

**Humanities and Communication Magnet Program
Eastern Middle School
300 University Boulevard, East
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-650-6650**

June 2019

Dear Humanities 6 Students,

Welcome to the 6th Grade Humanities and Communication Magnet Program at Eastern Middle School. We are so excited to share a year of learning new things, making new friends, and self-discovery. To help with your middle school transition, we have planned summer tours to introduce you to our building. Information on the dates and times of these tours is included in this packet. This will give you a chance to meet other students and learn new skills. We have students from many schools in the county, and want to help foster new and lasting friendships as well as acquaint you with the Eastern experience. We know that 6th grade will be a lot of work, but a very rewarding year to remember! Please sign up for one of the tours below. There is always a tour on a week that you have Summer Media Institute for your convenience.

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| July 2, 2019 | Tuesday | 9:30-11:30 a.m. |
| July 10, 2019 | Wednesday | 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| July 19, 2019 | Friday | 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| July 23, 2019 | Tuesday | 9:30-11:30 a.m. |
| July 25, 2019 | Thursday | 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| July 31, 2019 | Wednesday | 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| August 7, 2019 | Wednesday | 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| August 14, 2019 | Wednesday | 9:30-11:30 a.m. |
| August 20, 2019 | Tuesday | 9:30-11:30 a.m. |

Mrs. Rowe- Humanities English
[Tanya M Rowe@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Tanya_M_Rowe@mcpsmd.org)

I am happy to be celebrating my 13th year at Eastern Middle School. We are about to embark on a year full of adventure and learning. This summer I will be going to Chicago as well as visiting as many beaches as possible while spending time with family and friends. Over the summer, I will also conduct summer tours to acquaint rising 6th graders to the school. At Eastern, I am the Drama Director. Last year, we produced *High School Musical*, a talent show as well as *Twelfth Night*. Drama is alive and thriving at Eastern Middle School! Hopefully you will consider joining our dynamic drama productions for next school year. I recently returned from an amazing trip to Costa Rica, and enjoyed white water rafting, kayaking and even zip lining! It was fun practicing my Spanish, eating amazing fruit and learning about a Latino culture. I hope you enjoy your summer and time resting up for a busy school year! I can't wait to meet you and hear all about your summer. Pura Vida!

Mrs. Ray, Literature in the Humanities

Michelle_Ray@mcpsmd.org

Hello! I'm Mrs. Ray, the Literature teacher. I will be spending some of the summer traveling and seeing the local cultural points of interest. I cannot wait to reconnect with friends and family, and also to have new adventures. Besides reading, writing, and seeing movies, I am most looking forward to directing a musical at a local sleepaway camp. I look forward to reading fantastic books with you and exploring new ways of writing and thinking. I hope you enjoy your summer and can't wait to meet you all. See you soon!

Mr. Towson, Humanities Media

Nicholas_P_Towson@mcpsmd.org

Happy summer everyone! My name is Mr. Towson and this is my 6th year working at Eastern Middle school, and my 11th year teaching. I am excited to be your Media teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. This summer I will be spending a lot of time preparing for our upcoming school year but also spending a lot of time with my wife and two sons Grant and Jake. Grant is four and Jake will be three in September. This summer we are going to go to the beach, play at the pool, and do all sorts of exciting day ventures, like going to the zoo. I am looking forward to working with you all at the Summer Media Institute! I hope you all have a great summer and are energized and excited for Humanities Media 6!

Ms. Alicia Hall, Humanities World Studies

alicia_m_hall@mcpsmd.org

Greetings! My name is Ms. Hall and I will be your World Studies teacher at Eastern next year! This coming fall is the start of my 17th year teaching Social Studies in MCPS and my second year teaching 6th grade Humanities World Studies at Eastern. Our class will trace and analyze the development of several ancient civilizations in the Eastern Hemisphere. We will examine how geographic characteristics, political systems, social systems, and economic systems shape human societies. We will also explore modern events and trends in relation to past patterns in world history. I plan to spend the summer with family and friends, garden, read a lot of sci-fi, and watch as many superhero movies as possible. I can't wait to hear about your summer adventures when we meet in a couple months. I am so excited to work with all of you!

Attached are the summer assignments for your Humanities classes. If you have any questions about an assignment, please contact the teacher directly, using the emails in this letter. The reading thermometer is an optional assignment. This is a great opportunity to track your reading over the summer. Any of the required readings for English or Reading can be purchased, or a copy can be provided by Eastern Middle School. If you need to borrow a book, please contact Mrs. Goldstein, the magnet program secretary, at 301-650-6654. Students must also complete the math packet, which will be posted online. The math packet is due the first day of school. See you in September!

Sincerely,
The 6th Grade Humanities Team

Humanities English 6 Summer Assignment 2019

Mrs. Rowe

[Tanya M Rowe@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Tanya_M_Rowe@mcpsmd.org)

Gathering Blue

Over the summer, please read *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry. This book will be used to anchor our opening units in Literature, English, and World Studies.

Below are the assignments that you need to do with this novel. All assignments are due on the first day of class. All assignments submitted after the first week of school will lose 10%. **The deadline is the Friday of the second week of school.**

1. Write me a friendly letter introducing yourself. I would love to hear all about you in this letter. Make it about a page typed. You can even include a picture, and any information you think I should know about you as you transition to middle school.
2. Decorate a composition book to serve as your warm up/poetry journal. Cover this journal with clear contact paper or a journal cover. This journal will be used all year in English. Include an original title that represents you and at least five pictures on the cover that show who you are. Cover your pictures with clear packing tape to help them stay attached. You can decorate your journal how you wish. Write your first and last name on the front of the journal in the right corner in permanent marker.
3. Write an original poem in your poetry journal. Choose a theme that is in *Gathering Blue*. Write a poem that has the same theme. Include in your poem at least three examples of figurative language, a title, five stanzas, and an illustration of your poem (please color.) You can use the computer for pictures. Please label your figurative language.

Summer Assignment

English, Literature in the Humanities + World Studies

Mrs. Ray -- Michelle.Ray@mcpsmd.org & Ms. Hall -- alicia.m.hall@mcpsmd.org

The purpose for reading **Gathering Blue** by Lois Lowry and completing this chart is to get you to think about the structure of the main character's society (how people organize themselves so they can live together). Because we do cross-curricular studies (meaning my class is connected to the other courses), we want you thinking about topics you will cover in Literature, English, and World Studies.

The chart might have words that you don't know. If so, look them up! You might not know what to put in a section or two, and that's okay. Make your best guess. You will notice that the spaces are very small. This is intentional. **Please do not try to fit every bit of information in the little boxes. Full sentences are not needed. In most cases, bulleted information is better.**

We will look to see if you've put in some time and effort, and we will use this chart for discussion in groups and as a class upon your return. **Due on the 2nd day of school.**

If you need a copy of the book, please contact Eastern's Magnet Office: via phone at 301-650-6654 or leslie.m.goldstein@mcpsmd.org

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Main characters | Main conflict | What makes the protagonist special? |
| What makes the antagonist so bad? | Family composition | Living quarters |
| Occupations – types, how decided | Technology | Rituals |
| Personal choice/freedom | Communication [How is it done?] | Punishment |

Humanities Media Production 6 Summer Assignment

Mr. Towson

Nicholas_P_Towson@mcpsmd.org

How Does Green Screen Work?

Important: Students attending the Summer Media Institute will complete this assignment during the summer program. The assignment is due on the first day of school for students who do not attend the Summer Media Institute.



You will need to visit the website: <http://www.videomaker.com/article/17026-how-does-green-screen-work> and to complete a web quest based on: How Does Green Screen Work.

Directions:

Go to the above website.

Answer the questions on the following page in your own words.

Return the completed questions on first day of school to Mr. Towson.

Name _____ Date _____

How Does Green Screen Work?

Directions: Answer the following questions accurately in sentence form using the provided link.
<http://www.videomaker.com/article/17026-how-does-green-screen-work>

1. What is the keying process? Explain how it works.

2. Why the color green? What other colors can be used? What is the biggest factor in terms of color?

3. What three basic tools are needed? How is it set up?

4. Why is proper lighting important?

5. Draw a lighting diagram showing where the subject's shadows should be located:

6. Why is it important to lock down your camera?

7. Why is it important to properly frame your subject and keep them in focus?

8. What is the best video footage ratio for keying? Explain.

Humanities World Studies 6
Summer Assignment 2018
Ms. Alicia Hall, Humanities World Studies
Alicia.m.hall@mcpsmd.net

This summer you are reading Lois Lowry's *Gathering Blue*. Complete the assignment below in preparation for the first unit of Humanities World Studies 6. It is **due** on the second day of class (9/4). There is a letter grade/10% off penalty for work submitted late. The deadline is the Friday of the second week of school (9/13).

Annotated Glossary

Gathering Blue illustrates several social studies concepts that we will discuss this year. To help you prepare to work with nine of these concepts, you will create an annotated glossary.

Step 1: Using a dictionary (online or print) of your choosing, look up the following terms and **write definitions below in your own words**.

Step 2: For each term, **provide at least ONE example from *Gathering Blue***. Whenever possible use a direct quote and include the page number(s). However, you may paraphrase rather than quoting and synthesize key information if the related text is lengthy.

One entry has been provided as an exemplar. Write neatly or type.

| Concept | Definition (in my own words) | Example from <i>Gathering Blue</i> |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| 1) natural resource | Something found in nature that can be used by people to make the things that they need or want. | "Bedstraw," she said, pointing to a tall plant massed with golden blossoms. The roots give good read. Madder's better for reds, though. There's my madder over behind." She pointed again, and Kira say a sprawling, weedy plant in a raised bed. --p. 91 |
| 2) human geographic features | | |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| 3) occupation | | |
| 4) Social hierarchy | | |
| 5) artifact | | |
| 6) government | | |
| 7) rule of law | | |

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|------------------|--|--|
| 8) ritual | | |
| 9) artisan | | |
| 10) gender roles | | |
| 11) literacy | | |