



Summer Reading List for Rising 7th Graders 2019

7th grade students will need to read **two** required books.

They will read and complete an assignment for *Home of the Brave* by Katherine Applegate and *Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain*

The assignments will be due on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Teachers will follow up with additional meaningful discussions and assignments in class once school resumes, and this may include a quiz on the material.

Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate

Kek comes from Africa where he lived with his mother, father, and brother. But only he and his mother have survived. Now she's missing, and Kek has been sent to a new home. In America, he sees snow for the first time, and feels its sting. He wonders if the people in this new place will be like the winter—cold and unkind. But slowly he makes friends: a girl in foster care, an old woman with a rundown farm, and a sweet, sad cow that reminds Kek of home. As he waits for word of his mother's fate, Kek weathers the tough Minnesota winter by finding warmth in his new friendships, strength in his memories, and belief in his new country.

Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain - Author: John Fleischman

Science writer John Fleischman uses a clipped, engaging expository style to tell the incredible story of the railroad worker who, in 1848, survived the piercing blast of a 13-pound iron rod as it entered below his cheekbone and exited the front of his skull.

The assignment for *Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain* will be STREAM activities that will be completed during the first weeks of school.

Assignment for Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate

Of all the things I didn't know about America, this is the most amazing: I didn't know there would be so many tribes from all over the world. How could I have imagined the way they walk through world side by side without fear all free to gaze at the same sky with the same hopes? America, the land of hope.

To Chinese immigrants in the late 1800s it was called the "Golden Mountain." At the turn of the 20th century, Jews from Eastern European countries called it the "Golden Medina." In the displaced person's camp that Kek was sent to they called America "Heaven on Earth." [Page 25] Regardless of what it is called, poor oppressed immigrants envisage America as the place to go to escape oppressors, find riches, and create a new life.

Assignment

Draw and cut out of the United States map outline on a poster board. It should not be a small sized map.

On the map, create a collage of pictures, quotes, idioms, symbols of Kek's life in Sudan and the US. Think about Kek, Ganwar, and Hannah's actions and life situations and how they kept moving forward. Remember that your map should be colorful, creative and capture the spirit of the book.