

## GRADE 6 ENGLISH STUDY GUIDE

All incoming sixth grade students will be required to read the following books for English class. Reading must be completed before the first day of school.

*The Giver* by Lois Lowry  
*The Talking Earth* by Jean Craighead George

### STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

Use the questions that follow to help you understand the books you read this summer. Be sure you can answer all of the questions, as they will form the basis for a test on the summer reading. Your answers, however, will not be collected when school begins.

### TEST ON SUMMER READING

During the first few days of school you will take a test on the summer reading books.

### PROJECT

Choose **ONE** of the books above for a project. The project involves the creation of a poster, collage, diorama, or similar artistic rendering to illustrate an aspect of the book or a character in the book. These projects will be collected on the first day of school.

### GRADE FOR SUMMER READING

Your first grade for the year will be based on the effort that you put into your project and the grade on your test on the summer reading.

### STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

#### *The Giver*

1. Describe Jonas' world.
2. If you were being "chosen" for your lifetime occupation, what would you want it to be?  
List five qualities or talents that you have that make you particularly suited to that job.
3. What was the first really painful memory shared with Jonas?
4. What happens to people when they are released?
5. What happens to Jonas' memories when he leaves the community?
6. Find an adult to serve for a few minutes as "Giver" while you are the "Receiver." Have the adult give you a memory, relating it to you with as much detail as possible. It can be pleasant or painful. Try to describe that memory on paper. What did it feel like, sound like, etc.

#### *The Talking Earth*

1. How are Billie's ideas different from her sister's?
2. How do alligators create trails?
3. Why are fires necessary in the Everglades?
4. What does Billie mean when she says, "Nature plans ahead for her disasters?"
5. What two poisonous snakes live in the Everglades?
6. What would you do to save your life if you were bitten by these snakes?
7. Billie cries when the pot breaks. For what does she seem to be crying?
8. What are the signs of the "white man?" What comment is the author making?
9. How does Billie prepare for the hurricane?
10. What had Billie's mission taught her?