

St. Ursula School
English/Language Arts
Summer Reading - 2026
Entering 6th Grade

Tested Book: *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson

All students are required to read *Bridge to Teabithia* by Katerine Paterson. They will be tested on the book Thursday, September 3.

Summer Reading Project/Written Summary List:

<i>Title of Book & Author</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Fountas & Pinnell Reading Level</i>	<i>Lexile Level</i>
<i>Crispin: Cross of Lead</i> By: Avi	-Newbery Medal Winner -New York Times Best Seller	W	780 L
<i>Ninth Ward</i> By: Jewell Parker Rhodes	-Coretta Scott King Book Honor Award, 2010 -Best Fiction, School Library Journal, 2010 -Notable Book for a Global Society,2011 -Parent's Choice Foundation Gold Award, 2010 -Grand Canyon Reader Award Nominee, 2013 -Best Fiction for Middle Grade Readers Finalist, 2010 - + many more	Q	470 L
<i>The Only Road</i> By: Alexandra Diaz	- Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature, 2017. - Bank Street Best Book, 2016 -Pura Belpre Honor 2016 (ALA) -ALA Notable Book, 2017	T	830 L
<i>Out of My Mind</i> By: Sharon Draper	- New York Times Bestseller -Winner of the Bank Street College of Education Josette Frank Award, 2011. -Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Book, 2010. -A San Francisco Chronicle Best Book of The Year -Black Eyed Susan Award -A Parents' Choice Silver Honor	S	700 L

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Texas Bluebonnet Award -Essence Magazine Book of the Year -IRA Teachers' Choice Book and Young Adult's Choice - + many more awards 		
<p>The Shakespeare Stealer By: Gary Blackwood</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ALA Notable Children's Book, 1999 -School Library Journal Best Book of the Year, 1998. -ALA Best Book for Young Adults, 1999 	X	840 L
<p>The Sign of the Beaver By: Elizabeth George Sphere</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ALA Newbery Medal Honor, 1984. -Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award, 1984. -Flicker Tale Children's Book Award, 1988. -Mark Twain Award, 1986 	U	770 L
<p>Paradise on Fire By: Jewel Parker Rhodes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Earth Book Award Junior Library Guild Selection Recent Book Award Winners & Honorees 	Z	830 L
<p>A View from Saturday By: E.L. Konigsburg</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ALA Newbery Medal, 1997 -School Library Journal Best Book -ALA Notable Children's Books. -Book Links Good Book of the Year. 	U	870 L

Summaries: 6th grade summer books

Crispin: Cross of Lead

Crispin is a children's historical fiction novel set in medieval England. The novel follows the adventures of a boy who goes on the run after he is falsely accused of theft and murder and explores themes related to poverty, education, choice, and freedom.

Ninth Ward

Twelve-year-old Laneshia lives in a tight-knit community in New Orleans' Ninth Ward. She doesn't have a fancy house like her uptown family or lots of friends like the other kids on her street. But what she does have is Mama Ya-Ya, her fiercely loving caretaker, wise in the ways of the world and able to predict the future. So when Mama Ya-Ya's visions show a powerful hurricane--Katrina--fast approaching, it's up to Laneshia to call upon the hope and strength Mama Ya-Ya has given her to help them both survive the storm.

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Ghost Boys* and *Towers Falling*, *Ninth Ward* is a deeply emotional story about transformation and a celebration of resilience, friendship, and family--as only love can define it.

The Only Road

The Only Road tells an individual story of a boy who feels that leaving his home and risking everything is his only chance for a better life. It is a story of fear and bravery, love and loss, strangers becoming family, and one boy's treacherous and life-changing journey.

Out of My Mind

Out of my Mind by Sharon M. Draper, is a novel about a young girl's journey to overcome a disability she's had since birth. The book's genre is realistic fiction and is set around Southwest Ohio in modern times, but can very well be Anywhere, USA. It is a touching and wondrous book from a perspective that not many have looked from before. The book is mainly written through Melody's eyes and is chock-full of witty humor and smart quips.

Paradise on Fire

Addy is haunted by the tragic fire that killed her parents, leaving her to be raised by her grandmother. Years later, Addy's grandmother has enrolled her in a summer wilderness program. There, Addy joins five other Black city kids--each with their own troubles--to spend a summer out west.

The kids learn new (and to them) strange skills: camping, hiking, rock climbing, and how to start and safely put out campfires. They learn to depend upon each other for companionship and survival. Then comes a devastating forest fire... Addy is face-to-face with her destiny and haunting past. Developing her courage and resiliency against the raging fire, it's up to Addy to lead her friends to safety. Not all are saved. But remembering her origins and grandmother's teachings, she's able to use street smarts, wilderness skills, and her spiritual intuition to survive.

The Shakespeare Stealer

This is a 1998 historical fiction novel taking place in Elizabethan-era England. It recounts the story of Widge, an orphan whose master sends him to steal Hamlet from The Lord Chamberlain's Men.

Sign of the Beaver

This is a coming of age story. Set in the wilderness of Maine, the novel follows the progression of Matt Hallowell from boy to man. The novel explores Matt's maturity through his isolation in the wilderness and his unlikely friendship with the Beaver tribe.

A View From Saturday

After an accident leaves middle school teacher Eva Marie Olinski paraplegic, she returns to work and chooses four students from her 6th grade class for a team to compete in the Academic Bowl competition. The narrative alternates between third person chapters that follow the team, called 'The Souls', as they progress through the Academic Bowl, and chapters that are told in first person by each of The Souls; Ethan, Noah, Nadia, and Julian. In the students' chapters, they describe their relationship to each other and share stories from their own lives, from learning calligraphy to working with sea turtles. When two other students, Hamilton Knapp and Jared Lord, try to harass Ms Olinski and her class, The Souls provide the moral support to help her stand up for herself against their bullying.