



# East Hamilton Middle School

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Dr. Justin McCulley  
Principal

Dr. Joey Bird  
Assistant Principal

Dr. Ashley Cox  
Assistant Principal

Mr. Steve Garland  
Assistant Principal

EHMS Students and Families,

We hope everyone enjoys a safe and restful summer break, but we also want our students to return prepared for a year of challenge and high achievement! We believe reading is a powerful tool that makes the world a better place. Reading has been proven to improve writing, increase empathy, expand vocabulary, boost students' reading achievement, and build background knowledge. We also believe there is no better time for students to engage in independent reading – to get lost in a book – than during summer break!

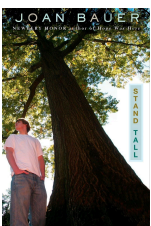
Therefore, **all students must read at least two (2) books this summer** – one assigned by the grade level and the other of their choice. Students must also **complete the one-page graphic organizer** (reverse) and an in-class assignment (comprehension test, graded discussion, etc.) to receive credit in ELA class. Parents, consider reading the book alongside your child, as books are a great way to start a discussion!

**"I am, We are, East Hamilton!"**



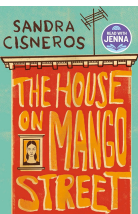
**6th Grade:** *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (Amazon: 6.78)

Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run—and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.



**7th Grade:** *Stand Tall* by Joan Bauer (Amazon: \$9.59)

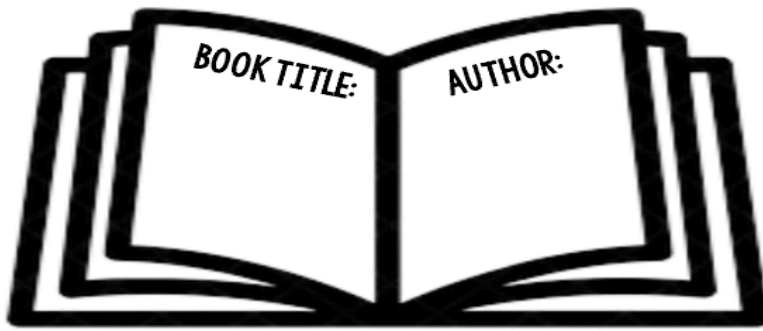
Tree, a six-foot-three-inch twelve-year-old, copes with his parents' recent divorce and his failure as an athlete by helping his grandfather, a Vietnam vet and recent amputee, and Sophie, a new girl at school.



**8th Grade:** *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros (Amazon: \$7.33)

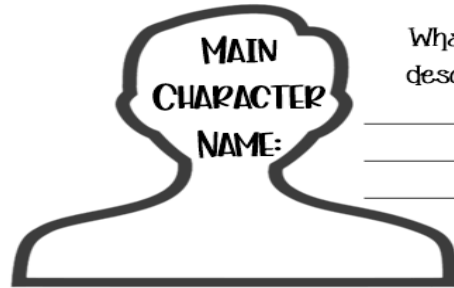
"The House on Mango Street" by Sandra Cisneros is a coming-of-age novel told through vignettes, following Esperanza Cordero, a young Latina girl, as she navigates life in a Chicago barrio. The story explores themes of identity, belonging, gender roles, and the immigrant experience, focusing on Esperanza's yearning for a better life and a more beautiful home beyond Mango Street.

# REQUIRED READING ONE-PAGER



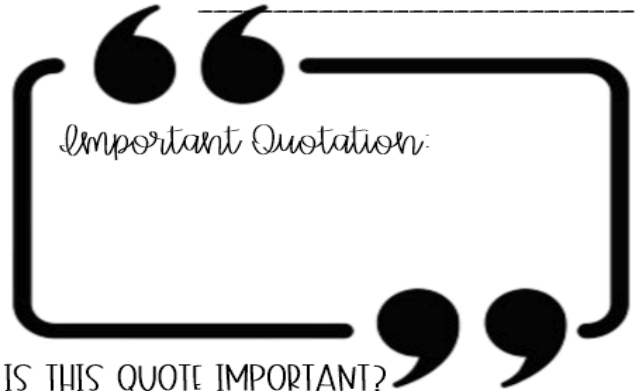
## SETTING

Describe when & where the story occurs?



MAIN  
CHARACTER  
NAME:

What words would you use to describe the main character?



Important Quotation:

WHY IS THIS QUOTE IMPORTANT?

Draw three (3) images that represent the Beginning, Middle, and End events of the story?



Create two (2) thought-provoking questions about the text. Answer each question & provide text evidence (including page #).

Question 1	Answer 1

Question 2	Answer 2

Choose the emoji that best represents your feelings after reading the book.



In 3 – 5 sentences, state your opinion of the book. What did you like/dislike? Why?

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What big ideas (themes) are present in this book?

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## CHOICE BOOK READING RESPONSE



Choose one (1) of the main characters from the book.

How has this character changed throughout the book? What events caused the character to change?