

**ELA**  
**Summer Packet**

**DIRECTIONS:** Pick two books from the 2018-19 Sunshine State Reading List. After reading each one, write a 5-paragraph essay for them to answer the following question: (You will write **TWO** essays):

**What is the theme of the book?**

**Theme:** the message or lesson that the author wants you to learn from the story

**EXAMPLES:** "Little Red Riding Hood" - Do not trust everyone you meet

"The Three Little Pigs" - Hard work and patience pay off in the end

**OTHER EXAMPLES:** courage – dreams – honesty – acceptance – differences

overcoming challenges – friendship – compassion - teamwork

You may choose to discuss 1 theme and include 3 examples of that theme from your book. Or you may choose 3 different themes you noticed in the book and discuss them.

**Paragraph 1: Introduction**

The introductory paragraph should include the following elements:

\*Background information:

Enough information necessary for your reader to understand your topic

\*Thesis statement:

Indicates your paper's topic, makes your paper's purpose clear, and provides an overview of the three main supporting points that will unify the essay.

The thesis statement is typically the last sentence. If you are writing in response

To a text, the introduction should include the title, author, and genre of that piece.

**Paragraph 2: Body Paragraph**

\*Begins with a topic sentence that identifies one main idea that will be discussed as support or proof for the thesis statement

\*Supporting sentences use specific details, demonstrated through closely related examples or evidence, to expand and explain the main idea.

\*Generally, a well-developed paragraph has at least five to eight sentences.

\*Paragraph unity means that all ideas in a paragraph are closely related to its topic sentence and further develop that topic sentence.

\*That is, all sentences in a single paragraph must be unified around a central point or idea.

**Paragraph 3: Body Paragraph**

\*This paragraph, and any subsequent body paragraph, should begin with a topic sentence that signals the reader that a new idea or point is being introduced.

\*As you organize your essay, keep in mind its coherence. Coherence refers to connections among paragraphs and ideas—the logical sequence of your thoughts.

\*Use transition words or phrases at the outset of your body paragraphs and to move from one idea to another within your paragraphs. Have you transitioned logically from the

main idea in the previous paragraph to this one? Are you making clear connections among the paragraphs and ideas? Be sure to think about coherence during the revision stage of the writing process.

#### **Paragraph 4: Body Paragraph**

- \*This paragraph begins with the final topic sentence that relates back to the remaining point mentioned in the thesis statement.
- \*Each paragraph should contain a new main idea.
- \*Again, flesh out this main idea with specific examples, details, and relevant support.
- \*Be sure to maintain paragraph unity. That is, each sentence must relate to your topic sentence.

#### **Paragraph 5: Conclusion**

- \*The conclusion revisits your overall purpose for writing and often invites your reader to consider the implications of why your ideas are significant.
- \*The conclusion may restate the thesis, summarize the paper's major points, or leave the reader with a final thought to ponder.
- \*If you choose to restate the thesis or summarize the essay's main ideas, do not repeat the same wording from the introduction or body paragraphs.
- \*Remember not to introduce new, unrelated ideas in the conclusion.



## Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books 2018-2019 List for Grades 6-8



### **Click'd by Tamara Ireland Stone**

At her summer CodeGirls Camp, Allie Navarro invents Click'd, a friend pairing app. Click'd pairs its users with others who have common interests and then sends them a on scavenger hunt to find their matches. A glitch threatens to reveal private information, and Allie must work fast in the school computer lab to find a fix. Can Allie fix her app, win back her friends and get it ready for Games for Good?



### **A Crack in the Sea by H.M. Bouwman**

A portal between two worlds opens unexpectedly. Those who travel to the second world find solace, but the Raft King wants to change all of that. Relating the tales of three sets of siblings who endure hardships, experience magic, adventures on the sea, and an enchanting second world, *A Crack in the Sea* is a unique tale where the door to the first world may never reopen.



### **Surrender the Key by DJ Machale**

There's a place beyond this world where spirits tell their tales, stories that ended too soon, or don't end at all. It's a place for unexplainable things: mysteries without solutions, ghosts and a boggin. They all have a story. Marcus and his friends have found the key to unlock the Library and they need to use it. A strange man in a bathrobe haunts them; fires rage out in an instant, a creepy old lady shows up at Marcus's house.



### **The Epic Fall of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya**

Arturo lives in Miami playing basketball and working a few shifts at his Abuela's restaurant. When he meets Carmen, a young girl who moves into Arturo's apartment complex, his stomach is in knots. On top of the problems with his new crush, his town is being threatened by a land developer. With the help of Carmen and the book of poetry of Jose Marti left by his grandfather, Arturo discovers family bonds and community are stronger than ever.



### **The Eureka Key by Sarah Thomson**

When middle school puzzle master Sam and history wiz Martina win a contest for a summer trip across the US, they discover they've been drafted into something vastly more extraordinary. Along with another kid on the trip, Theo, a descendant of George Washington, they must follow clues to find seven keys left behind by the Founding Fathers. Together the keys unlock Benjamin Franklin's greatest invention—a secret weapon intended to defend the country. Each key is hid-



### **The Firefly Code by Megan Frazer Blakemore**

Up until a new girl, Ilana, moves to Firefly Lane, Mori and her friends lived a normal life. They never questioned anything in Old Harmonia, their utopian community. Questions arise about the new girl. Where Ilana says she comes from doesn't add up and her behavior is strange. Once they discover the truth they must make tough decisions about their seemingly perfect world.



### **First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Perez**

Punk rocker, Zine maker, María Luisa is moving to Chicago with her Mexican-American mother and starting 7th grade in a new school. When she begins her first day with a rebellious start, she needs to figure out how she'll fit in and still hold on to her unique character.

# Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books

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### ***Forest of Wonders* by Linda Sue Park**

Raffa Santana has always loved the mysterious Forest of Wonders. For a gifted young apothecary, every leaf has the potential to unleash a kind of magic. If only Raffa's father would allow him to experiment freely. When he finds out others are using potions to change animals into weapons, it will take all of his skill to survive.



### ***Frogkisser!* by Garth Nix**

Poor Princess Anya! Forced to live with her evil stepmother's new husband, her evil stepfather, has the unfortunate ability to break curses with magic kisses, AND now forced to go on the run when her stepfather decides to make the kingdom entirely his own. She is not alone, aided by a loyal talking dog, a boy thief trapped in the body of a newt, and some extraordinarily mischievous wizards.



### ***Ghost* by Jason Reynolds**

Running. That's all that Castle Cranshaw aka Ghost has ever known. But never for a track team. His game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: natural talent.



### ***The Girl Who Could Not Dream* by Sarah Beth Durst**

Sophie loves the hidden shop below her parents' bookstore, where dreams are secretly bought and sold. When the dream shop is robbed and her parents go missing, Sophie must unravel the truth to save them. Together with her best friend—a wisecracking and fanatically loyal monster named Monster—she must decide whom to trust with her



### ***How Lunchbox Jones Saved me from Robots, Traitors and Missy the Cruel* by Jennifer Brown**

Video game-loving Luke Abbott has no interest in joining his school robotics team. For one, he really doesn't know much about robotics. Two, the team has a record of losing. And three, his arch nemesis Missy the Cruel and the scary Lunchbox Jones are both on the team! What is with his lunchbox anyways?



### ***Restart* by Gordon Korman**

Chase wakes up from a fall off the roof not knowing who he is. When he returns to school, the students know exactly who he is, or at least, who he was. Some of the students act like he is a hero, some seem scared of him, and one utterly despises him. Chase is faced with having to figure out not only who he was, but who he wants to be.



### ***Short* by Holly Goldberg Sloan**

Julia might be short, but she refuses to let her height be her shortcoming. Encouraged by her mother to audition for the musical *The Wizard of Oz*, Julia quickly falls in love with the world of theater and all its characters. Over the course of the summer, Julia discovers talents she didn't know she had, forms unlikely friendships, and finds a second home in the theater. It's true what



### ***The Van Gogh Deception* by Deron Hicks**

When a young boy is discovered in Washington DC's National Gallery without any memory of who he is, a high-stakes race begins to unravel the greatest mystery of all: his identity. As the stakes continue to rise, the boy must piece together the clues of his origins while using his limited knowledge to stop one of the greatest art frauds ever attempted.

<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The main idea got lost in your writing somewhere.</li><li>b) You forgot about your transitions,</li><li>c) Your facts are unrelated, and you didn't use any sources</li><li>d) There doesn't seem to be enough writing to show what you know</li><li>e) The introduction and conclusion are missing.</li><li>f) This is a very informal piece of writing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) You didn't cite your sources, or your facts are incorrect.</li><li>b) Your ideas are vague and confusing.</li><li>c) Your vocabulary doesn't fit with the topic</li><li>d) Your sentences are all very simple.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) There are several mistakes in your spelling.</li><li>b) There are several mistakes with your grammar.</li></ul>
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Score	Purpose, focus, and organization	Evidence and Elaboration	Conventions
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Your response is consistently focused and keeps the purpose and audience in mind throughout the paper!</li> <li>b) You managed to eliminate all the extra "fluff".</li> <li>c) Sources are used throughout your text.</li> <li>d) Transitions are great!</li> <li>e) Your Intro and conclusion nicely sandwich your paper.</li> <li>f) You kept the writing formal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Your response is in-depth and compelling.</li> <li>b) You did a great job of using multiple sources.</li> <li>c) You used elaboration in a variety of ways (quotes, definitions, examples...).</li> <li>d) Your ideas are clear.</li> <li>e) You used vocabulary that is specific to the topic.</li> <li>f) The sentences in your paper are a delight to read.</li> </ul>	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The response is focused, and it shows that you thought about the reader.</li> <li>b) The organization is there and you only let some fluff in.</li> <li>c) You used a variety of sources.</li> <li>d) Your transitions could use a little work on your transitions.</li> <li>e) You used an introduction and conclusion</li> <li>f) You did your best to keep a formal tone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) You were able to put in a fair amount of relevant facts from sources, although many of the facts are not clear.</li> <li>b) You elaborated on your facts.</li> <li>c) You expressed your ideas with a mix of general and specific language.</li> <li>d) You used some vocabulary specific to the topic.</li> <li>e) There is some variation in your sentence structure.</li> </ul>	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) You thought about the purpose, but might have lost track here and there.</li> <li>b) Some parts of your writing might not be as organized as it should be.</li> <li>c) You used facts, but not sources</li> <li>d) You have a few transitions, but others are missing</li> <li>e) There's something lacking in the introduction and conclusion.</li> <li>f) You might sound formal here and there, but overall the text is informal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) You used some evidence from your sources.</li> <li>b) Many of your facts seem repetitive.</li> <li>c) You simplified many of your main facts.</li> <li>d) Some of your words are used incorrectly</li> <li>e) Your sentences seem too simple, spice it up with details and elaboration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There are little to no errors in your spelling.</li> <li>b) There are little to no errors in your grammar</li> </ul>

### **Free Math Websites**

**Art of Problem Solving:** <https://artofproblemsolving.com/videos>

**Math Pickle:** <http://mathpickle.com/organized-by-grade/>

**Hooda Math:** <http://www.hoodamath.com/games/>

**Arcademics:** <https://www.arcademics.com/>

**Khan Academy:** <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

**Multiplication.com:** <http://www.multiplication.com/>

**Kakooma -** <http://www.gregtangmath.com/kakooma>

**Math-Play.com -** <http://www.math-play.com/Two-Step-Equations-Game.html>

**Or** <http://www.math-play.com/Integers-Jeopardy/Integers-Jeopardy.html>

## Middle School Math Summer Assignment

Students need to reinforce key math skills and concepts over the summer. They need to improve fluency with key skills. The attached list of free websites will allow students to do that. I am asking each student to spend a minimum of 50 minutes a week (only 10 minutes a day) on one or more of the websites and keep a log of their activity. Over 9 weeks of summer break that is a total of 450 minutes. The student may spread the 450 minutes over the whole summer or concentrate it in a couple of weeks. I leave that up to the family based on their own summer schedule. Many of the websites are K-8, so students should concentrate their work on the grade level they are leaving and some time on the grade level they are entering. I ask that a parent please sign off that the student’s log is accurate.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Grade 2019/20:** \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Website	Minutes

**Total Minutes:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_