

Name: _____

Grade 6 Summer Reading

2026-2027 School Year

Welcome to 6th Grade, HSS Class of 2029! The required reading will be our first novel we will be analyzing for the year. Rather than everyone choosing a different book, we will all read the same novel so that we can start the year ready to go. There will not be a book report for this year's summer reading novel, but rather some questions, reflections, and an activity that will prepare you for the work we will be doing with the novel during the first weeks of school.

Please join the Google classroom for ELA. I will have a copy of the summer reading papers posted there, but the assignment is to be hand-written on paper. *No typed work will be accepted.*

Google classroom code: ur3yr54g

Our first novel of the year:

Holes

By Louis Sachar



This novel is on 6th grade “must read” lists and is one of the top selling and most read middle school books out there. Filled with humor, suspense, and unexpected twists, *Holes* is a story about friendship, perseverance, and the power of breaking a cycle of bad luck.

We hope you will enjoy this story, and we look forward to discussing it with you soon!

See you in September!

Mrs. Picioccio and Mrs. Sutherland

Summer Reading Directions:

1. Comprehension and Analysis Questions

- You have been given questions for each set of chapters in the novel. All answers must be handwritten on lined paper.
- Answers must restate the question and be written in complete sentences. Here is an example:

Chapters 1-5 Question #2

Why do campers let themselves be bitten by a snake or scorpion? What does this tell us about the camp?

The campers let themselves be bitten by a snake or scorpion because.....
This action tells us that the camp.....

2. Holes Camp Green Lake- Design a Brochure

- You will create a brochure for the correctional institute known as Camp Green Lake. Pretend you are advertising the camp to parents and campers (while using the irony that we know the camp is not really a fun place!).
- Fill out the information for each section and draw an image or symbol in each box.
- Cut out the brochure and fold it in half. On the front, create a cover for the brochure. On the back, draw a map of what you think the camp would have looked like.
- Be creative, neat, and include color. Check your spelling and punctuation.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us via the Google Classroom.

HOLES QUESTIONS

COMPREHENSION & ANALYSIS

Complete the following questions after reading each set of chapters.

The Basic Comprehension questions focus on understanding. The Digging Deeper questions focus on analysis or making connections.



CHAPTERS 1 - 5

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. In your own words, describe Camp Green Lake.
2. Why do campers let themselves be bitten by a snake or scorpion? What does this tell us about the camp?
3. What instructions does Mr. Sir give to Stanley when he arrives at the camp?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. Why is the name of the camp ironic? What makes this camp different from other summer camps you might have heard about?
5. What does it mean when the narrator says that if a yellow-spotted lizard bites someone, they might as well lay in the hammock?
6. If you were Stanley, how would you react and feel after your introduction to Camp Green Lake?

CHAPTERS 6 - 8

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. In your own words, describe Stanley's version of the crime that landed him at Camp Green Lake.
2. Why does Elya change his mind to decide that he does not want to marry Myra? How is Elya's wife, Sarah, different than Myra?

Digging Deeper Questions

3. Stanley's parents had a choice between prison and Camp Green Lake. Do you think they made the right choice? Why or why not?
4. How is flashback used in chapter 7? How does the device connect to the theme of appearances vs. reality?

CHAPTERS 9 - 13

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. What is Stanley's nickname? How does he get the name? How does he feel about it?
2. What does Stanley discover while digging his second hole? How does it impact him?
3. What does Stanley want to be when he gets older? Why is this ironic?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. Do you think Stanley's choice to lie to his mother was a good one? What would you have done if you were Stanley? Explain your reasoning.
5. What do you think the line order to receive water symbolizes? Explain with examples.
6. Is Mr. Pendanski a good person? Why or why not?

CHAPTERS 14 - 20

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Explain how the Warden has complete control over her staff by describing the incident with Mr. Pendanski and Mr. Sir from these chapters.
2. Why does Stanley suddenly collapse when he is digging? What does this tell us about Zigzag's personality?

Digging Deeper Questions

3. Do you think Stanley made the right choice by taking the blame for stealing the sunflower seeds? What would you have done in this situation?
4. In these chapters, it states that Stanley's "muscles and hands weren't the only parts of his body that had toughened over the past several weeks. His heart had hardened as well." How has Stanley's heart hardened? Why do you think he has changed?
5. At the end of chapter 20, the Warden tells Stanley that Mr. Sir "is not going to die...unfortunately for you." What do you think she means by this?

CHAPTERS 21-27

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. How does the reader learn that Zero is intelligent?
2. How does Kate manage to spend so much time with Sam?
3. How do the citizens of Green Lake react to Sam and Kate's relationship? Consider the Sheriff and Trout Walker's reactions specifically.

Digging Deeper Questions

4. Stanley refuses to drink from the canteen that Mr. Sir gives him. What do you think was in the canteen? Would you have had some? Why or why not?
5. How does the character of Kate Barlow relate to the theme of appearances vs. reality?

CHAPTERS 28-32

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. How does Kate know Linda Walker? What is her reaction to Linda being married to Trout?
2. Why does Zero hit Mr. Pendanski with the shovel?
3. Why does the Warden want to destroy Zero's records at the camp?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. What did the Warden mean when she said, "It's almost time for [her] to paint my nails again"?
5. If you were Stanley, would you have run into the desert after the crash? Why or why not?

CHAPTERS 33-39

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Why does the pool of water keep moving away as Stanley gets closer?
2. Why does Barf Bag go to the hospital?
3. How does Zero make it to the top of the mountain?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. Describe Zero and Stanley's friendship. Do you have a friendship that is similar to this? Explain.

CHAPTERS 40-45

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Zero say that he avoided going to homeless shelters?
2. How does Stanley feel when he finds out that Zero is the reason that he was sent to Camp Green Lake?
3. How do the boys compete with each other on the way down the mountain?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. In these chapters, Zero tells Stanley about a birthday party in the park. One mother was staring at Zero "like he was a monster." How do you think things might have been different for Zero if the mother had been kind to him?
5. Going back to the camp was a risky move by Zero and Stanley. Do you think it is smart to take risks in life? Why or why not?
6. What is the main type of conflict in these chapters?

CHAPTERS 46-50

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. What story is the Warden planning to tell the lawyer and Attorney General about what happened to Zero and Stanley?
2. Why does the Warden ask the counselors to tell the other boys that they wouldn't have to dig a hole that day as long as they didn't talk?
3. What evidence is there to suggest the curse on the Yelnats family is broken?

Digging Deeper Questions

4. Is Stanley a dynamic or static character? Explain your reasons.
5. What do you think is the most important theme in *Holes*? Explain your choice.

HOLES CAMP GREEN LAKE

DESIGN A BROCHURE



Create a brochure promoting Camp Green Lake as a correctional institute. Headings are provided where you can add information and images based on the information you have learned in the novel. When it is complete, cut it out, fold it down the line in the middle, and draw a cover on the other side of the page.

OUR CAMP MISSION:

WHAT WILL THE CAMPERS DO?:

WHO SHOULD COME TO CAMP GREEN LAKE?:

ABOUT OUR STAFF MEMBERS:

WHAT DOES THE CAMP LOOK LIKE?:

CONTACT INFORMATION: