



GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Summer Reading Challenge 2018

Dear Gateway Griffin,

Welcome to your Summer Reading Challenge! Summertime is a perfect opportunity to choose exciting, fun books that **you** most like to read. It's both fun, and it helps you grow by avoiding a "summer reading slump." The "summer reading slump" is what happens when you **don't** read during the summer. Basically, if you experience summer reading slump, you are actually **less** ready for 6th grade in August than you are right now! So have fun choosing the books you want as you meet your goal of reading at least 30 hours this summer and prepare yourself for an outstanding 6th grade year! How will you reach that goal? It's simple.

- 1) Read at least 30 minutes per day, at least 5 days per week.
- 2) Record the books that you read on the attached Reading Log.
- 3) Try to read at least 10 books!
- 4) Challenge yourself to read a book of each of the following genres: historical fiction, science fiction, biography, action/adventure, fantasy, mystery, drama.
- 5) Color-in the building blocks for every 30 minutes that you read. You are literally "building" your academic success with every 30 minutes of reading!!
- 6) Have your parent or guardian sign your Reading Log. (This is a good habit to get into, as you'll have reading logs next year, too!)

There are many places to find good books.

- Check out your local branch of the public library: <http://www.sfpl.org/> There you can sign up for a library card, sign up for "Summer Read 2018" and earn prizes for your reading!
- Check out a local bookstore.
- Borrow from a friend!
- Take a look at our attached recommended book list. They're great!

Your Reading Log and Reading Pyramid will be collected by your teacher on the first day of school, August 20th. It will be your **first** assignment for 6th grade. So please remember to complete it and submit it on the first day of school. Rewards and recognition will be given to our readers who prepare themselves for 6th grade by completing the summer reading challenge, and even going above it! Have a great summer of fun, relaxation, and reading! We look forward to seeing you in August.

Sincerely,

Aimee Alstrada and Sam Kary
6th Grade Humanities Teachers

Name: _____

Reading Log

Use the Reading Log below to record the books you read this summer. See the sample below to fill out yours.

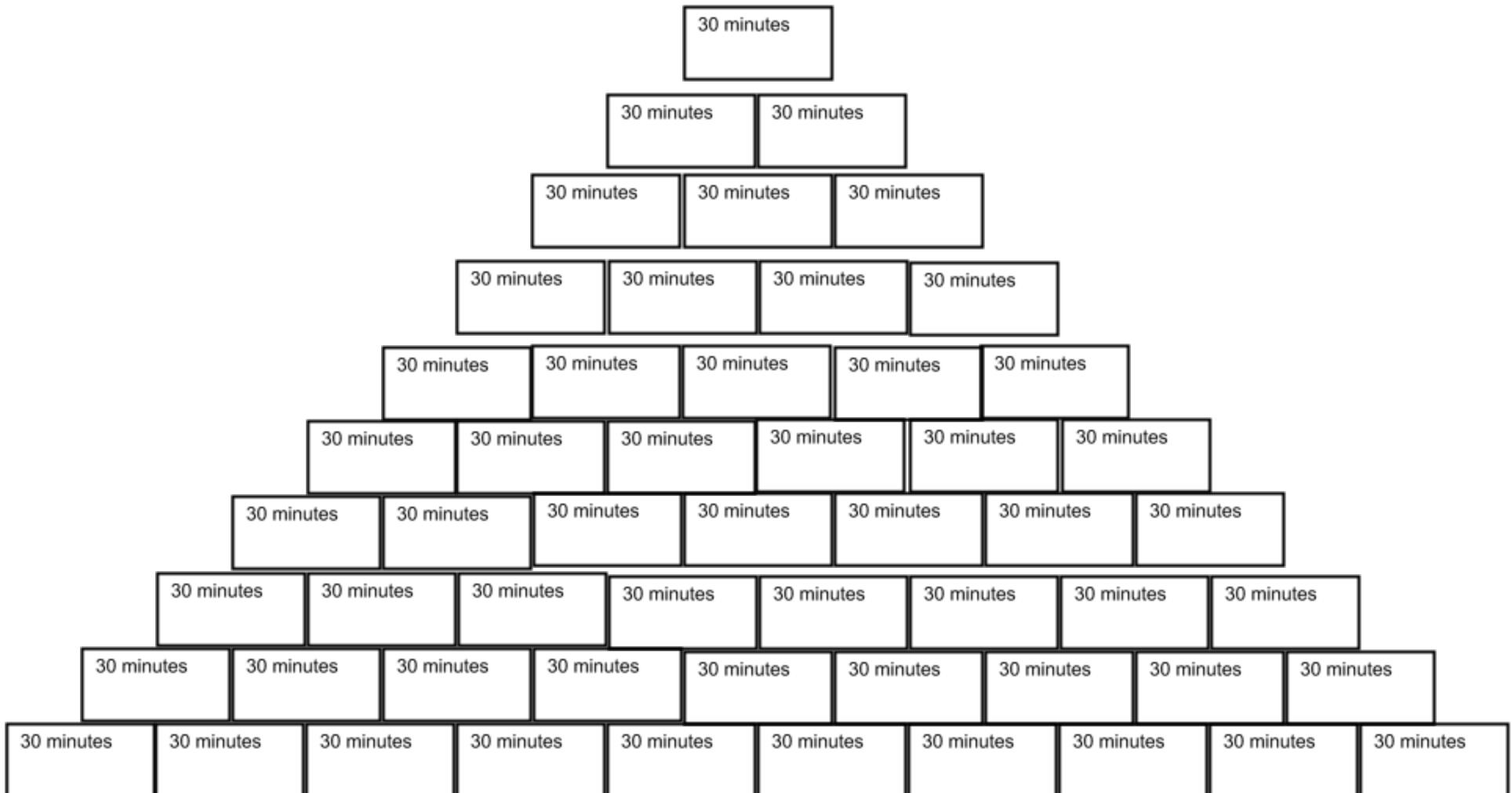
Date Started	Date finished	Name of book	Name of Author	How good was it? 1 * - It's not for me. → 5 *'s – It's the best ever!
June 4	June 12	The Name of This Book is Secret	Pseudonymous Bosch	*****
		1.		
		2.		
		3.		
		4.		
		5.		
		6.		
		7.		
		8.		
		9.		
		10.		
Yeah! You've reached your goal of 10 books! Challenge yourself & keep going!				
		11.		
		12.		
		13.		

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: _____

Name: _____

Reading Pyramid!

(Each block represents 30 minutes of reading. Add more blocks if you read more than 27.5 hours!)



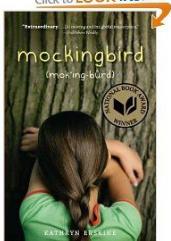
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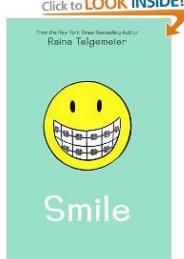
Summer Reading Book List 2018

Mockingbird – Kathryn Erskine



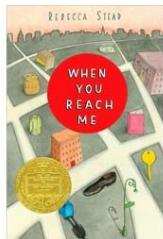
Caitlin has Asperger's. The world according to her is black and white; anything in between is confusing. Before, when things got confusing, Caitlin went to her older brother, Devon, for help. But Devon has died, and Caitlin's dad is so distraught that he is just not helpful. Caitlin wants everything to go back to the way things were, but she doesn't know how to do that. Then she comes across the word closure- and she realizes this is what she needs. And in her search for it, Caitlin discovers that the world may not be black and white after all.

Smile – Raina Telgemeier



Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.

When You Reach Me – Rebecca Stead



Four mysterious letters change Miranda's world forever. By sixth grade, Miranda and her best friend, Sal, know how to navigate their New York City neighborhood. They know where it's safe to go, like the local grocery store, and they know whom to avoid, like the crazy guy on the corner. But things start to unravel. Sal gets punched by a new kid for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. The apartment key that Miranda's mom keeps hidden for emergencies is stolen. And then Miranda finds a mysterious note scrawled on a tiny slip of paper:

I am coming to save your friend's life, and my own.

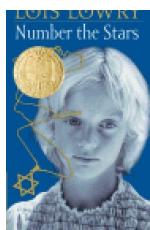
I must ask two favors. First, you must write me a letter.

The notes keep coming, and Miranda slowly realizes that whoever is leaving them knows all about her, including things that have not even happened yet. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret – Brian Selznick

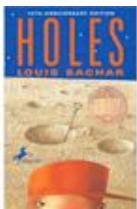


Orphan, Clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.



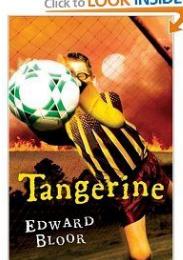
Number the Stars – Lois Lowry

Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen and her best friend Ellen Rosen often think of life before the war. It's now 1943 and their life in Copenhagen is filled with school, food shortages, and the Nazi soldiers marching through town. When the Jews of Denmark are "relocated," Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be one of the family. Soon Annemarie is asked to go on a dangerous mission to save Ellen's life.



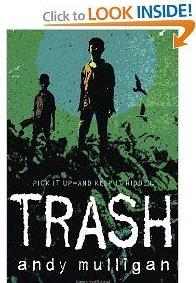
Holes – Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats has had awful luck his whole life: He's overweight, kids tease him, his family is poor, and now he's accused of a crime he didn't commit! Stanley blames his great-great grandfather, Elya Yelnats, who stole a pig from a gypsy. According to legend, the gypsy put a curse on Elya and all his descendants.



Tangerine – Edward Bloor

Edward Bloor's award-winning novel *Tangerine* grabs readers by the collar on the first page and never lets go. Tangerine, Florida—once known for its citrus groves—is now an uninhabitable quagmire of muck fires and school-swallowing sinkholes. Still, twelve-year-old Paul sees the move as a way to start anew, maybe even make a name for himself in middle school soccer—despite his father's obsession with his high-school-age brother Erik's future in football. Paul is visually impaired (without his Coke bottle glasses), but it's everyone else who seems to be blind to Erik's dangerous nature. Written as a series of Paul's journal entries, *Tangerine* is a gut-wrenching coming-of-age novel about truth, memory, culture, courage, social consciousness, classism, the environment . . . and soccer. Paul is a character well worth cheering for. Underdogs of the world, unite!

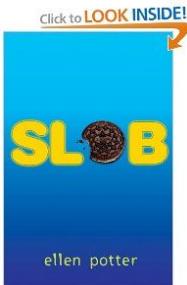


Trash – Andy Mulligan

In an unnamed Third World country, in the not-so-distant future, three "dumpsite boys" make a living picking through the mountains of garbage on the outskirts of a large city.

One unlucky-lucky day, Raphael finds something very special and very mysterious. So mysterious that he decides to keep it, even when the city police offer a handsome reward for its return. That decision brings with it terrifying consequences, and soon the dumpsite boys must use all of their cunning and courage to stay ahead of their pursuers. It's up to Raphael, Gardo, and Rat—boys who have no education, no parents, no homes, and no money—to solve the mystery and right a terrible wrong.

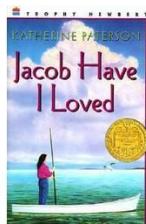
Andy Mulligan has written a powerful story about unthinkable poverty—and the kind of hope and determination that can transcend it. With twists and turns, unrelenting action, and deep, raw emotion, *Trash* is a heart-pounding, breath-holding novel.



Slob – Ellen Potter

Twelve-year-old Owen Birnbaum is the fattest kid in school. But he's also a genius who invents cool contraptions—like a TV that shows the past. Something happened two years ago that he needs to see. But genius or not, there is much Owen can't outthink. Like his gym coach, who's on a mission to humiliate him. Or the way his Oreos keep disappearing from his lunch. He's sure that if he can only get the TV to work, things will start to make sense. But it will take a revelation for Owen, not science, to see the answer is not in the past, but the present. That no matter how large he is on the outside, he doesn't have to feel small on the inside.

With her trademark humor, Ellen Potter has created a larger-than-life character and story whose weight is immense when measured in heart.



Jacob Have I loved – Katherine Paterson

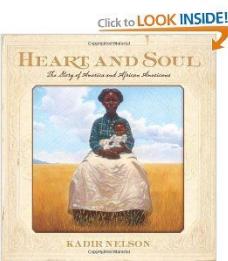
Sara Louise Bradshaw is sick and tired of her beautiful twin Caroline. Ever since they were born, Caroline has been the pretty one, the talented one, the better sister. Even now, Caroline seems to take everything: Louise's friends, their parents' love, her dreams for the future.

For once in her life, Louise wants to be the special one. But in order to do that, she must first figure out who she is, and find a way to make a place for herself outside her sister's shadow.



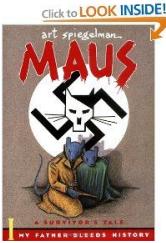
Gathering Blue – Lois Lowry

In her strongest work to date, Lois Lowry once again creates a mysterious but plausible future world. It is a society ruled by savagery and deceit that shuns and discards the weak. Left orphaned and physically flawed, young Kira faces a frightening, uncertain future. Blessed with an almost magical talent that keeps her alive, she struggles with ever broadening responsibilities in her quest for truth, discovering things that will change her life forever. This is the second book in The Giver series.



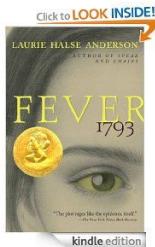
Heart and Soul – Kadir Nelson

The story of America and African Americans is a story of hope and inspiration and unwavering courage. But it is also the story of injustice; of a country divided by law, education, and wealth; of a people whose struggles and achievements helped define their country. This is the story of the men, women, and children who toiled in the hot sun picking cotton for their masters; it's about the America ripped in two by Jim Crow laws; it's about the brothers and sisters of all colors who rallied against those who would dare bar a child from an education. It's a story of discrimination and broken promises, determination and triumphs.



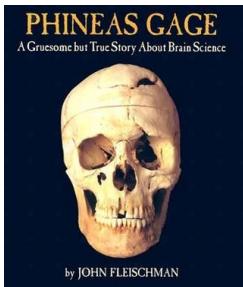
Maus - Art Spiegelman

A graphic novel of a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father's story and history itself.



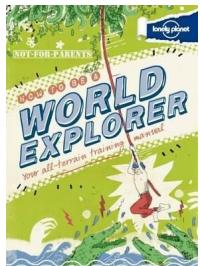
Fever 1793 - Laurie Halse Anderson

It's late summer 1793, and the streets of Philadelphia are abuzz with mosquitoes and rumors of fever. Down near the docks, many have taken ill, and the fatalities are mounting. Now they include Polly, the serving girl at the Cook Coffeehouse. But fourteen-year-old Mattie Cook doesn't get a moment to mourn the passing of her childhood playmate. New customers have overrun her family's coffee shop, located far from the mosquito-infested river, and Mattie's concerns of fever are all but overshadowed by dreams of growing her family's small business into a thriving enterprise. But when the fever begins to strike closer to home, Mattie's struggle to build a new life must give way to a new fight—the fight to stay alive.



Phineas Gage: A Gruesome But True Story - John Fleischman

Phineas Gage was truly a man with a hole in his head. A railroad construction foreman, Phineas was blasting rock near Cavendish, Vermont, in 1848 when a thirteen-pound iron rod was shot through his brain. Miraculously, he survived another eleven years and became a textbook case in brain science. But he was forever changed by the accident, and what happened inside his brain will tell you a lot about how your brain works and what makes us who we are. Reading Level 7.5



How to be a World Explorer - Joel Levy

How to be a World Explorer shows young readers how to venture thru' all the landscapes on earth - the air, over the seas, under the waves - plus how to find food and water in the wild, avoid deadly diseases, fight back against man-eating beasts! Packed with colourful quirky illust.; Essential tips and fun facts on survival in the great outdoors. 8th to 12th grade