

Name _____

Planning for Success in Sixth Grade

Dear incoming sixth grader,

Congratulations for successfully completing fifth grade. We are looking forward to a fantastic year in sixth grade at Alliance Middle School. Middle school is a time when you begin your growth into a learner who is prepared for high school, college and careers, and adult life. We are very proud to be your first group of middle school teachers and begin this journey with you.

In this packet, we have given you activities to complete about a book that YOU choose to read. The book can be checked out from the library, a book you had on your bookshelf that you've been wanting to read, or a new book you buy or borrow from a friend. You can read this book any way you like. You can read alone, with a friend, with a family member, or even read it aloud to your dog. Please complete **two (2)** of the activities in this packet before you begin sixth grade. All students **must** read a book, complete the Learner Profile Project, and **pick one** of the book advertisement projects that fits you best. The first or second week of the 2018-2019 school year, you will present the work in this packet to your peers and teachers, so do your very best.

We have created a Remind text alert account so you and your family can ask questions or get announcements from us over the summer.

In the fall, please return your completed packet. We look forward to meeting you and seeing your presentations. Have a wonderful summer!

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/ams6all

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @ams6all to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @ams6all to (330) 577-5869.

* Standard text message rates apply.

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/ams6all on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

Sincerely,

Sixth Grade Teaching Team

Name _____

Learner Profile Attributes

In sixth grade, we want to help students grow into learners who are developing these ten qualities (or attributes) borrowed from the IB Learner Profile.

Risk-takers - I am brave and courageous. I am willing to try new things and explore new roles, ideas, and strategies.

Principled - I am honest, fair, and responsible. I respect the dignity and rights of others. I take responsibility for my own actions and accept the consequences that come with those actions.

Reflective - I thoughtfully consider the world and my own talents and experiences. I work to understand my own strengths and weaknesses to support my learning and my personal growth.

Open-minded - I understand and appreciate my own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of others. I try to understand the point of view of others and I am respectful of their ideas.

Inquirers - I am curious. I develop the skills needed to research the questions I have. I know how to learn independently and with others. I learn with enthusiasm.

Caring - I show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. I care about people, plants, animals, and the Earth. It is important to me to take care of people in my community.

Thinkers - I think carefully and show initiative to tackle complex problems. I make good decisions and am a problem solver.

Communicators - I can share my ideas with others in many ways and in more than one language. I work well with others. I am a good listener.

Knowledgeable - I learn new things and remember what I have learned. I know about many different topics and share what I have learned with others.

Balanced - I understand the importance of balancing the different aspects of my life. I pay attention to my intellectual, physical and emotional well-being. I recognize that my well-being is connected to the people around me and the world in which I live.



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Learner Profile Project - REQUIRED

In sixth grade, we want to help students grow into learners who are developing these ten qualities (or attributes) borrowed from the IB Learner Profile.

Use the description of the ten Learner Profile Attributes on the back of the packet cover letter.

Choose any ONE attribute or quality from the list and complete any ONE of the following projects. You will present this project during the first two weeks of the 2017-2018 school year.



- 1. Character Profile** - read any fiction book you choose and find a way to present which of the ten learner attributes best fits the main character.
- 2. Song Selection** - choose a school appropriate song that you think fits very well with one of the ten learner attributes and present it to us. Explain why you chose it.
- 3. Learner Logo** - create a logo to represent one of the learner attributes. Pretend you work for a marketing company and you have been asked to create a new logo. Make a presentation to try and sell us your logo design.
- 4. Profile Poem** - write a poem (of any style) that can be used to teach us the meaning of one of the learner profile attributes.
- 5. Attribute Artwork** - create a piece of artwork of any kind that represents one of the learner profile attributes. Be prepared to present your piece of art to us including why you chose your medium (type of materials) and subject.
- 6. Graphing with Grandparents** - create a survey to ask friends or family members (such as Grandma) which of the learner profile attributes best describes them. Create a chart or graph to present your data to us. You must include data from a minimum of 12 people.

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BOOK ADVERTISEMENT PROJECT - REQUIRED

Choose any ONE book to read that you have not read before. If you start reading and don't like the book you picked, STOP, and pick a different book. After you are done reading, complete any ONE of the following projects to advertise the book you read to your new teacher and classmates. Do not include spoilers that ruin the ending. You will present this project during the first two weeks of the 2018-2019 school year.

1. **Character Scrapbook** - Pretend you are a character from your book. Create two scrapbook pages that represent his/her life and also shares information about the plot of the story with the class. Think about carefully choosing embellishments (decorations) for your pages that creatively share information about the book.
2. **Book in a Box / Bag / Bottle** - choose a container that relates to your book somehow. Inside the container, collect five objects, five vocabulary words, and five important quotes. Be prepared to explain how each of these objects, words, and quotes are important to the story.
3. **Graphic Novel** - (Only available if your book is NOT already a graphic novel or comic book) - Re-write one chapter of your book as a graphic novel / comic book. Use a comic book or a novel such as *Flora & Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo as a model. Be creative in telling the story through a combination of pictures and captions or speech or thought bubbles.
4. **Story Soundtrack** - Create a soundtrack for your book of at least five songs. Write the name and artist of each song along with a brief description of why each song would be appropriate for a certain moment in the book. Prepare to play 30-60 second clips of each song as part of your presentation. You MIGHT set this up as a slideshow with links to YouTube music video.
5. **If You Build It They Will Read** - Build an important part of the setting for your book. This can be a real-life model built out of blocks or other household materials, or a virtual model built using Minecraft or another online platform. During your presentation you must describe how the setting affects the characters and plot of the story.
6. **Letter to the Author #WHYDIDTHEDOGHAVETODIE** - Create a letter exchange between a main character and the author. Have the character react to some of the choices made by the author in the book and show the author's response. An alternative would be to create an exchange of Tweets between one or two characters and the author including hashtags that reveal information about the book. You could use <http://simitator.com/generator/twitter> to create the pretend conversation, then save it as a .pdf to share with the class.
7. **Build-Your-Own Book Project** - Create your own project *with teacher approval*. Use the Remind texting group information from the front of this packet to reach out to your future teachers with your project idea to get approval.