



June 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Research tells us that students need to read during the summer months to maintain their independent reading levels. We encourage students entering 5th and 6th grade to participate in our Summer Reading Program. This program encourages students to read leisurely throughout the summer, choosing a book that engages their interests while maintaining their reading level.

Attached you will find a list of suggested books and authors for your child's incoming grade level. While these specific titles are not required, they are provided to assist you in selecting an appropriate book for your child to read over the summer months.

You may also access Lodi Memorial Library's Online Catalog to search for materials by visiting <http://catalog.bccls.org/polaris/?ctx=1>

We are encouraging all incoming 5th grade and incoming 6th grade students at Thomas Jefferson Middle School to choose only one book from the suggested list or of your own personal choice. After reading the book, we are asking students to complete the attached activity. A completed sample has been provided for guidance with this assignment. This activity will be collected by your child's Language Arts teacher within the first few weeks of school in September. Each student who participates in this program will receive extra credit toward their first marking period grade.

Finally, we hope that you will truce the time to relax and read a book that will feed your imagination, spark your interests, and further develop a love of reading. Participation in this program will help our students and staff begin the new school year on a positive note.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Frank D'Amico'.

Frank D'Amico
Acting Superintendent of Schools

Incoming Grade 5 Students

AUTHOR	TITLE
Banhill, Kelly	<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i>
Bell, Cece	<i>El Deafo</i>
Blackwood, Sage	<i>Jinx</i>
Clements, Andrew	<i>The Losers Club</i>
Creech, Sharon	<i>Saving Winslow</i>
Hale, Shannon	<i>Real Friends</i>
Paterson, Katherine	<i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>
Ritter, John	<i>The Boy Who Saved Baseball</i>
Rowling, J.K.	<i>Harry Potter Series</i>
Russell, P. Craig	<i>Coraline</i>
Spinelli, Jerry	<i>Maniac Magee</i>
Stead, Rebecca	<i>Liar and Spy</i>
Weeks, Sarah	<i>Save Me a Seat</i>

Thomas Jefferson Middle School Incoming Grade 6 Students

AUTHOR	TITLE
Bingham, Kelly	<i>Shark Girl</i>
Connor, Leslie	<i>Waiting for Normal</i>
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark is Rising</i>
Creech, Sharon	<i>Absolutely Normal Chaos</i>
Federle, Tim	<i>Better Nate than Ever</i>
Gibbs, Stuart	<i>Spy School</i>
Goldberg Sloan, Holly	<i>Counting by 7s</i>
Green, Tim	<i>Football Genius</i>
Green, Tim	<i>Left Out</i>
Kelly, Erin Entrada	<i>Blackbird</i>
Korman, Gordon	<i>Schooled</i>
Law, Ingrid	<i>Savvy</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Narnia Chronicles</i>
Lupica, Mike	<i>Summer Ball</i>
Mass, Wendy	<i>A Mango-Shaped Space</i>
Pearson, Ridley	<i>The Kingdom Keepers Series</i>
Riordan, Rick	<i>Maze of Bones-The 39 Clues</i>
Williams-Garcia, Rita	<i>One Crazy Summer</i>
Woodruff, Elvira	<i>Fearless</i>

EXAMPLE: Scout Finch, To Kill a Mockingbird

Whose Phone Is This?

Choose one of the characters and complete the three steps to show what would be on this person's cell phone. Be sure your answers are written in complete sentences. If you need more room, feel free to continue writing on the back of this sheet.

Wallpaper - Sketch the character's cell phone wallpaper with colored pencils. Then, explain why this image choice would appeal to this character:

This was a photo that Jem snapped of Scout and her father when they weren't looking. It's Scout's favorite photo, so she made it her wallpaper/screensaver. Scout idolizes her father, Atticus Finch, and this rare moment of tenderness from him reminds her every day that he loves her and will always provide a safe, comforting place when the trials of the world leave her feeling weary.

Email - This character just received two messages. Thinking back over the reading, explain which other characters just sent messages to this character and what is the content of each message:

Scout just received two messages, one from Calpurnia and one from Dill. Calpurnia wants to know where Scout is because she was supposed to be home two hours ago. Dill sent his message to let Scout know that his mom is going to allow him to leave early to vacation at Aunt Rachel's house for the next school holiday. He wants to make sure that Jem and Scout will be there when he arrives.

3. Playlist - Write three song titles with artists' names that would likely be on this character's playlist. Be sure to explain your reasoning as to why these three songs would appeal to this character:

1. "Why Can't We Be Friends?" by War

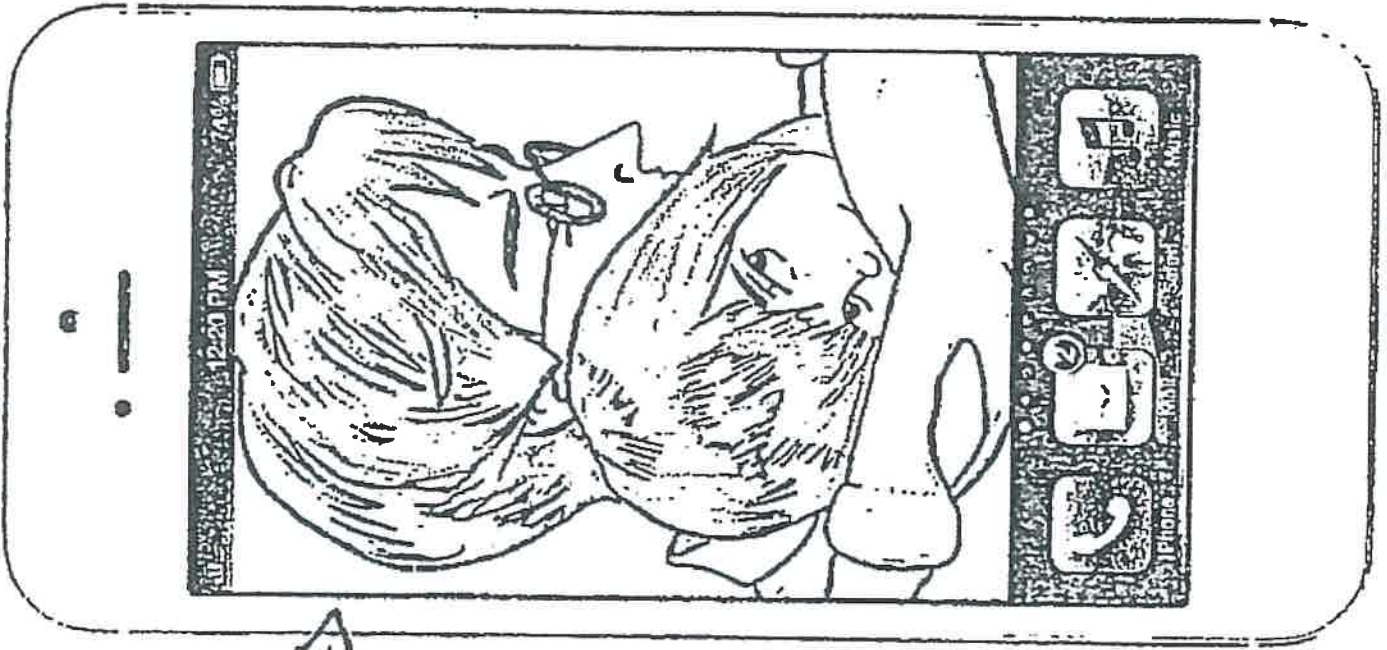
Scout doesn't understand why different classes of people can't be friends. For example, her failed attempt to befriend Walter Cunningham leaves her perplexed.

2. "Just a Girl" by No Doubt

Scout wants to resist Aunt Alexandra's attempts to feminize her and this anthem of girl power and questioning of traditional gender expectations is fitting for Scout.

3. "Waiting on the World to Change" by John Mayer

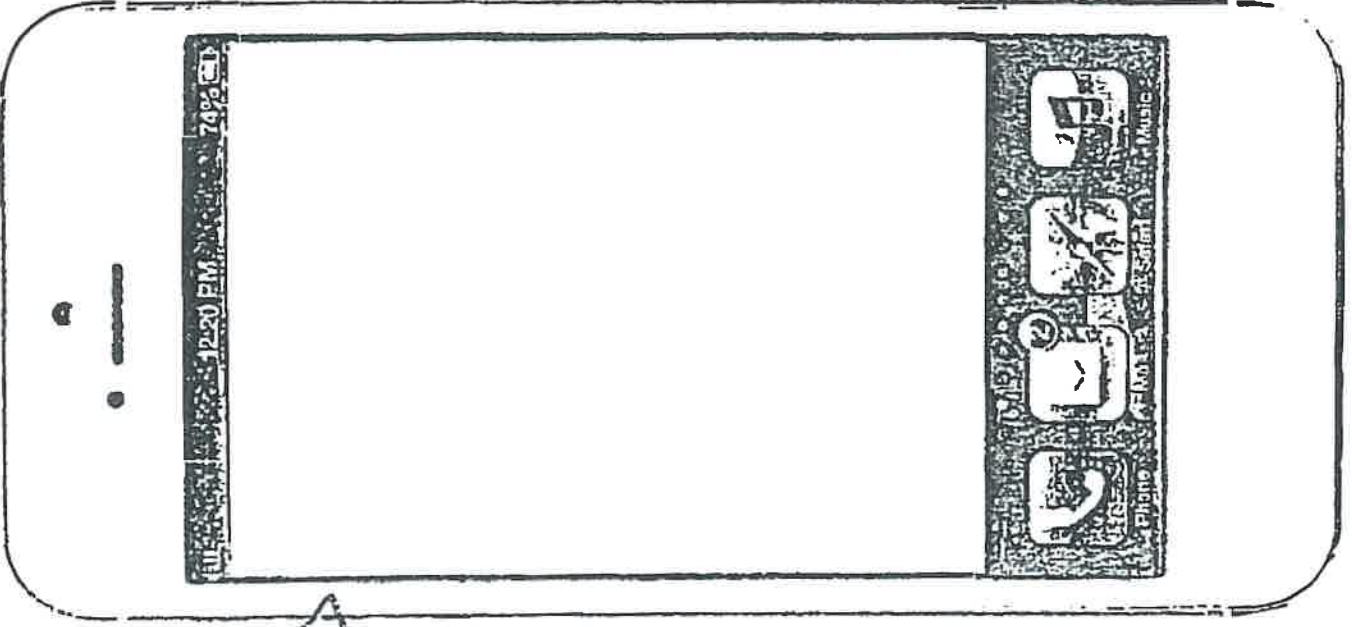
In the Jim Crow South of Scout's childhood, it seems like there's little she can do to evoke a positive social change. This, of course, isn't true. One person, via discovery, has the power to change the hearts and minds of many people.



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