



6th Grade Summer Reading

Dear Peperzak Pumas,

We are looking forward to a great year with you at Carla Olman Peperzak Middle School. We are committed to helping you become your best self. That commitment begins before you ever walk through the front doors of our wonderful building. Throughout your summer, it is important to keep your mind engaged in learning.

Our namesake, Mrs. Carla Olman Peperzak, was selfless in her commitment to others. Much like Carla, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. understood, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is 'What are you doing for others?'" This summer we would like you to reflect on that very question. Your summer reading assignment will center around the idea of reading or researching about a person in history who embodies what it means to become your best self.

You may ask, "How does reading help me become my best self?" Did you know that students who read during the summer gain an average of 1 month of reading proficiency? Students who don't read lose an average of 2-3 months of reading proficiency over time, those lost months add up to years (Scholastic 2022). As Dr. Seuss once said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Reading opens opportunities for you, and that, in turn, helps you work towards becoming your best self!

Summer Reading Project

Where do I start?

1. Choose a person in history (living or deceased) who embodies what it means to become your best self. Some examples are:
You can choose people widely recognized like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malala, Elie Wiesel, Michael Jordan, Rosa Parks, Abraham Lincoln, Marie Curie, Albert Einstein, Jim Thorpe, or Amelia Earhart to name a few. Or, you can choose people more locally recognized like Carl Maxey, Carla Peperzak, John Stockton, Mandi Price, or Sherman Alexie. You can certainly find someone not mentioned on this list. This is meant to get you thinking about some possibilities.
2. Read an autobiography about this person **OR** read a fictional story about this person **OR** research about the life, obstacles, and accomplishments of this person.
3. Complete a **One-Pager Assignment** about this person. The directions for the *One-Pager Assignment* are attached to this packet. You can also go onto the school website to see the directions and look at student samples, as well as viewing a Loom video explanation of how to complete this project.
4. You will submit this assignment to your English teacher during the first week of school.
5. In addition to being part of a grade-level advisory class and *Neighborhood*, you will also belong to a multi-grade level *House*. This completed reading project will count towards "House" points that will allow your "House" to win some awesome rewards within the first month of school! **Don't let your House down! Expand your mind by reading this summer!**



Assignment (*One-Pager: Summer Reading Project*)

Upon completing your independent summer reading or research, you will complete a *One-Pager* to demonstrate your understanding of your reading.

A *One-Pager* is a way of responding to reading/research on one piece of paper. It represents your own written and graphic interpretation of what you have read. In this assignment, you will show facts and information about your reading, as well as creating a visual representation of what you have learned.

Directions:

- Must be on standard sized (8 ½ x 11), unlined paper.
- Use color pens or markers, unless black and white is the BEST design choice.
- Write your first and last name on the back.
- Be creative and thoughtful. It is meant to be a challenge to truly represent your experience of your reading in such a small space.
- Arrange the following required elements on the page in any way you choose (**ALL** are required for full points):
 1. Title and author of the book. If you conducted research instead of reading a book, include the name of the person you researched and a minimum of three sources.
 2. A one-paragraph summary of the plot. Must address exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Look these terms up if you are unfamiliar with them. If you conducted research instead of reading a book, summarize the life, obstacles, and accomplishments of your person.
 3. Name(s) and brief description(s) of the main character(s) in your book. If you conducted research, include the names and brief descriptions of significant people in your person's life.
 4. Describe the setting (time and place). Note whether these elements change or don't change over the book or the course of the person's life.
 5. Include two significant excerpts from the book/research – quotes or passages that are important to the story. Include the page number/citation where each quote is found.
 6. Have at least three graphic representations: a drawing, magazine picture, or computer graphic that relates to the book you read/the person you researched and the quotes you chose. One graphic should be of the person you read about or researched (can be printed or drawn).
 7. Include a one-paragraph explanation of how this person embodies what it means to "Become Your Best Self".
 8. Fill the entire page (very little white space left showing).

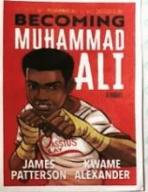
Rubric: (One-Pager)

Grade	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project demonstrates solid understanding of the novel/research. All required elements are clear and obvious. All directions are thoroughly followed. No convention/grammar errors.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project demonstrates understanding of the novel/research. Required elements are present. All directions are followed. Few convention/grammar errors.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project somewhat demonstrates understanding of the novel/research. Some required elements are present. Directions are followed, with a few gaps. Some convention/grammar errors.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project shows little understanding of the novel/research. Little required elements are present. Difficult to tell what directions, if any, were followed. Convention errors/grammar distract from the project.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough to evaluate.

Student Sample

BECOMING MUHAMMAD ALI

By: James Patterson & Kwame Alexander



"Becoming Your Best Self"


Muhammad Ali embodies what it means to "Become Your Best Self" because he never gave up. As a poor, African-American boy growing up in the segregated South, the odds were stacked against him. He never let his circumstances, obstacles, or failures in the ring keep him from working towards his dreams. Rather, he used them to inspire him to work harder and become great!

Summary

Alexander and Patterson's novel, *Becoming Muhammad Ali*, tells the story of how Cassius Clay's childhood in the racial tension of Louisville, Ky, set the stage for who he became. The novel starts with the theft of his bike which inspired him to start boxing. As a poor kid, he wanted more out of life, and boxing was a way he thought he could achieve fame and wealth. He worked hard day and night to achieve his dream. After winning gold in the 1960 Olympics, he turned pro and went on to become the most famous boxer in history.

Characters

- Lucius (Lucky) - Narrator & Cassius Clay's friend
- Cassius Clay Jr. (Muhammad Ali) - Main Character & Protagonist




Setting

- Louisville, Kentucky
- 1954-1958
- Segregation & Jim Crow laws

Quote 1

"I am from 'Don't say you can't until you try" (28).



Quote 2

"Can't have delight if you don't see the dark" (225).