

Dear Incoming Sixth Graders,



Congratulations on your promotion to 6th grade here at Pearl Junior High School! We are looking forward to a year filled with reading, novel conversations, group activities, and achievements in language arts. We are certain that you will be able to balance your fun summer activities with your required assignments so that you are ready for the beginning of the school year.

In alignment with the Mississippi College- and Career-readiness Standards, we have chosen **Bud, Not Buddy**, written by Christopher Paul Curtis, as the summer reading novel for all English classes. You must have your own copy of this novel to read at home during the summer and to be used in class with assignments during the first nine weeks. This novel can be purchased online or at your local bookstore. The text, a Newbery Medal winner, is written at a **950 Lexile level**. This means that it is an appropriate, easily understood level for beginning sixth graders. Please be prepared for the beginning of school by answering the attached guided questions for the text. These questions will count as a minor grade, and they will help prepare you for classwork, class discussions, and ultimately, a test on the novel in the first weeks of school. We think that you will enjoy the book, so please give it a chance.

As you read, think about these guiding questions:

Bud keeps his suitcase of treasures with him at all times. Why are these things so important to him? How do they help him as he goes along on his journey? What are your treasures?

*Any student who requires extra reading support should have an adult read with him/her allowing the text to be read fluently. Reading together provides opportunities to hear good reading techniques and allows for conversations about characters, plot, setting, etc.

Bud, Not Bud Guided Comprehension Questions

1. How old was Bud when his momma died?
2. What is the name of Bud's best friend at the orphanage?
3. What is the most important thing Bud keeps in his suitcase?
4. Why does Bud always correct people when they call him Buddy?
5. What does Todd Amos do to Bud that makes him angry?
6. What does Bud do to get back at Todd Amos?
7. The Vampire Bat that Bud sees on the ceiling is really what?
8. As the library door closes, Bud remembers something his Momma used to say. What is it?
9. What happens in the Mission line?
10. Why did Bud like Civil War books?
11. What does Cardboard jungle refer to?
12. Who is the only white member of the band?
13. What is Grand Calloway Station?
14. Why was Steady Eddie Bud's favorite?
15. What is Bud's evidence that Herman E. Calloway is his father?
16. What finally convinced Herman E. Calloway that Bud might be his relative?
17. How does Mr. Calloway react when Bud tries to comfort him?
18. How is Mr. Calloway actually related to Bud?
19. What gift does the band give Bud?
20. What was Bud's band nickname?