

WEST ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS  
SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2017

**Assignment for Students Entering Grade 7**

*All students will read two books.*

“A genre is a particular type of literature, painting, music, film, or other art form which people consider as a class because it has special characteristics” (*Collins COBUILD Dictionary of American English*). This year, students entering grade 7 are being asked to read from two genres, mystery and nonfiction. Mysteries can be very engaging for students as they pay close attention to clues that will help them solve a problem or answer a question. The nonfiction genre includes many different categories of texts including biography, autobiography, memoir, narrative nonfiction, expository nonfiction, procedural texts, and persuasive texts.

All genres present different kinds of demands on the reader. It is our goal to expose students to different genres so that they learn to anticipate these demands and adjust their reading accordingly. Furthermore, “having a deep understanding of the characteristics of genres is a strong foundation for all literacy-related learning” (*Genre Study*, Irene Fountas & Gay Su Pinnell, p. 19).

**\*Title #1 – Genre Study: Mystery**

**\*Title #2 – Genre Study: Nonfiction**

Please see our district website for the following suggested reading lists:

- Mystery Titles for Students Entering Grade 7
- Nonfiction Titles for Students Entering Grades 6-8

***We are providing these lists as a guide but students may choose any books within these genres that spark their interest AND present an appropriate level of challenge.***

**POPULAR MYSTERY SERIES**

- The 39 Clues (multiple authors)
- A Series of Unfortunate Events - Lemony Snicket
- Brixton Brothers Series
- Nightmare Room Series
- Theodore Boone Series
- Artemis Fowl
- The Red Blazer Girls Series
- Sammy Keyes Series
- Sherlock Files Series
- Boarding School Mysteries

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## MYSTERY NOVEL NOTE CATCHER

SELF	CHECKER
Characters	
Setting	
Clues	
Distraction	
Plot	
Resolution	

Dear Mystery Reader,

Use this handy Mystery Note Catcher to help you keep track of all the elements of your mystery! Place a check next to each box in the self-checker after the organizer has been filled in. This will help you ensure each element has been recorded.

### CHARACTERS /Background

Describe the beginning of the mystery. Has a crime taken place? What is the conflict that starts the mystery? Who are the suspects (characters) ? Who will work to solve it? How are the characters reacting to the crime?



### SETTING

Where does the story/crime take place?



### CLUES

List the clues. Who reveals them? Who discovers them?



**DISTRACTIONS**

What are the distractions for the person trying to solve the mystery? Does anything get in the way of solving it? Are there any false clues?



**PLOT**

List the plot events in order. When does each clue or distraction appear?



**CONCLUSION/RESOLUTION**

What is the conclusion of the mystery? How does the mystery get solved?

# NONFICTION NOTE CATCHER: Grades 6, 7, & 8

It is suggested that students complete this note catcher to help them gather information about their book choice as they read. They will be able to use this information as they work on activities assigned in September by their English teacher.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Look at the list of nonfiction text features below. In the chart provided, identify two text features you found in your book and explain how each helped you to understand or gather information about the topic of your book.

<b>Nonfiction Text Features</b>					
bold print	table of contents	labels	index	pictures/illustrations	
italics	charts or graphs	captions	glossary	photographs	

Text Feature #1: \_\_\_\_\_

How did this feature help you understand the topic more deeply?

Text Feature #2: \_\_\_\_\_

How did this feature help you understand the topic more deeply?

**Book Choice**

Explain why you chose this particular book.

**Vocabulary**

Write any new words you learned while reading your nonfiction text. You can also include words you found challenging or interesting.

**Write 3 facts you learned while reading your nonfiction book.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_