

## Summer Reading and Writing- 5th and 6th Grade

Please read at least one book over summer vacation. Below is a list of the “Teen Nutmeg Book Award Nominees” for 2009 that are great choices. There are numerous other book options on Carol Hurst’s website (<http://www.carolhurst.com>), where you can search titles by grade level, read reviews of the books, and find book links and additional resources. Teachers also encourage students to do some nonfiction reading, so there is a list of topics that relate to the Social Studies and Science themes studied next year. When you have finished reading your book, please complete the assignment on the back of the sheet.

| <u>Nutmeg Book Titles</u>  | <u>Author</u>      |
|--|--------------------|
| Blood on the River: James Town 1607                                | Elisa Carbone      |
| Close Encounters of a Third-World Kind                             | Jennifer Stewart   |
| Eager  | Helen Fox          |
| Free Baseball  | Sue Corbett        |
| Golden and Grey: An Unremarkable Boy and a Rather Remarkable Ghost | Louise Arnold      |
| Gossamer   | Lois Lowry         |
| The Homework Machine   | Dan Gutman         |
| MVP Magellan Voyage Project  | Douglas Evans      |
| Shakespeare’s Secret   | Elise Broach       |
| Three Good Deeds   | Vivian Vande Velde |

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### **5th Grade Nonfiction Reading Topics:**

Social Studies: Geography of the United States and Europe. Early American history which includes Native Americans, Explorers, Colonial Life.

Science: Study of Light and Sound, The relationship between the Earth, Moon and Sun. The Ear and Eyes.

### **6th Grade Nonfiction Reading Topics:**

Ancient Civilizations: Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China, Revolutionary War

Our Government: Constitution, Bill of Rights...Plants, Weather, Ecology

## Summer Reading Assignment

After reading your book, choose *any 2* of the topics below to write about. On a separate sheet of paper, write a short paragraph for each, using details from the book to support your answer.

### **Explain ....**

- \* what surprised you or that you found interesting. Why did you find it interesting?
- \* your favorite or least favorite parts of the book and why you think so.
- \* what you noticed about the characters and how they changed?
- \* what you thought about the ending- was it surprising or not? Why?
- \* why you chose the book. Did it live up to your expectations? Why or why not?
- \* whether you would recommend this book to another reader. Tell why or why not.
- \* how the author captured your interest and pulled you into the book.
- \* how this book reminds you of yourself, or people you know or of something that happened in your life.

*At the top of the paper remember to write:*

1. *your name*
2. *the title*
3. *author*

### Possible Summer Writing Activities

Here are simple ways to engage your student in writing activities over the summer.

#### ***Travel***

Journaling –

- for nature walks,
- beach walks,
- travel diary

Writing to others

- emails
- postcards
- writing captions for digital photo albums (or regular photo albums)

***Find a Pen Pal*** - on line or snail mail

#### ***Games***

- Online word games,
- Scrabble, Mad Libs, crossword puzzles