

Rising 6th Grade Summer Assignments

A note to parents:

Summer is a time for rest, fun, and making memories—and we hope your child enjoys every bit of it! While we want students to soak up the joys of summer, we also want to help them avoid the common “summer slump,” when key academic skills fade during the break.

There's no need for stress—just a little steady review can make a big difference in your child's success and confidence when school begins. The key word here is **steady**. Approaching summer work in one large chunk right before school begins will likely produce anxiety and stress for both student and parent. We want students to have a well-paced, piece-by-piece review so they can build confidence and enter 6th grade prepared for what's ahead.

To help your child feel confident and ready for 6th grade, we recommend beginning your academic review about four weeks before school starts. This gentle reintroduction helps spark recall of important concepts and sets the stage for a strong start in the fall. Below you will find the required summer assignments for your rising 6th grader for both reading and math, as well as a recommended pacing guide.

Your support at home is so valuable and greatly appreciated!

Emma Flaughner

(6th grade math and ELA teacher)

MATH:

Task 1: IXL summer boost skill plan for rising 6th graders:

IXL is an online learning platform that offers personalized practice in math and English language arts, helping students build skills at their own pace. It provides immediate feedback and step-by-step explanations to support learning and boost confidence. We will use this learning platform all year to provide tailored instruction to your child at their level.

In order to access the IXL summer boost skills, you can click the live link in the table below OR go to the IXL app or website (<https://www.ixl.com/>), login using your child's IXL login from 5th grade, and enter a 3-character skill code in the search box (see the following chart for skill codes). This is the fastest way to locate each skill on their 6th grade summer boost plan. The best part: your child will not need to turn anything in when we return to school; all scores will be saved in your child's account.

For each skill, students should work toward a SmartScore of 80 or higher (80 is considered proficiency, 100 is considered mastery). You may use the following skill chart to check off each one as it is completed. If your child does not know their IXL login information from 5th grade, please contact the school office.

IXL Skills:

Day	Skill	Skill code	Completed
1	Multiply by 2-digit numbers: complete the missing steps	9LX	
2	Write numerical expressions for word problems	NF5	
3	Relationship between decimal place values	DVM	
4	Multi-step word problems: multiplicative comparison	V59	
5	Add and subtract mixed numbers: word problems	6BH	

6	Estimate quotients: 2-digit divisors	EFW	
7	Compare, order, and round decimals: word problems	2MV	
8	Multiply two fractions: word problems	38Y	
9	Complete the division sentence: 2-digit divisors	HMZ	
10	Add and subtract money: multi-step word problems	MCG	
11	Divide unit fractions and whole numbers	SPB	
12	Create and interpret line plots with fractions	XBS	
13	Volume of rectangular prisms made of unit cubes: word problems	QMA	
14	Add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions and mixed numbers: word problems	APD	
15	Divide by decimals without adding zeros	RTS	
16	Identify mistakes involving the order of operations	JLJ	
17	Interpret bar graphs: multi-step	DGY	

	problems		
18	Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals: word problems	7SX	
19	Area of rectangles with fractions and mixed numbers	PMV	
20	Graph points on a coordinate plane	AST	

Task 2: fact fluency practice

Almost everything we do in 6th grade math requires knowledge of multiplication facts. Students who do not know them well are at a distinct disadvantage all year. Even those who know them should continue to review them over the summer to avoid forgetting them. Research shows that just 5 mins a day can significantly impact fact recall. Thankfully, there are many ways to review; some as simple as flashcards during a car ride or a fun app on your phone or tablet. Below are some favorite ways to practice math facts over the summer:

99math.com

<https://mathigon.org/activities>

<https://app.mathfactlab.com>

<https://www.factmonster.com/games>

Non-tech ideas:

- Multiplication War Using a Deck of Cards – If you are unfamiliar with the card game, War, let me provide the basics. The entire deck is dealt among 2 players. Students will simultaneously flip their first card from what they were dealt. In a non-math game, the highest card wins and gets to take the opponent's card. In this math fact game, the student who answers the product of the 2 cards, takes all the cards. The game is over when one player has no more cards to play.
- Buy these inexpensive [flash cards](#) and keep them in your cup holder or glovebox in the car. Take turns quizzing each other on car trips.

READING:

Task 1: Read *at least* two books of your choice over the course of the summer, keeping in mind the following guidelines:

- Must be at your reading level
- Must be a chapter book (no graphic novels or Diary of a Wimpy Kid please)
- Must capture your interest!

For suggestions, see [this reading list](#). As always, use discretion when making book selections as the content can get more mature the older the readers become.

[PluggedIn](#) is a great resource for vetting books.

Why reading matters:

Reading boosts academic performance across all subjects.

A study by the *National Endowment for the Arts* found that students who read for pleasure perform better not just in reading and writing, but also in math and science.

➤ *The more kids read, the better they do in school overall.*

Frequent reading improves vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking.

Research from the *University of California, Berkeley* found that reading regularly exposes children to 50% more rare vocabulary than watching television or having conversations.

➤ *More words = stronger thinkers and better writers.*

Reading strengthens the brain and builds long-term focus.

Studies using brain scans (e.g., by Carnegie Mellon University) show that reading actually rewires the brain to improve attention, memory, and cognitive flexibility.

➤ *Reading helps kids concentrate longer and process information better.*

Task 2: Select your favorite of the books you read, and design your “book talk” [using this graphic organizer and checklist](#). Please print the linked pages and fill them out. The first week of school, we will all give our “book talks” where we’ll convince each other to read our books!