

Dear Parents and Students,

Summer provides the perfect opportunity for students and families to enjoy great books together! The goal of middle school summer reading is to foster a love of reading. Reading over the summer can also help students to maintain or even improve their reading skills.

This summer, the students will read **two books**. The rising 6th/7th graders will read *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London. They will complete the attached assignment for the book. The students all have a copy of the book as well.

The second book will be their choice from our [‘Battle of the Books’ list](#) - they have already chosen this book in class, and should have a copy (we gave them copies at school). For this book, students will just need to read the book, but also understand that their first assignment in the fall will be to complete a ‘Book Talk’ on their chosen book. We will be discussing the books and the ‘Book Talk’ expectations during the first week back to school. Those who have already presented ‘Book Talks’ in my class could begin preparations as they read, but they will receive a refresher that first week.

I am so looking forward to teaching your students next year. Have a wonderful summer!

Best,

Miss Moffet

Assignment:

Read the book: "The Call of the Wild" by Jack London.

Reflective Journal: Keep a journal to record your thoughts, reactions, and insights as you read. Write at least two entries per chapter, summarizing the events and reflecting on the emotions and motivations of the characters. Additionally, identify significant quotes that stood out to you and explain why you found them interesting.

After Reading: Choose ONE of the following activities to complete.

Character Analysis:

- a. Choose three main characters from the book (e.g., Buck, John Thornton, or Spitz).
- b. Create a character profile for each character, including their physical appearance, personality traits, and motivations. Provide textual evidence to support your analysis.
- c. Write a comparative analysis, highlighting the similarities and differences between the chosen characters.

Theme Exploration:

- a. Identify at least two major themes in "The Call of the Wild" (e.g., survival, primal instincts, or the human-animal connection).
- b. For each theme, provide specific examples from the book and explain how they contribute to the overall message or lesson conveyed by the author.
- c. Discuss your personal interpretation of the themes and how they relate to real-life situations or experiences.

Setting Description:

- a. Describe the primary settings depicted in the book, such as the Klondike region or the wilderness. Include details about the physical environment, climate, and the impact of these settings on the characters' experiences.
- b. Illustrate one scene from the book that best represents the setting. Provide a detailed drawing or a visual representation accompanied by a written explanation of its significance.

****Optional Extension Activity:****

Engage in an outdoor adventure or nature-related activity inspired by the book. This could include hiking, camping, or observing wildlife in your local area. Document your experience through photographs, drawings, or a written reflection.

Submission Guidelines:

Please submit your completed journal and choice activity when you return to school in the fall. The optional extension activity should be included separately, if completed.

Remember to enjoy the journey with Buck and embrace the wild as you explore the captivating world created by Jack London. Have a fantastic summer reading experience!

