

## Summer Reading 2010-2011

### REQUIRED: 6<sup>th</sup> Avi – Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Avi's Crispin: The Cross of Lead takes place in the last part of the fourteenth century. The world had changed since the midcentury, and new movements were afoot. The following gives a brief description of major historical currents that shaped Crispin's world. Crispin's entire frame of reference is his village and the church when the story begins

### Additional reading – choose one book to read then do a project from the list below. Titles with \* are more challenging books.

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin Great mystery novel

Curlee, Lynn. *Seven Wonders of the Ancient World*. Atheneum, 2002. This book explores the mystery and wonder associated with the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Great Pyramid at Giza, and other incredible structures from ancient times.

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Kira-Kira*. Atheneum, 2004. This is the story of a close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s and the despair they feel when one sister becomes terminally ill. Newbery Medal 2005

Cobb, Vicki. MARIE CURIE. (Nonfiction) This is the biography of the Nobel Prize-winning Polish scientist who discovered radium and changed the world.

*The Incredible Journey of Lewis and Clark* – Blumberg

*Trout Summer* – Conly \*

*The Wright Brothers* – Freedman \*

*The View From Saturday* by E. L. Konigsburg (Simon and Schuster, 1996).

Main characters not only compete in an academic contest (contest answers included at the back!) but also outwit the class bullies using brains, not brawn. Nadia, Noah, Ethan and Julian, so closely linked in friendship that they call themselves "the Souls," each narrates a part of the book. Part of the pleasure comes from watching the foursome's varied life experiences help them succeed as an Academic Bowl Team, and part comes from the suspense generated at the story's beginning: How does Mrs. Olinski select the children for her team? Only Noah, Nadia, Ethan, and Julian know — and in alternating chapters, each one tells a different piece of the story of how they became friends. The calamitous wedding of Nadia's grandfather and Ethan's grandmother, where Noah fills in as best man, is just the beginning. Mrs. Olinski, a paraplegic, proves to be an indomitable coach as the foursome wins one victory after another. 163 pages.

*The Black Stallion* – Farley

*Caddie Woodlawn* – Brink

*Rachel Carson: Pioneer* – Kudlinkski \*

*My One Hundred Adventures*—Horvath

*Walk Two Moons*. Creech, S.

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

## Reading Comprehension

Test for *The Cross of the Lead*  
(Crispin)

This test will be administered by

Mrs. Lain to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Students during the first week of classes. The test will include questions about setting, character, plot (conflicts), theme, and point of view. See attached for note taking. Students are encouraged to keep journals.

Choose one project to complete for the additional novel

### 1) C-S-C-S Chart

(Characters-Setting- Conflicts-Solution). (See Below)

### 2) Postcard.

Draw the setting based on the information provided in the novel. Be creative! On the back of the postcard, briefly describe the main conflict and the resolution. (See post card graphic organizer.)

### 3) Comic Strip.

Illustrate three to five panels that depict events from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel. The panels should provide detail, characters, and dialogue bubbles. In three to five sentences underneath each panel, write what is happening in the illustration. (See comic strip graphic organizer.)

### 4) Book Title Acrostic Poem

Using the title of the second book, students are to create an acrostic poem (see sample). Each line should provide an important detail of the story. Poems should be presented on a 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper. Be creative! (See sample.)

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

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Book: \_\_\_\_\_

**C-S-C-S Chart**

**Directions:** Complete the chart below as you read. Include specific detail from the novel. You may use additional sheets if you run out of space.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Characters</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Setting</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conflicts</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Solution</b></p>