

Summer Reading 2026

Instructions

The summer vacation period is a wonderful time for students to have a short break from attending school every day, but a great opportunity to keep learning. Our summer reading program is targeted to help students continue to enhance their reading skills during the months of June, July, and August.

This year, we will be providing your child with a hard copy book to read over the Summer 😊

Incoming 6th Grade Summer Reading Book is *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliett.

Your child will be responsible for reading their book and completing the assignments provided in this packet.

****Please bring in all work on the first day of school (Thursday, August 13), as it will count as a grade for the first quarter. (Your child does not need to return the book)**

Throughout the summer, if you have any questions, please call the main office at (305) 231-4888.

Please sign, and return on the first day of school, along with the completed assignments.

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

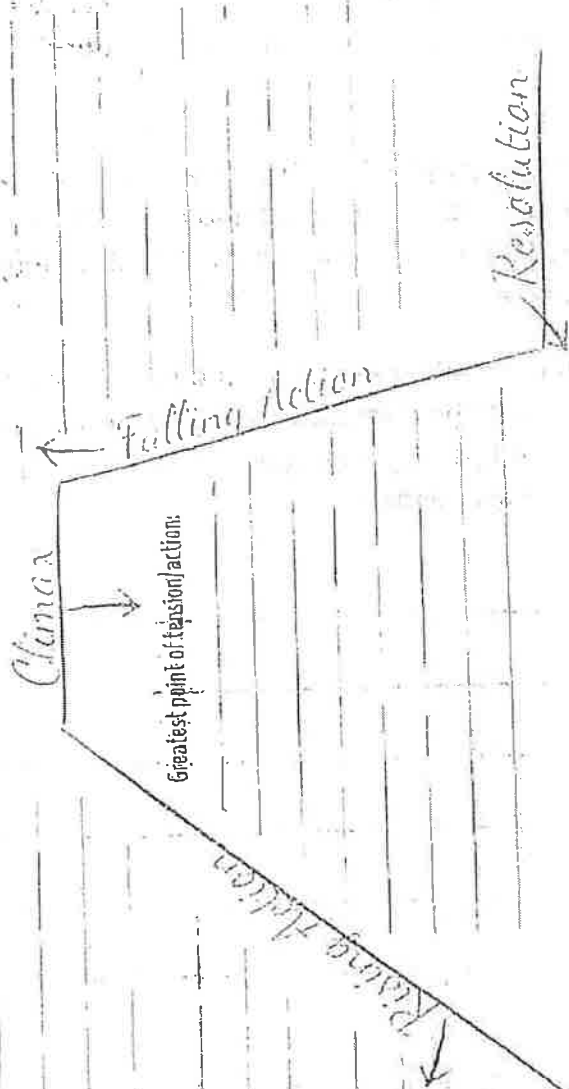
AUTHOR: _____

THE PLOT STRUCTURE

Focusing on

Main Events of Rising Action: _____

Main Events of Falling Action: _____



Greatest point of tension/action:

Protagonist's Conflict: _____

Elements of suspense: _____

Exposition

How is the conflict resolved? _____

Setting: _____

Narrative Perspective: _____

Characters introduced: _____

Ending: _____

Opening Events: _____

How is the protagonist changed? _____



Name _____



What is Calder and Petra's reaction to the coincidence with the Vermeer painting? How does the author show their reactions?



Collaborate Talk About It Reread pages 81-83. Describe how Calder and Petra respond when they discover Petra has dreamed about the Vermeer painting. Then discuss what this response says about them. What do they think is the best way to solve a problem?



Cite Text Evidence Think about Calder and Petra's approach to understanding the strange coincidences and mysteries they've encountered so far. Make a list of tips they might give for solving problems. Your list should be based on text evidence.

- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____
- ✓ _____

Write Calder and Petra's reaction to Petra's dream shows that



Why do you think the author shares these details about the classroom and the public's response to the thief's letter?



Talk About It Reread pages 112-114.

With a partner, summarize the response to the art thief's letter. What message does it convey about the importance of investigating and challenging our ways of thinking? What does it say about the role of art in our lives? Do you agree with these messages?

Quick Tip

Use these sentence frames when you talk about the author's purpose:

The reaction to the art thief's letter is...

This persuades readers that...



Cite Text Evidence Pretend you are in Ms. Hussey's class and have been analyzing Vermeer's paintings. Write a letter to the editor that describes your experience and states your opinion about the Vermeer theft and the results described in the text.



Respond to Reading Why are Calder and Petra the ones to solve the mystery in the end? Write your response in your reader's notebook. Remember to cite text evidence.

