

Dear Future 6th Grader,

This year I am asking all students entering the 6th grade to read **2 novels** and to complete a **project** for **both** of them from the list of choices provided for you. **Please don't repeat the same project twice.** In addition to completing your novel project, you must be prepared to discuss the books, express your opinion, talk about the issues in the book, and defend your stands/opinions.

The two summer reading projects are to be brought in the first day of school.

**The first book** you may choose is by Kate DiCamillo. Choose **one** of the following:

- Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
- The Magician's Elephant by Kate DiCamillo
- The Tiger Rising by Kate DiCamillo
- The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

**The second book** you may choose can be **one** of the following:

- A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park
- Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
- Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

**Choose one of the following projects for each of the two books to carefully demonstrate your knowledge of the book. Be neat. Show effort. Support your ideas with details (events, people, places) from the text.**

- a. Paint a painting inspired by the story. Imagine being asked to be the illustrator for the new book/movie created based on the book. Paint a painting or create a poster that grabs the attention of people and depicts the themes of the book. Be creative.
- b. Create a diorama of one of the scenes in the book. Be detailed and specific. Include all the clues/details the author gives in the book. Also, include the main characters usually present in the scene/location. Use a shoebox as your starting point. Write a caption of the scene and glue it on the outside of the shoebox upon completion. See: <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Diorama>
- c. Write a standard 1 ½-2 page book report. It must be typed, double-spaced, 12 font. See: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\\_writing/common\\_writing\\_assignments/book\\_reports.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/common_writing_assignments/book_reports.html)

Happy Summer Reading!