**7th Grade Summer Assignment**

June 2021

Dear incoming 7th graders,

In order to prepare for 7th grade, we ask that you read the following book. This summer assignment will help prepare you for our first unit of the school year. In the fall, we will read short stories together and focus on character analysis.

# ***America Street: A Multicultural Anthology of Stories* (April 23, 2019)** by [Anne Mazer](https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Mazer/e/B000APR3OG/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1) (Editor), [Brice Particelli](https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_2?ie=UTF8&field-author=Brice+Particelli&text=Brice+Particelli&sort=relevancerank&search-alias=books) (Editor)

* ISBN-10 : 0892554916
* ISBN-13 : 978-0892554911

Either a digital or paper version of the book is acceptable.

**During Reading Directions:**

* As you read, record at least 2 annotations per story.
* Below are some questions to guide your annotations.
* To record your annotations, please make a copy of this document and type your annotations on the attached graphic organizer. If you are not able to type your annotations, please print this graphic organizer and hand write them.

* **Guiding Questions for Annotations:**
* What do you notice about the setting of the story? How does the setting impact the characters?
* What do you notice about the character’s identity?
* What do you think is most important to the characters? What do they value?
* What do you notice about the relationship(s) that the character has?
* What conflicts does the character face?
* What issues come up in the story?
* What do you notice about how the author chose to write the story? For example: Why did the author set the story in the specific time and place that they chose? Why did the author choose to include certain conversations between characters?
* Are there moments in the story that you find particularly powerful? Why?
* What connections do you notice between the stories?

**After Reading Directions:**

* One of our goals this year is for you to read stories that serve as both “mirrors and windows.” The phrase “mirrors and windows” was first introduced by [Emily Styl](https://nationalseedproject.org/curriculum-as-window-and-mirror)e in 1988. A mirror is a story that reflects your own culture and helps you build your own identity. In a mirror story, you can find yourself, your family, and your community reflected and valued. Alternatively, a window is a resource that offers you a view into *someone else’s* experience.
* Please answer each of the following questions in one paragraph (6-10 sentences). Please type your responses. Please see page 9.
  + **Question #1: Mirror**
    - Write about a moment in one of the stories that served as a mirror for you. Explain why this character, scene, situation, choice, or issue resonated with you.
  + **Question #2: Window:** 
    - Write about a moment in one of the stories that served as a window for you. Explain why this character, scene, situation, choice, or issue helped you understand someone else’s experience better or in a new way.

Have a great summer! We can’t wait to meet you and learn with you in the Fall!

Sincerely,

7th Grade Humanities Teachers

**Graphic Organizer to Record Annotations While Reading**

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**After Reading -- Short Responses**

Please see page 2 for further directions.

**Question #1: Mirror**

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**Question #2: Window**

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