

MEDFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Medford, New Jersey



REQUIRED SUMMER 2009 READING
GRADE SIX

Attention Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Fifth Grade Students:

Reading, like any skill, improves with practice. Your child has been reading different types of materials throughout the school year, and we would like to continue this momentum during the summer months to maintain your child's reading skills. Therefore, we are requiring that all students entering Grade Six read

RUNNING OUT OF TIME, by Margaret Peterson Haddix.

By reading the same book over the summer, students will enter their sixth grade language arts literacy class on common ground. Having read the same book and sharing ideas about it enable students to transition more easily at the beginning of the school year. Teachers can immediately begin building on reading strategies using this book, which is also referenced throughout the year. In addition, your child will be participating in activities related to it. Success in these activities will depend on completing this book before school begins in September.

To guide students during their reading, they will receive a bookmark. One side of the bookmark contains essential vocabulary with definitions; the other side contains focus questions to direct reading. We encourage you to use the focus questions to discuss different aspects of the book with your child. These questions will foster conversation and maximize comprehension.

RUNNING OUT OF TIME will be available at the Barnes & Noble in Marlton and Moorestown and at the Borders in Marlton. If necessary, you may borrow this book by contacting your school's administrative office. The book is to be returned to the office upon completion.

According to Dr. Richard Allington and other researchers, students should read at least four to five books over the summer months in order to keep their reading skills strong. Suggestions of books, authors, and websites are listed on the reverse side. Please keep in mind that children have varying reading abilities and interests that should be taken into consideration when selecting books. It is best that your child reads a couple of pages from a book to determine whether it's the right fit. More than five unknown words on one page usually indicates that the book is too difficult. To develop lifelong readers, reading must be a pleasurable experience; hence, books should be on a level where they can be read independently for enjoyment. We encourage you to utilize this list as well as books available at the Pinelands Branch of the Burlington County Library.

Reading throughout the summer months is beneficial for your child. Your continued support at home is greatly appreciated. Have a safe and enjoyable summer—HAPPY and ENJOYABLE READING!

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Curriculum Office at 609-654-6416.

SUMMER 2009 READING SUGGESTIONS
MOVING UP TO GRADE SIX



Babe and Me by Dan Gutman
Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett
Crash by Jerry Spinelli
Eragon by Christopher Paolini
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Bette Bao Lord
Loser by Jerry Spinelli
Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill your Bones by Alvin Schwartz
Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Spare
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
Where the Sidewalk Ends: the Poems & Drawings by Shel Silverstien

SUGGESTED SERIES

Chicken Soup for the Soul by Jack Canfield
The Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis
A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket

SUGGESTED AUTHORS

Avi
Sharon Creech
Dan Gutman
Margaret Peterson Haddix
Anthony Horowitz
Jeff Kinney
Gordon Korman
Gary Paulsen
Johnathan Rand
Louis Sachar
Jane Yolen

SUGGESTED WEBSITES

As you explore the below sites, you will undoubtedly find interesting titles to keep reading alive during the summer months.

www.ala.org – American Library Association
Children's Notable titles, Newbery Awards

www.reading.org – International Reading Association
Teaching Tools – Choices Booklists

www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer
Click onto the applicable grade level

www.rif.org – Reading Is Fundamental
Nation's largest children's literacy organization



RUNNING OUT OF TIME

BY
MARGARET PETERSON HADDIX

FOCUS QUESTIONS:

1. Pick three examples from the beginning, middle and end of the story that displayed Jesse's courage. Be prepared to support and discuss your response.
2. What did the author do at the end of each chapter to keep your interest and make you want to keep reading?
3. If you were in the same situation as Jesse, what would you do? How would you act? Explain.

HAINES SIXTH GRADE CENTER
SUMMER READING PROGRAM
www.hainescenter.org



RUNNING OUT OF TIME

BY
MARGARET PETERSON HADDIX

VOCABULARY

- poultice - p. 1 (n.) a medicated mass applied to a sore
- midwife - p. 1 (n.) a nurse who helps deliver babies
- quarantine - p. 7 (v.) the isolation of a person with a contagious disease to prevent it from spreading
- heirlooms - p. 13 (n.) something of important value passed down from generations
- diphtheria - p. 20 (n.) a contagious disease
- historical preserve - p. 21 (n.) a village maintained in its original 1800's style.
- epidemic - p. 34 (n.) an illness that has spread and infected a lot of people.
- manhole - p. 38 (n.) a hole through which one may go, especially to gain access to an underground or closed structure.
- daguerreotype - p. 55 (n.) a photograph from an early type of camera

HAINES SIXTH GRADE CENTER
SUMMER READING PROGRAM
www.hainescenter.org