 3 sentences, explain the setting(s) of the book – include both time and place. Add an illustration to reflect the setting(s) you explained.

Squares 4, 5, and 6: These three squares should be a combination of art and words. Use quality sentences (at least 2 per square) and a meaningful illustration for each.

Square 4 - an event in the book that shows one conflict/problem (internal or external).

Square 5 - the climax (turning point) of the book.

Square 6 - the resolution (closing, wrap-up).

Quilts should showcase neatness, color, creativity, quality content of text/art, an understanding of the novel, and your ability to follow the instructions.

Choice #4 – Book in a Bag

1. Select a total of 6 (5 must-have, at least 1 other) items that represent the people, places, ideas, events, and other important aspects of your book. Place them in a medium to large sized brown paper bag (not small) to accommodate your items.

***Must-have** items should represent the following: **setting** (1), **main characters** (2), **plot twists** (1), & **theme** (1). **Choose at least 1 other item** that relates to the book in a meaningful way.

2. Using complete sentences, neatly write or type a key to detail your brown bag treasures. This is the guide that explains and describes each of the ten items and demonstrates their importance to the story.

3. Create an eye-catching label (use an appropriate size) for your bag that includes the title, author, and some illustrations/artwork that connect with the story.