

2018-2019 Summer Reading

Summer Reading for Language Arts:

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Welcome, 6th graders, to James Weldon Johnson Middle School and the JWJ Language Arts program!

We would like to help you better succeed by providing you with some pre-reading, during-reading and post (after) reading strategies. Attached to this letter, you will find a study guide that includes the following materials:

- **Assignments:**
 1. Part I: Pre-Reading Questions
 2. Part II: During Reading Questions
 3. Additional work will be completed once the school year begins.
- Documentation for additional books read over the summer.

DO NOT bring your summer reading work on the first day of school – your teacher will tell you when to bring the work.



****What is due when school begins?***

- ✓ **The assignments**
- ✓ **Any additional summer reading documentation** – the first reading goal of 800 pages (including the required summer books) will take place in September. It is advised that you read and log as many books over the summer as you can so you are ahead of the goal.

The packet was designed to guide you through your reading of the novel Wonder and introduce you to some of the strategies that will help you be more successful readers.

Because we will be working with the book when you first come to school, **we ask that you keep your copy of the book until we are finished with it.** You will have a test over the book, also, and it would be helpful if you had the book available to review and study.

We hope you enjoy this wonderful book, and we look forward to meeting you in the fall.

Sincerely yours,

The Sixth Grade Language Arts Teachers
James Weldon Johnson College Preparatory Middle School



Part I: Pre-Reading Questions

Before you start to read *Wonder*, fill in the anticipation guide. For each statement, put an X that indicates whether you agree or disagree with the statement.

Agree	Disagree	
		1. There is no difference between public school, being homeschooled, and going to a private school.
		2. You can tell how smart a person is just by looking at them.
		3. If a new kid comes to school, it's best to ignore them until they figure out who they want to hang out with.
		4. It is good to be different and stand out from all the other kids.
		5. Sometimes change is a good thing, but it is still hard and we may not like it.
		6. If you make a mistake, it's best to cover it up and hope no one finds out.
		7. It is always easy to be nice and kind to others.
		8. Feelings of guilt about something you have thought, or said, or done affect how you behave.
		9. It's not enough to be friendly. You have to be a friend. Charlotte Cody's Precept

Then, **CHOOSE 2** of the above statements to explain in more detail your decision to agree or disagree – explain **WHY**. Make sure you write using complete and well thought out sentences.

Statement # _____

Statement # _____

Part II: During Reading

First, throughout reading, visit the following Blog as a great resource which will also tie in background information as well as allusions often made throughout the book.

<http://mrwreads.blogspot.com/2012/03/wonder-read-aloud-resources.html>

PART 1: AUGUST

Look up the words and/or listen to *Wonder* by Natalie Merchant. While you read, think about why the author included this as an introduction to the section about August.

SUMMARIZE

Who is involved in the section? List the characters.

What are some of the highlights of the events that occurred?

Why did the author include the excerpt from the song *Wonder* by Natalie Merchant at the beginning of this section? How does it relate to the events of this section?

PART 2: VIA

Look up the words and/or listen to *Space Oddity* by David Bowie. While you read, think about why the author included this as an introduction to the section from Via's perspective.

SUMMARIZE

Who is involved in the section? List the characters.

What information do we learn about events previously introduced through Via's perspective?

What are some of the highlights of the events that occurred?

Why did the author include the excerpt from the song *Space Oddity* by David Bowie at the beginning of this section? How does it relate to the events of this section?

PART 3: SUMMER

Look up the words and/or listen to *Beautiful* by Christina Aguilera. While you read, think about why the author included this as an introduction to the section from Summer's perspective.

SUMMARIZE

Who is involved in the section? List the characters.

What information do we learn about events previously introduced through Summer's perspective?

What are some of the highlights of the events that occurred?

Why did the author include the excerpt from the song *Beautiful* by Christina Aguilera at the beginning of this section? How does it relate to the events of this section?

PART 4: JACK

What information do we learn about events previously introduced through Jack's perspective?

Jack's section definitely has its ups and downs (good parts and bad). Fill in the chart with the good and bad things that happened. If anything started out bad but was later good, list it in both columns.

Ups	Downs

Jack's section began with a quote from *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. How does the quote relate to the events of this section?

PART 5: JUSTIN

One of the first things you'll notice in Justin's section is that he only occasionally capitalizes or punctuates sentences. Why is this? How does this help you to get a better sense of the character of Justin?

What do we learn through Justin's section?

Justin's section began with a quote from *The Elephant Man*. How does the quote relate to the character of Justin?

PART 6: AUGUST

Summarize the events that occur throughout this section.

This section contains several turning points to what has been happening throughout the story. List the turning points you've noticed and how they have changed the story.

PART 7: MIRANDA

Miranda's section is one of the shortest in the entire book, but tells us quite a bit. What information do we learn through Miranda's point of view?

PART 8: AUGUST

Look up the words and/or listen to *Beautiful Child* by Eurythmics. While you read, think about why the author included this as an introduction to the last section of the book.

SUMMARIZE

This section contains the Climax or main turning point of the entire story. Describe the events that created the Climax of the story.

How did the story change after the Climax?

Why did the author include the excerpt from the song *Beautiful Child* by Eurythmics at the beginning of this section? How does it relate to the events of this section and the conclusion of the book?

APPENDIX: THE PRECEPTS

Read over the list of precepts listed in the Appendix. Which is your favorite precept? Explain why.

2018 Summer Reading Documentation: While reading **OTHER** books over the summer, make sure to document them so you can get credit. The first book goal of 800 pages (*including the required language arts and history summer reading books*) will take place in September. Documentation can be completed using this form, or by copying the same information onto notebook paper.

Title: _____

Author: _____ **Genre:** _____ **# Pgs:** _____

Summary (7-10 well thought-out sentences):

Connections you made with the text in relation to yourself, the world, or other texts (7-10 well thought-out sentences):
