

**THE SELWYN SCHOOL**  
**SUMMER REQUIRED ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR STUDENTS ENTERING SIXTH GRADE**

As an integral part of Selwyn’s Middle School program, we strive to ensure that all of our students are actively reading, writing, and thinking during the summer break.

All students entering 6th grade must read ***The Eye of Ra by Ben Gartner*** and write a report over the book. The book report should follow the formatting instructions on the information sheet. This book report should be turned in on the first day of class. We will work with this book throughout the first several weeks of school.

**BOOK REPORT FORMAT FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup>, AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**APPEARANCE**

If Handwritten: Reports should be in cursive that is neat and legible. Both left and right margins should be observed and all paragraphs should be indented. You should skip a line in-between paragraphs and do not write on the bottom line on the page. Use both sides of the paper.

If Typed: Typewritten reports should be in black ink using a 12-point font such as Calibri, Ariel, or Times New Roman. The report should be double spaced with no extra spacing between paragraphs and can be printed either on either one or both sides of the paper.

**COVER PAGE**

The report should have a separate cover page that contains your name, the date (month, year) and the following information:

- Title of Book
- Genre
- Copyright Year
- Author
- Publisher
- A relevant graphic

**INTRO PARAGRAPH**

The introductory paragraph should focus on the author and include information such as personal background and their importance as a writer. Avoid statements such as “This book report is about . . .” or “I am writing about . . .”

**SUMMARY**

The next paragraph should be a summary of the plot. You should include the book’s title, the setting, main characters, and basic action of the book. Hit the highlights and main events without giving a complete retelling of the story.

**ANALYSIS**

Include an analysis paragraph for each of the following topics. Use good detail and include examples from the book to support your opinion.

- What theme did you see in this book? Explain the theme and give at least three specific examples of the theme in the book.

- Pick an interesting or meaningful quote from the book to analyze. Include the meaning and context of the quote and why you found it interesting or important.
- What lesson is the author trying to teach?
- Your personal response to the book which includes your favorite and least favorite characters and why, and your favorite and least favorite part of the book and why.

## **CONCLUSION**

Your closing paragraph should state your overall impression of the book, whether or not you recommend this book to others, and what type of reader would enjoy the book. Be sure to explain why you feel the way that you do. The conclusion should also include any awards the author won for the book, and may also include reviews of the book. For example, you may write “The *New York Times* calls this the year’s best book.” This shows that many other people enjoyed the book, too.