

## Talk About It:

Part of growing as a reader is learning how to think while you read. Ask each other questions before, during, and after reading:

- What was most important about what we just read?
- How did the characters change over time?
- What was your favorite part of that section?
- Did you read anything that might impact your life? How?
- Does this text remind you of something you have read, seen, or heard before? How?



## Get Caught Reading:

Set an example by reading in public. Let everyone see you reading a newspaper or browsing through a novel on the beach or beside the pool. Live up chore time or meal time by taking turns working while one person reads aloud a favorite book or an exciting new novel. Have fun!

## Why should students read during the summer?

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, faculty members Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen have completed a three-year study showing that students lose up to three months of learning every summer—skills they worked hard to acquire during the school year. However, the study showed a significantly higher level of reading achievement in students who took part in summer reading at home.

Allington compares the slide in reading ability to an athlete's fitness. "Just like hockey players lose some of their skills if they stay off their skates and off the ice for three months, children who do not read in the summer lose two to three months of reading development," Allington said.

- from <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

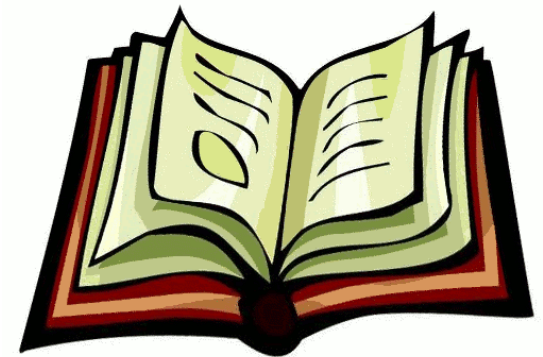
### Read more about it:

<http://intl.kappanmagazine.org/content/85/1/68.short>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/bridging-summer-reading-gap>

# Berkeley County School District Summer Reading

Rising 6th Graders



*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go"*

- Dr. Seuss

Theme:

Mysterious Adventures



## The Themes

Many of the things students will read and write in Grade 6 ELA explore topics related to mysteries, real and imagined. Some of the books on these lists are more challenging than others, but all explore these themes through events (plot), characters, and conflicts.

## Summer Reading Project

Students should consult with parents, teachers, and/or teacher librarians to choose one book from each list (fiction and informational) or other titles from each genre that fit the theme. Rising sixth grade GT students should read a mystery from this list or one of the teacher's choice in addition to a second selection from this brochure. With parent approval of the choices, students will read the two books over the summer. Each school will share rewards and expectations for when school starts in August.

These books and others like them are available not only in school libraries, but also in your public libraries and local book stores. Have a great summer and enjoy the magic of books!

## Fiction Texts such as:

- *Crispin*, Avi
- *The Kite Rider: A Novel*, Geraldine McCaughrean
- *39 Clues*, Rick Riordan (J)
- *Leviathan*, Scott Westerfeld
- *Chomp*, Carl Hiaasen (E, J)
- *Becoming Holmes: The Boy Sherlock, and His Final Case*, Shane Peacock (E)
- *Apothecary*, Meloy (E)
- *Treasure Island*, Robert Louis Stevenson (J)
- *Mysterious Island*, Jules Verne (J)
- *The Name of this Book is Secret*, Pseudonymous Bosch (E) (or any others in this series)
- *Kepler's Dream*, Juliet Bell
- *Poison Most Vial*, Benedict Carey
- *Strike Three, You're Dead*, Josh Berk (E)
- *When Did You See Her Last?* Lemony Snicket (or any other novel by this author) (J)
- *The Door in the Dragon's Throat*, Frank Peretti (or any others in this series)
- *Search for the Shadowman*, (E), Shadowmaker (J) Joan Lowery Nixon
- *The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman (J)
- *A Study in Scarlet*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (or any other novel by this author)
- *The London Eye Mystery*, Siobhan Dowd (J)

## Informational Texts such as:

- *Lost Cities: Unsolved Mysteries*, Sue Hamilton (E)
- *Mysterious Signs*, John Townsend
- *Amelia Lost: The Life and Adventures of Amelia Earhart*, Candace Fleming (E)
- *The Incredible Record-setting, Deep Sea Dive of the Bathysphere*, Bradford Matsen
- *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance*, Jennifer Armstrong
- *Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the U.S.S. Indianapolis*, Pete Nelson (E)
- *Case Closed: Nine Mysteries Solved by Modern Science*, Susan Hughes
- *Mistakes that Worked*, Charlotte Jones (E)
- *Girls Think of Everything*, Catherine Thimmesh (E)
- *The Everything Kids' Science Book*, Tom Robinson (E)
- *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster*, Deborah Hopkinson (E)
- *Bodies from the Ash: Life and Death in Ancient Pompeii*, James M. Deem
- (E) = available on the district e-bookshelf  
(J) = available on the public library e-bookshelf  
via <http://berkeleylibrarysc.org/>

