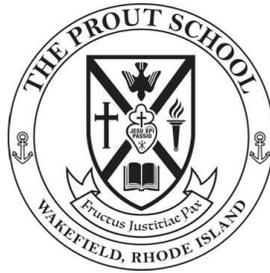


# Prout School Summer Reading 2017



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Prout School encourages students and families to continue reading during the summer months. Literacy research has shown that students often tend to experience the “summer slide” which is a slowing down in reading abilities, vocabulary, comprehension, and focus. This phenomenon is a tendency for students to lose some of the achievement gains they made the previous school year by not reading over the summer. This summer slide will frequently cause students to be less prepared for the academic expectations for the next school year. We want ALL students to have the same chance for academic success from the very first day of school!

Summer reading matters in other ways, too. “Reading empowers critical thinking skills. It can enhance empathy and lead to greater understanding of people who are different from ourselves, and it can help us appreciate other points of view”. (California Library Association) When parents/guardians are able to read the books their children have been assigned for summer reading, the experience can foster wonderful family discussions and build great reading memories. Familial modeling the importance of year round reading will encourage teenagers in becoming lifelong readers.

Reading is an important part of everyday life! The more our students read, the better readers they will be. If you have any questions pertaining to the summer reading, please feel free to contact Miss Mary Hoyt: [mhoyt@theproutschool.org](mailto:mhoyt@theproutschool.org).





Answer these questions using complete sentences on separate paper.

1. For what does Kim wish as she looks at the photograph of her father? How does Kim perceive her father?
2. Describe the place where Kim goes to plant her seeds. Why do you think she chooses this place?
3. How does Kim feel when she thinks of her father?
4. Explain why Kim has chosen to plant bean seeds.
5. What does Ana believe Kim is doing in the vacant lot? What does this tell you about Ana's character?
6. How does Ana discover her mistake regarding what Kim is doing? Why do you think she reacts this way?
7. Why is Wendell angry that Ana calls him?
8. Why do you think Kim is afraid when she sees Wendell?

Gonzalo – Leona

Vocabulary: Define each of the following words

- Equation
- *Bodega*
- Pueblo
- Gestures
- Trowel
- Troughs
- Citizens
- Maggots
- Receptionist

Answer these questions using complete sentences on a separate paper.

1. How does Gonzalo learn to speak English?
2. How does Gonzalo feel about his father and uncle?
3. What happens to Gonzalo's uncle? Where does he go?
4. How does Gonzalo's uncle react when he reentered the vacant lot?
5. Why do you think Gonzalo's uncle is able to be happy when in the vacant lot?
6. What is Leona's problem with the vacant lot? How does she plan to solve the problem?
7. What is Leona's ultimate realization about the vacant lot? What does she do? Do you agree with her actions? Why or why not?

## **Sam – Virgil**

**Vocabulary: Define the following words.**

- **Herring**
- **Occupation**
- **Pacifism**
- **Compromised**
- **Spigot**
- **Crowning**
- **Pecking**
- **Plantation**
- **Myths**
- **Goddess**

**Answer these questions using complete sentences on a separate paper.**

1. **What does Sam think of when he sees the men clearing the vacant lot?**
2. **According to Sam, what are the main problems in the garden? (name 4)**
3. **Why does Virgil’s father wake him up early the morning after school is out? What is he planning to do?**
4. **What does Virgil find while clearing the spots in the garden? How is this item important?**
5. **Why is Virgil embarrassed after he and his father plant the lettuce?**
6. **What is the outcome of Virgil’s father’s plan to make money from the lettuce plants? How does this make Virgil and his father feel?**

## **Sae Young – Curtis**

**Vocabulary: Define the following words.**

- **Alterations**
- **Interrupt**
- **Sprouts**
- **Pecs**
- **Deeds**
- **Blight**
- **Fertilizer**
- **Sharecropper**
- **Billiard**

**Answer these questions using complete sentences on a separate paper.**

- 1. What happens to Sae Young after she moves to America?**
- 2. How does the garden help Sae Young?**
- 3. Sae Young correctly identifies Kim's nationality, unlike Wendell. Why do you think this is so?**
- 4. Describe the contest that Sam hosts. How does Sae Young contribute? How does it make her feel?**
- 5. Why did Lateesha, Curtis's girlfriend, leave him? How does he plan to get her back?**
- 6. How does Curtis treat his tomato plants? How do others respond to this?**
- 7. Whom does Curtis ask to protect his tomato plants?**

**Amir – Florence**

**Vocabulary: Define the following words.**

- **Vast**
- **Foes**
- **Eerie**
- **Exploit**
- **Spit**
- **Homesteaded**
- **Arthritis**
- **Sampler**
- **Idle**

**Answer these questions using complete sentences on a separate paper.**

- 1. How does Amir compare and contrast India and America?**
- 2. In what ways does the garden change Amir's opinion about the neighborhood?**
- 3. How are Amir's beliefs about each kind of person challenged in the garden?**
- 4. Whom does Amir meet at the barbecue? How does he react? How does the other person respond? How would you have reacted in this situation?**
- 5. Why does Florence appreciate the garden so much?**
- 6. What happens to the garden during the fall? How does this make Florence feel?**
- 7. What is Florence's greatest fear about the garden? Why do you think this worries her so much?**

**Afterword: From Seed to Seedfolks**

**Vocabulary: Define the following words.**

- **Affliction**
- **Serendipity**
- **Tabloid**

- Camaraderie
- Monologues
- Aversion
- Presaging
- Baron
- Propagation
- Vigilance
- Aria
- Invective
- Pillaging
- Waived
- Solace
- Altruism
- Potent

Answer these questions using complete sentences on a separate paper.

1. How did the author get the idea for *Seedfolks*?
2. How does the author compare writers and gardeners?
3. What does the author mean when he says using an idea that is ready-made is like

