

To: Incoming Sixth Graders and parents

From: Mr. Smith and Mrs. Neal

Re: Summer reading assignments

Summer reading is an important way to keep your brain sharp and your comprehension skills tuned over the leisurely days of summer. Only three books are required, but students should take advantage of down time to read all sorts of good literature and magazines.

The first required book is a work of historical fiction about the expedition of Lewis and Clark. This reading assignment will be used by Mrs. Neal in one of the first English assignments of the new school year. Students may wish to purchase their own copy so they can highlight in it and take notes. They may choose between:

- *The Captain's Dog: My Journey with the Lewis and Clark Tribe* by Roland Smith (Gulliver Books)
- *Sacagawea: Girl of the Shining Mountains* by Peter and Connie Roop (Hyperion Paperbacks)
- *York's Adventures with Lewis and Clark: An African-American's Part in the Great Expedition* By Rhoda Blumberg (Collins)

For their other two selections, we recommend students choose novels from the following website:

http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/6th_grade.shtml

You may choose to write a brief synopsis of the two novels during the summer or wait until a class period dedicated to this assignment. Please do not read books you have already read or *The Giver*, which we will read during the school year.

We are excited about the educational journey we will take starting in August. If you have any questions about these books or the packet assignment, please contact Mr. Smith before June 2 or Mrs. Neal after June 2.