

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## PABLO CASALS MIDDLE SCHOOL 181

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Christopher Warnock Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope that your upcoming summer vacation is enjoyable and safe. We expect our students to maintain their literacy skill level during this time. To achieve this goal, the Pablo Casals 181 Literacy Department has mandated summer assignments.

The reading comprehension activities in this packet are based on the following novels:

### A Summer Life by Gary Soto

All assignments can be found on the following site;

http://welcometo181.weebly.com

Your child's literacy teacher will collect the summer work the second week of school. This is an essential first step on the path to success at MS 181. The assessments will constitute an important part of the first marking period grade and it is essential that your child complete all summer assignments and submit them on time!

Have a wonderful summer vacation. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kirrane, Assistant Principal, Literacy

# A Summer Life by Gary Soto - Grade 7 Summer Reading Assignments

Part 1 – Graphic Organizers – Choose a different short story in <u>A Summer Life</u> for each of the following:

- 1. Complete the "My Questioning Tower" graphic organizer based upon ONE short story in the book.
- 2. Choose 1 character that you have read about. Complete the "Character I.D." graphic organizer.
- 3. Choose 1 character from the short stories you have read about in <u>A</u> <u>Summer Life</u>. Complete the "Character Web".
- 4. Choose one short story and complete the "Plot Graph" graphic organizer.

Part 2 - Respond to three of the following prompts. You <u>must</u> choose a different short story for each response. Identify which story you have chosen. Respond to each prompt on a separate piece of paper.

- 1. Pick a scene in which you disagreed how a character handled a situation/person and rewrite it in the way you think it should have happened.
- 2. How would the story be different if told through another character's eyes?
- Explain a character's problem and then offer your character advice on how to solve his/her problem.
- 4. Why do you think the author wrote this story? What is the author's purpose? What lesson can be learned from reading this story?

# What do you already know about this topic? Is this text fiction or non-fiction? How do Things to think about and answer What predictions can you make at this What questions do you have right now? BEFORE reading: you know?

# My Questioning Tower

Things to think about and answer DURING reading:

What has happened so far?

Can you summarize what has happened? What are you wondering now?

What is the most important idea so far? What new facts have you discovered?

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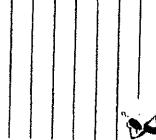
# Things to think about and answer

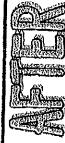
AFTER reading:

What were the main ideas or themes of Were any of your predictions correct? this text?

What connections did you make while reading? What are you still wondering about?

Will you recommend this text to someone







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