Grade 6 Summer Reading
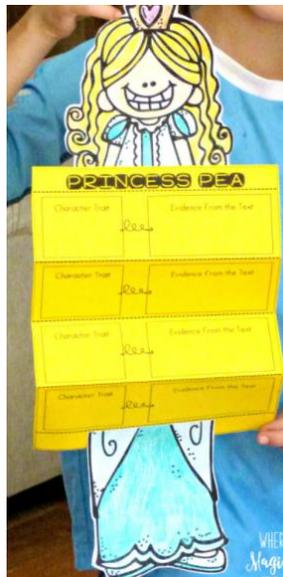
The Tale of Despereaux

By: Kate DiCamillo

Your journey to 6th grade begins now! Over the summer you will be expected to read the novel *The Tale of Despereaux. **PLEASE MAKE SURE TO READ THE BOOK AND NOT BASE YOUR WORK OFF OF THE MOVIE!***

The expectations for the summer reading will be the completion of **TWO** assignments, which will be handed in when you return to school on **Friday September 9, 2022.** Students will be completing a **creative assignment** and a **writing assignment**. They will be able to choose their assignments from the options given. Attached are two scoring rubrics. The rubrics will be used to determine your grade. The rubrics are the expectations for the assignment. Any questions on the assignments can be directed to your reading teacher or Mr. Tracy.

Assignment One: Creative Options

Please complete *one* of following options:

1.) *Character Accordion*: Create **TWO**-character accordions that provides **THREE** character traits for each character. Explain the character traits by providing text evidence for each trait. Write a paragraph to compare and contrast the two characters from *The Tale of Despereaux.* Your paragraph must include similarities and differences. Include your artistic representation of each character. You may use the example in the picture.

2.) *Peek-A-Boo:* Recreate a scene from the story from a character's point of view or perspective. Draw or construct the scene from the novel and explain the scene from the character's point of view in a written paragraph. If you'd like to recreate the scene by creating a short film as an option instead of drawing.

3.) *STEAM Project Pulley:* In the novel, Despereaux is attempting to rescue characters from the dungeon. Create a pulley if you were Despereaux that he or you would use to get into

the dungeon. Use household items to create your pulley. If your pulley is large and unable to be brought into school, please film a short film explaining how your pulley would work and a short demonstration of the pulley system. Write a short paragraph explaining how your pulley was created and how this will work.

4.) ***Character Bag:*** Create a lunch bag featuring five or more items which would describe the character you selected. Make sure to give an explanation about the materials of the character bags. Indicate why you selected those items to describe your character. Decorate the front of your bag accordingly.

5.) ***Quote Mural:*** Select your top five quotes from the novel. Display these quotes in the form of a mural drawing. Display your artistic representation of the quotations within your mural. Give a brief explanation on a separate piece of paper why these quotes were selected. Some examples of quotes you may use are;

- "Stories are light. Light is precious in a world so dark."
- "Say it, reader. Say the word 'quest' out loud. It is an extraordinary word, isn't it So small and yet so full of wonder, so full of hope."
- "There is nothing sweeter in this sad world than the sound of someone you love calling your name."
- "There ain't a body, be it mouse or man, that ain't made better by a little soup."
- "Once upon a time," he said out loud to the darkness. He said these words because they were the best, the most powerful words that he knew and just the saying of them comforted him."

6.) ***Character Interview:*** Create a short video (3 to 4 minutes) of you interviewing a character of your choice from the story. Ask questions relating to the novel which give the character's point of view about the story. Make sure the video file will be able to be shared with your teacher upon completion of your video.

Creative Project Scoring Rubric

CATEGORY	9 to 10 points		6 to 8 points	3 to 5 points	0 to 2 points
Content - Accuracy	All the content displayed is accurate and reflects knowledge of the novel.		Most of the content displayed is accurate and reflects knowledge of the novel.	Some of the content displayed is accurate and reflects knowledge of the novel.	None of the content displayed is accurate and reflects knowledge of the novel.
Required Elements	The project includes all required elements as well as additional information.		Most of the elements are included on the project.	Some of the required elements are included on the poster.	Several required elements were missing.
Graphics - Originality	Several of the elements of the project reflect an exceptional degree of student creativity in their creation and/or display.		One or two of the elements of the project used on the poster reflect student creativity in their creation and/or display.	The graphics are made by the student but are based on the designs or ideas of others.	No graphics made by the student are included.
Mechanics	Capitalization and punctuation are correct throughout the project.		There is 1 to 2 error in capitalization or punctuation.	There are 3 to 4 errors in capitalization or punctuation.	There are more than 5 errors in capitalization or punctuation.
Organization	The project is exceptionally organized in terms of design, layout, and neatness.		The project is organized in terms of design, layout and neatness.	The project is acceptably organized though it may be a bit messy.	The project is distractingly messy or very poorly designed. It is not attractive.

<u>**Assignment Two: Writing Options**</u>

Please complete <u>**ONE**</u> of the following options.

*All writing prompts must be completed in a <u>**minimum of 5 paragraph**</u> essays. Use text evidence to support your writing. Please quote the text properly in your writing.*

1.) **Character Comparison Option**- Choose a character from the Tale of Despereaux and compare it to another character from a DIFFERENT novel or story you have read. Please make sure to include their similarities and differences in your writing.

2.) **Narrative Writing Option**- Complete or change a portion of the novel.

3.) **Opinion Writing Option**- Forgiveness and Compassion is an important theme throughout the novel. In your opinion, which character do you think deserves forgiveness and compassion? Make sure to include reasons why and use text evidence to support your opinion.

4.) **Persuasive Writing Option**- King Phillip banned soup, bowls, spoons, and everything else used to make soup. Write a persuasive essay to convince him to bring everything back.

New Jersey Holistic Scoring Rubric for Essay Writing– 6pt

Scoring Criteria	Inadequate Command 1	Limited Command 2	Partial Command 3	Adequate Command 4	Strong Command 5	Superior Command 6
CONTENT & ORGANIZATION • Communicates intended message to intended audience • Relates to topic • Opening and closing • Focused • Logical progression of ideas • Transitions • Appropriate details and information	• May lack opening and/or closing	• May lack opening and/or closing	• May lack opening and/or closing	• Generally has opening/closing	• Opening and closing	• Opening and closing
	• Minimal response to topic; uncertain focus	• Attempts to focus • May drift or shift focus	• Usually has single focus	• Single focus	• Single focus • Sense of unity and coherence • Key ideas developed	• Single, distinct focus • Unified and coherent • Well-developed
	• No planning evident; disorganized	• Attempts organization • Few, if any, transitions between ideas	• Some lapses or flaws in organization • May lack some transitions between ideas	• Ideas loosely connected • Transition evident	• Logical progression of ideas • Moderately fluent • Attempts compositional risks	• Logical progression of ideas • Fluent, cohesive • Compositional risks successful
	• Details random, inappropriate, or barely apparent	• Details lack elaboration, i.e., highlight paper	• Repetitious details • Several unelaborated details	• Uneven development of details	• Details appropriate and varied	• Details effective, vivid, explicit, and/or pertinent
USAGE • Tense formation • Subject-verb agreement • Pronouns usage/agreement • Word choice/meaning • Proper modifiers	• No apparent control • Severe/ numerous errors	• Numerous errors	• Errors/ patterns of errors may be evident	• Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors	• Very few, if any, errors
SENTENCE CONTRUCTION • Variety of type, structure, and length • Correct construction	• Assortment of incomplete and/or incorrect sentences	• Excessive monotony/ same structure • Numerous errors	• Little variety in syntax • Some errors	• Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors	• Very few, if any, errors
MECHANICS • Spelling • Capitalization • Punctuation	• Errors so severe they detract from meaning	• Numerous serious errors	• Patterns of errors evident	• No consistent pattern of errors • Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors	• Very few, if any, errors

Non-Scorable Responses				
NR = No Response	Student wrote too little to allow reliable judgment of his/her writing.	**NE** = Not English	Student wrote in a language other than English.
OT = Off Topic/ Off Task	Student did not write on the assigned topic/task, or the student attempted to copy the prompt.	**WF** = Wrong Format	Student refused to write on the topic, or the writing task folder was blank.

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Grade 6 Advanced Summer Reading

The Tale of Despereaux

By: Kate DiCamillo

Your journey to 6th grade begins now! Over the summer you will be expected to read the novel *The Tale of Despereaux.* ***PLEASE MAKE SURE TO READ THE BOOK AND NOT BASE YOUR WORK OFF OF THE MOVIE!***

The expectations for the summer reading will be the completion of **TWO** assignments, which will be handed in when you return to school on **Friday September 9, 2022.** Students will be completing a **creative assignment** and a **writing assignment**. They will be able to choose their assignments from the options given. Attached are two scoring rubrics. The rubrics will be used to determine your grade. The rubrics are the expectations for the assignment. Any questions on the assignments can be directed to your reading teacher or Mr. Tracy.

Assignment One: Creative Options

Please complete *one* of following options:

1.) ***Character Accordion***: Create **TWO**-character accordions that provides **THREE** character traits for each character. Explain the character traits by providing text evidence for each trait. Write a paragraph to compare and contrast the two characters from *The Tale of Despereaux.* Your paragraph must include similarities and differences. Include your artistic representation of each character. You may use the example in the picture.

2.) ***Peek-A-Boo:*** Recreate a scene from the story from a character's point of view or perspective. Draw or construct the scene from the novel and explain the scene from the character's point of view in a written paragraph. If you'd like to recreate the scene by creating a short film as an option instead of drawing.

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short demonstration of the pulley system. Write a short paragraph explaining how your pulley was created and how this will work.

4.) ***Character Bag:*** Create a lunch bag featuring five or more items which would describe the character you selected. Make sure to give an explanation about the materials of the character bags. Indicate why you selected those items to describe your character. Decorate the front of your bag accordingly.

5.) ***Quote Mural:*** Select your top five quotes from the novel. Display these quotes in the form of a mural drawing. Display your artistic representation of the quotations within your mural. Give a brief explanation on a separate piece of paper why these quotes were selected. Some examples of quotes you may use are;

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Grade 6 Summer Reading- Advance Class
So B. It
By: Sarah Weeks

The expectation for the summer reading of the Advance class will be the completion of a writing assignment, which will be handed in when you return to school on **Friday September 9, 2022.** You will be able to choose your assignment from the options given. Attached is scoring rubric. The rubric will be used to determine your grade.

Writing Assignment Options

Please complete *one* of the following options.
*All writing prompts must be completed in a **minimum of 5 paragraph** essays. Use text evidence to support your writing. Please quote the text properly in your writing piece.*

1. *Character Comparison Option- Choose two characters from So B It. Complete a Venn Diagram. Please make sure to include their similarities and differences in your writing.*

2. *Narrative Writing Option- Change a portion of the novel or write a sequel to the novel.*

3. *Opinion Writing Option 1-Honesty/telling the truth is an important theme throughout the novel. In your opinion, why is it so important to Heidi even though she herself lies twice in the novel.*

4. *Opinion Writing Option 2-Heidi says she is "just plain lucky" when she guesses all the pairs in the game Memory. In your opinion, do you believe Heidi is lucky? Explain why or why not.*

5. *Persuasive Writing Option- Convince a classmate to read this book.*

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	• Minimal response to topic; uncertain focus	• Attempts to focus • May drift or shift focus	• Usually has single focus	• Single focus	• Single focus • Sense of unity and coherence • Key ideas developed	• Single, distinct focus • Unified and coherent • Well-developed
	• No planning evident; disorganized	• Attempts organization • Few, if any, transitions between ideas	• Some lapses or flaws in organization • May lack some transitions between ideas	• Ideas loosely connected • Transition evident	• Logical progression of ideas • Moderately fluent • Attempts compositional risks	• Logical progression of ideas • Fluent, cohesive • Compositional risks successful
	• Details random, inappropriate, or barely apparent	• Details lack elaboration, i.e., highlight paper	• Repetitious details • Several unelaborated details	• Uneven development of details	• Details appropriate and varied	• Details effective, vivid, explicit, and/or pertinent
USAGE • Tense formation • Subject-verb agreement • Pronouns usage/agreement • Word choice/meaning • Proper modifiers	• No apparent control • Severe/ numerous errors	• Numerous errors	• Errors/ patterns of errors may be evident	• Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors	• Very few, if any, errors
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On behalf of the 5th grade math teachers, please let this serve as an explanation of the math summer work.

The summer assignments will be completed via www.khanacademy.org.
Students will be required to complete 9 review assignments that will be assigned to them. Students will be able to retry all assignments as many times as needed until they are satisfied with their grade. Please keep in mind, to receive credit for each assignment, the grade must be a 70% or higher. If students do not remember how to complete the questions, please remind them to use the resources that Khan Academy has to offer (videos, hints, and step-by-step directions). The assignments will count as the first 2 homework grades of 6th grade. Students will use the same Khan Academy username and password that they have used this year. Their username and password are also posted in their Math, Onenote notebook. If a student has a problem with his/her username and/or password, please reach out to Mr. Deodino at Aldo.Deodino@totowa.k12.nj.us.

All work must be completed by August 31, 2022.

Enjoy your summer and continue to practice your skills!
Mrs. Isenhour & Mrs. Trommelen