

## Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

Welcome back to Middle School English Language Arts! This summer you will read one required novel and one choice novel. You will complete the **Getting to Know Your Character** worksheet for the required novel and the **Character Analysis** worksheet for your choice novel. Happy Reading!

1. Required Novel: The Breadwinner, by Deborah Ellis

2. Choice Novel: Choose one novel from the list below

Neon Aliens Ate My Homework, by Nick Cannon

Among the Hidden, by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key, by Jack Gantos

Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark, by Ridley Pearson

Stargirl, by Jerry Spinelli

**Getting to Know Your Character  
Summer Reading**

# Required Novel

**TITLE OF BOOK:**

**AUTHOR:**

## **CHARACTER**

A **character** is a person or animal who takes part in a literary work.

Almost every book revolves around one or more main characters, called **protagonists**.

Who is the protagonist of the novel?

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## **CHARACTER TRAITS**

A **characteristic** or **trait** is a feature that helps identify or distinguish a character from the other characters in the story.

Characteristics can be **external**, like a character's appearance, or **internal**, such as a character's personality.

Identify one of the protagonist's important **traits**.

Why is this trait important in the novel?

Find **PROOF** in the novel to support this trait. Cite your text evidence below:

Identify another one of the protagonist's important **traits**.

Why is this trait important in the novel?

Find **PROOF** in the novel to support this trait. Cite your text evidence below:

## **GOAL**

In most stories, the protagonist has a **goal**— something that he or she wants to do. Usually, there is an enemy, problem, or obstacle, known as the main **conflict**, that stops the protagonist from accomplishing his/her goal.

What is the protagonist's goal?

## **CONFLICT**

A **conflict** can be either **external** – between the protagonist and someone/something else – or **internal**— a character's struggle within him or herself, over different ideas or attitudes. Most stories have both types of conflict.

What is the main **external conflict** of the story?

What is the main **internal conflict** of the story?

## **RESOLUTION**

Overcoming the conflict in the story is what changes the protagonist. Where, when, and how the protagonist overcomes the obstacle and how the protagonist subsequently changes is called the resolution.

What is the resolution of the story?

How does the protagonist change from the beginning to the end of the novel?

# Choice Novel

## Character Analysis

Directions: **Consider how the main character has changed from the beginning to the end of the text.** List **at least 3 points** along with supporting **proof** (from the text) and an **explanation** for each.

	<b>POINT: IDEA (How has the character changed?)</b>	<b>PROOF: TEXT EVIDENCE</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
<b>BEGINNING</b>			
<b>MIDDLE</b>			
<b>END</b>			

