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## ESMS 6th Grade Summer Reading Choices 2018-2019

In order to meet the requirements for the ESMS Language & Literature Program, students going into the 6th grade are required to read certain literature titles during the summer months. These books can be checked out of the library as available, borrowed from friends, or purchased by the student. Students must complete “Summer Reading Questions” (attached) by the first day of school.

Students entering 6th grade will choose one pair (two books: non-fiction and fiction) from the following choices below.

### 1st Choice

**NONFICTION: *The Riddle of Rosetta Stone*** by James Giblin  
History, Ancient Civilization, Hieroglyphics  
Lexile Level: 1100L

Describes how the discovery and deciphering of the Rosetta Stone unlocked the secret of Egyptian hieroglyphics.

ALA 1991 Notable Children’s Books  
NCSS and CBC Notable 1990 Children’s Trade Books in Social Studies  
1990 Children’s Book (Library of Congress)  
100 Books for Reading and Sharing (NY Public Library)  
Parenting Honorable Mention  
Reading Magic Award  
California Recommended Reading

### WITH

**FICTION: *The Golden Goblet*** by Eloise Jarvis McGraw  
Ancient Egypt, Survival, Honesty, Mystery, Historical Fiction  
Lexile Level: 930L

Ranofer struggles to thwart the plottings of his evil brother, Gebu, so he can become master goldsmith like their father in this exciting tale of ancient Egyptian mystery and intrigue.

1962 Newbery Medal Nominee  
1963 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children’s Book Award Nominee

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## 2nd Choice

**NONFICTION:** *Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely Through a Never-Ending War* by Deborah Ellis

Education, War, History, Hope, Afghanistan, Leadership

Lexile Level: 800L

The lives of children and teens in Kabul, Afghanistan, are illuminated in eye-opening ways through personal stories that expand understanding of events readers may have heard about in news stories of life under the Taliban and in the war.

Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction

South Asia Book Award

IRA Notable Book for a Global Society

Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year

USBBY Outstanding International Book

CCBC Choice Book

## WITH

**FICTION:** *Iqbal* by Francesco D'Adamo

Hope, Social Injustice, Bravery, Pakistan, Child Labor

Lexile Level: 730L

A fictionalized account of the Pakistani child who escaped from bondage in a carpet factory and went on to help liberate other children like him before being gunned down at the age of thirteen.

ALA 2004 Notably Children's Books

California Recommended Reading

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### 3rd Choice

***Gabe & Izzy: Standing Up for America's Bullied*** by Gabrielle Ford

Bullying, Confidence, Leadership, Activism, Companionship

Lexile Level: 740L

The moving, true story of the young woman dubbed "The Voice of America's Bullied"; how her bond with her dog, Izzy, changed her life; and their mission to help break the cycle of bullying. In middle school, Gabrielle "Gabe" Ford developed a degenerative muscle disease, and was harassed by bullies as a result. Here is her amazing story—from her lowest days dealing with various challenges, to the unbelievable and immediate bond with Izzy, to her ongoing mission to put an end to bullying, one school at a time.

Featured on the *TODAY Show*, *Animal Planet*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Women's World*

2011 Communications & Leadership Award from Toastmasters International

2011 Peace Maker of The Year Award (Gandhi Award /Genesee County MI)

2008 Community Hero Award (Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce)

2012 USA Network Characters Unite Award Winner

### WITH

**FICTION: *Wringer*** by Jerry Spinelli

Courage, Peer Pressure, Self-Knowledge, Bullying

Lexile Level: 690L

Palmer dreads his 10th birthday, when he will become a "wringer," trained to wring the necks of pigeons gunned down in an annual shooting contest. The thought of killing the birds sickens him, as does the bullying behavior of his three buddies. When Palmer makes a pet of a stray pigeon, he struggles to find the courage needed to confront his peers and act according to his conscience.

1998 Newbery Honor Book

New York Public Library's "One Hundred Titles for Reading and Sharing"

Horn Book Fanfare

School Library Journal Best Book

Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts (NCTE)

American Bookseller Pick of the Lists

ALA Notable Children's Book

ALA Booklist Editors' Choice

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## **Summer Reading Questions**

Please respond in complete sentences.

1. What is the difference between fiction and non-fiction?

### **Fiction (The Golden Goblet, Iqbal, or Wringer)**

1. What is the theme of this book? Give specific examples/quotes (and page numbers) from the text to support this theme. Explain how your example illustrates your theme. (Remember: The theme is the life lesson or what the main character learns.)

2. Name one major conflict in the book and describe how it is resolved.

3. Was the main character in the book portrayed positively or negatively? Defend your decision with examples/quotes from the book (include page numbers of where you found your example).

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4A. Pick a character from the book who has leadership qualities. Write down three quotes (and the page numbers) from the book that illustrates his or her leadership qualities.

4B. How does this character change throughout the story?

5. Explain how you can relate to this book. Consider the plot, the characters, the setting, the theme, etc.

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7. Write a summary of the story.

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**Non-Fiction (The Riddle of Rosetta Stone, Kids of Kabul, or Gabe & Izzy)**

1. What did you learn that you didn't know before?

2. What questions do you have now after reading this material?

3. How does this book relate to and support your knowledge of the fiction book you read?

4. What experiences in your life help you understand this topic?

5. What useful information does this text provide?

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6. What kind of research do you think the author had to do to write this book?

7. What questions would you ask the author if you ever had the opportunity to meet him/her?

8. Summarize the text.