

# SUMMER READING 6

## Sixth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

2021

### REQUIREMENTS

Students entering the Sixth Grade at Midland Elementary/Middle School in the fall will be required to read one novel, respond to prompts, and complete a written report. The required book is *Letters from Rifka* by Karen Hesse. Students may read the book independently or parents may read to students. Students will also be assessed at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year on the novel through an Accelerated Reader test. The prompt responses, written report, and Accelerated Reader test will be due the first Friday of the school year.

### Letters from Rifka Summary

In letters to her cousin, a young Jewish girl chronicles her family's flight from Russia in 1919 and her own experiences when she must be left in Belgium for a while when the others immigrate to America.

### Novel Assessment (50 Points Total)

1. Accelerated Reader Test (20 Points)
2. Prompt Responses (15 Points)
3. Written Report (15 Points)

### Novel and Assignment Availability

Copies of the book are available at the Carnegie Library in Midland. Students may also purchase their own printed or digital copy of the book.

Students have been given a copy of this information, including the response prompts and writing requirements, during the last week of school. Additional copies will also be at the Midland Carnegie Library and Midland Elementary/Middle School.

### Contact Information

Mrs. Tanner

[jtanner@midlandpa.org](mailto:jtanner@midlandpa.org)

**Please note that *any* amount of plagiarism will result in the student receiving a zero on this required summer reading.**

**Written Response Prompts**

Student Name:

1. Summarize what the novel is about in two or three well-written sentences below.

2. Why do you think the author chose the title, *Letters from Rifka*, for this book? Explain using text details to support your answer.

3. What is one conflict in the novel that you have experienced in your own life. Explain in detail and compare the real-life problem in the novel to your real-life conflict.

4. Identify and describe two personality traits of the main character:

5. Write an example for each personality trait from the novel that prove your description above. This should be quoted and written directly from the novel. Include the page number for each example.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ (page #)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ (page #)

6. What was your favorite part of the novel? Summarize this part of the novel and tell WHY it was your favorite.

7. Is the main character someone you could see yourself being friends with? Explain why or why not, using text evidence to support.

# Book Report Format

This book report format is to be used for writing the report for the novel. It will be due the first Friday of the 2021-2022 school year.

Follow the directions carefully below, as this report will be graded. This report may be typed (size 12 font, double spaced) **OR neatly** handwritten.

Students will write a three paragraph report (students may use their responses to the response prompts). Please remember to write in complete, well written sentences for each paragraph. The contents of each paragraph are listed below:

## Paragraph 1: Introduction

The introduction should include the book title (underlined or italicized), the author, the name of the main character and a sentence or two that describe his or her personality. Also include the main problem (conflict) of the novel.

## Paragraph 2

Summarize/Explain in your own words the main events of the novel in 5—8 sentences. This should include events from the beginning, middle and end of the story.

## Paragraph 3: Conclusion

The conclusion should include answers to the following questions: what did you like/admire about the main character? Did you like the book? Explain why/why not. Would you recommend this book to a friend to read?

Please note that if any student plagiarizes **any** part of this report, the entire assignment will be a zero.