



Incoming 6th Grade Summer Assignment 2025 - 2026:

Explanation of Summer Assignment:

- All students must read the text, *What's So Funny, Mr. Scieszka?*, by Jon Scieszka.
- All students must complete one written response based on this text.
- All students must answer the Assessment Multiple Choice Questions.
- Students can choose additional novels to read during the summer; a suggested list is attached.

READING TASK: "What's So Funny, Mr. Scieszka?"

- In preparation for the rigorous curriculum that we will begin during the 2025-2026 academic school year, please ensure you complete the assigned task(s) below. **Students must complete this assignment by the first day of school: Thursday, September 4, 2025.**
- 1) Read "What's So Funny, Mr. Scieszka?" We suggest that you annotate as you read, focusing on what you learn about Jon throughout the text. For example, how does Jon feel and react throughout the text? What kind of person is Jon? Annotating is completely optional but will help you build a better understanding of your narrator by the end of the text.
- 2) Complete the 'Assessment Practice' multiple choice questions (page attached).
- 3) Answer the following question in a complete short response. This response should be typed using Times New Roman, 12 point size, double space. If this is not possible, please answer on the attached sheet.

****Use the strategy RADEC (details and rubric attached to help you.)**

Prompt: Is the author usually someone who seeks attention or who likes to perform? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.



Score	Response Features
2 Points	<i>The writer...</i> • Made it clear what their response would tackle by restating the question and concluded their thoughts by reinforcing their main points [R/C] • Included valid inferences and/or claims from the text [A] • Included sufficient relevant evidence from the text [D] • Analyzed and explained how or why the information supports the inference and/or claim [E] • Maintained a formal style of writing and organized his/her thoughts in a clear, cohesive manner • Wrote in complete sentences, used proper spelling and grammar, and varied his/her sentence structure
1 Point	<i>The writer...</i> • Partially restated the question and/or concluded their thoughts [R/C] • Included a mostly literal recounting of events or details from the text [A] • Included evidence that is not fully relevant to the prompt or is missing evidence. [D] • Partially analyzed and explained how the information supports the inference and/or claim [E] • Included sentences with spelling and/or grammar errors that may impact readability
0 Points	<i>The writer...</i> • Did not restate the question or conclude their thoughts [R/C] • Did not include valid inferences and/or claims from the text [A] • Included evidence that is irrelevant to the prompt or did not include evidence. [D] • Did not analyze and explain how the information supports the inference and/or claim [E] • Included sentences that are unintelligible or indecipherable

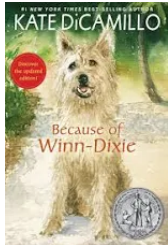
RADEC CHECKLIST:

Directions: Use this checklist as a guide to writing your response. As you reread your answer, if you can't check off "I did this" for each element, you must go back and revise your answer.

RADEC Element	I did this - ✓
R (restate the prompt or question) A (answer the question) <i>This should be one sentence to start your paragraph</i>	
D1 (first detail - copy a line or part of a line directly from the text - put in quotation marks)	
E1 (explain how the first detail supports your answer - use your own words!)	
D2 (second detail - copy a line or part of a line directly from the text - put in quotation marks)	
E2 (explain how the second detail supports your answer - use your own words!)	
C (concluding sentence - restate your first sentence to wrap up your paragraph)	

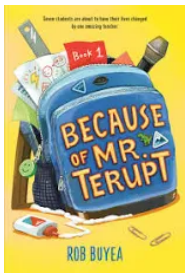


Suggested Reading List for 6th Grade Students:



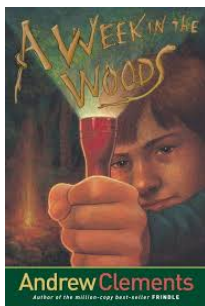
***Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo**

The story of Opal, a young girl who moves to a new town and finds friendship and healing through a stray dog she names Winn-Dixie.



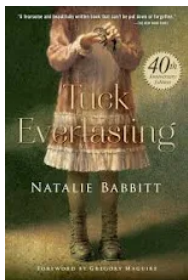
***Because of Mr. Terupt* (Any book in the series) by Rob Buyea**

Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by rookie teacher, Mr. Terupt.



***A Week in the Woods* by Andrew Clement**

The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills, and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.



***Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt**

Is eternal life a blessing or a curse? That is what young Winner Foster must decide when she discovers a spring on her family's property whose waters grant immortality. Members of the Tuck family, having drunk from the spring, tell Winnie of their experiences watching life go by and never growing older.



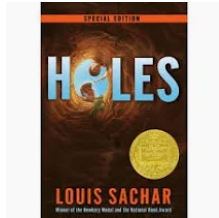
***Summer Ball* by Mike Lupica**

Summer Ball-Thirteen-year-old Danny must prove himself all over again for a disapproving coach and against new rivals at a summer basketball camp.



THE EDWARD R. BYRNE SCHOOL

Jared Rosoff, Principal
Brenda McDonagh, Assistant Principal
Leigh Turetsky, Assistant Principal



Holes by Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats, a boy who has bad luck due to a curse placed on his great- great-grandfather, is sent to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention camp, for a crime he did not commit. Can he overcome a century old family curse, a false imprisonment and the lead camp director out to get him?