**6th Grade Language Arts**

**Personal Book Challenge Ideas**

Below are some ideas for a personal book challenge for you to undertake. You may choose several to complete over the course of the year, choose the “30 book” challenge to complete over the course of the year, or design your own. With the exception of the “30 book” challenge, when you finish one, begin another.

**You may complete as many challenges as you wish, but you should complete at least 3 (unless you choose the 30 book challenge which lasts all year)**

**At a minimum, you should read ten books this year. Challenge yourself to read books outside of your “comfort zone”**

1) **30 Book Challenge**: This one is the simplest to understand, but will require a bit of effort to fulfill. Challenge yourself to read 30 novels this school year. This translates to about one per week. You may choose to combine this with one of the other challenges below to determine your 30 books.

2) **Award Winners**: Newbery Honor and Newbery Medal books are chosen by a panel of reading experts each year. ALA/YALSA are other award winners. Try 4 award winners.

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberyhonors/newberymedal>

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/booklists>

3) **Author Study**: Choose a popular author (for example: Andrew Clements, Rick Riordan, J. K. Rowling, Cynthia Lord, Sharon Creech, or Gordon Korman) and read 4 of his/her books.

4) **Genre Study**: Choose a genre such as Fantasy, Science Fiction, Mystery, Historical Fiction, Biography, or Realistic Fiction and read 4 titles.

5) **Read a Series**: Choose a series that contains at least 3 books and read every book in that series. Popular series are: Harry Potter, Divergent, Hunger Games, the Narnia Books, the Hobbit Books, or The Maze Runner (but there are many more).

6) **Choose a Topic**: Choose a topic of interest (for example: dance, the ocean, the environment, the Civil War, or science) and read 4 books on that same topic. NOTE: you may want to choose non- fiction books as well as fiction for this challenge.

7) **Start a Book Club**: Choose a novel to read at the same time as a friend (does not have to be in the same English class). Determine a time to meet and discuss your feelings and opinions about the book.

8) **Delve into Diversity**: Choose novels that center around the theme of diversity. These will have characters with different religions, races, ability levels, etc. Read 4 diverse novels.

9) **The Geography Challenge**: Choose novels that take place in different countries or in different states in the U.S. Read novels from 4 different geographic locations.

10) **The Classics**: Know those books everyone calls “classics”? Find out why and you may find yourself lost in great works of literature.

11) **Design Your Own Challenge**: There are many other challenges out there. The recommended “Must Read in Middle School” lists, Read-Alike lists (the types that are “If you loved \_\_\_\_, then try \_\_\_\_\_ ) and many more. If 30 books feel overwhelming, you may simply determine the number of books that you feel you could realistically read in a month/year and make that your challenge. Decide what you think may interest you and discuss it with me.

<http://www.weareteachers.com/blogs/post/2015/07/01/10-books-every-middle-schooler-should-read>

<http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/1606.Top_100_Middle_School_Must_Reads>

<https://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com/2014/09/27/ten-middle-grade-read-alikes-for-john-green-books-by-angie-manfredi/>

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Heffler