

SIXTH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT:

Directions:

1. Write the TITLE and AUTHOR of the book. Underline the title.
2. Choose a character from the book and show how this character changes from the beginning to the end of the story. Use examples from the story to help show this change in the character.
3. See example below. (Important aspects are highlighted in RED.)

Sample **The Cay**
Title and Author → *by Thurston Taylor*

Phillip Enright is the **main character** in the book **The Cay**. Phillip and his parents are from Virginia, but they had to move to the Dutch island of **Curacao**. (This island is in the Caribbean). **the time is 1942; World War II is intensifying**. In this story of survival and trust, **Phillip's character is deeply changed**.

In the beginning of the story, Phillip was arrogant and prejudiced.* Some of the white people on this island had great prejudice against the native people. Even Phillip's mother told him that black people were not the same as he is. She told him that they are different and that they live differently. His mother actually admitted that she did not like the natives of the island. This shaped Phillip's personality; he also became very arrogant and prejudice.

By the end of the story, however, Phillip changed to become very sympathetic and tolerant of the natives. In fact, because of a man named Timothy, he even began to care for them as friends. Timothy, a native of Curacao, helped Phillip survive after their ship was torpedoed. Timothy's kindness and generosity melted Phillip's hard heart and taught him that trust and friendship are "colorblind."

Genre: [Non-Fiction](#)
[Reading Site](#)
[Mrs. Co. website](#)
[SCWAP](#)

*arrogant - feeling superior, snobbish
*prejudiced - having prejudice / favoring one over another.

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SEVENTH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT:

Directions:

1. Write the *title* and *author* of the book. Underline the title.
2. Choose an important incident from the book. Write a short *summary* of the incident. You may use an excerpt from the book if you wish, but you must use quotation marks and write the page number.
3. Explain in a well planned paragraph why the incident you chose is important to the outcome (the ending) of the book.

See Student Sample below.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a student sample assignment. The page title is "Student Sample" in large red letters, with "Seventh Grade" below it. The assignment is titled "SUMMER READING/SEVENTH GRADE" and "Sample Student Assignment".

The student has written the following:

Bridge to Terabithia Katherine Paterson

Miss Edmunds was Jesse's music teacher at Lark Creek Elementary School. "Her long swishy black hair and blue, blue eyes. She could play the guitar like a regular recording star." (p.12) Jesse was in love with her. She was the only one he dared show his drawings to. She even encouraged him to continue with his art work; she said he is "unusually talented," and "she hoped he wouldn't let anything discourage him." (p.12)

It had been raining for weeks and Jesse was afraid to swing on the rope over the raging stream to Terabithia with his friend Leslie. So when Miss Edmunds invited him to go into Washington to visit the National Gallery, Jesse goes without once thinking of inviting Leslie. It saves him from having to admit his fear of the water to her.

Jesse's trip to the National Gallery with Miss Edmunds was important to the outcome of the story because while he was away, Leslie tried to enter Terabithia and the rope broke. Leslie fell into the raging water, hit her head and drown. Of course, Jesse felt guilty for not including Leslie in the trip, "I was dumb not to think of asking." (p107) He also feels responsible for her death. If she had been with him, she would not have tried to enter Terabithia; the rope would not have broken, and she would not have drowned.

Annotations on the page include:

- "Underlined Title" pointing to Bridge to Terabithia
- "Author" pointing to Katherine Paterson
- "Summary Of Incident" pointing to the paragraph about Miss Edmunds and Jesse's drawings
- "Quotes From Book" pointing to the quote about Miss Edmunds
- "Page#" pointing to (p.12)
- "Explained Why It Was Important To The Outcome" pointing to the paragraph about Jesse's trip to the National Gallery

The browser window shows the URL <http://www.englishseven.com/summerread/seventh/sample.html> and the Windows taskbar at the bottom with the time 1:02 PM.

EIGHTH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT:

After you have read one of the books on our list, complete the following assignment. (You should type your answer if you can, otherwise, please use blue or black pen & loose leaf paper.)

Assignment Directions:

In each of the selected books the main character experiences growth, a new awareness of himself/herself, in large part due to certain events and circumstances he/she faces. Choose one character from the book you read and explain the internal conflict he/she is faced with. Then discuss the factors that lead to the character's new awareness of himself/herself. In your response you should discuss who the character was, what his/her conflict was, what he/she went through, and how these events changed him/her. Feel free to use quotes from the book to support your writing.

Assignment Examples:

For example, in the The Trouble with Lemons, by Daniel Hayes. Tyler, the main character, thought he was truly a lemon (like the family car) with many problems: asthma attacks, an out-of-control temper, and nightmares. He even blamed himself for his parents' divorce. However, by the end of the novel, Tyler gained self-acceptance by realizing that he was really a normal kid. In an important scene with Chuckie, the groundskeeper, he learned that his parents' marriage was in trouble long before he (Tyler) was born. He learned that both his parents loved him very much. And by the end of the novel, he realized that other kids like Mark Blumberg had even bigger problems. Tyler was a great example of a character who learned a lot about his strengths, his weaknesses and that it's okay if you're not perfect.

Or, those of you who were seventh grade students of Mrs. Foley remember Lyddie in Katherine Paterson's book, Lyddie. Lyddie goes to work in the Lowell Mills when she is 14 years old. She hopes to earn enough money to pay off the debts on the farm and reunite her family. However, her uncle sells the farm, then her mother dies. When finally her brother Charlie takes her sister Rachel to live with him as a daughter to the kindly Phinneys, Lyddie realizes that she cannot reach her goal, that, in fact, she is the only family member working toward that goal. Once Lyddie is dismissed from the mill, she has no home and no place to go. Finally, at the very end, she knows what she must do. " 'I'm off...' she said, and knew as she spoke what she was off to....'to Ohio. There is a college there that will take a woman just like a man.' " (p. 181)