

MOUNT DE SALES ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING 2026 - 2027



Sixth Grade

Each student entering the 6th grade must read one (1) book before he/she returns to school in August, 2026. The required novel is *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio. Please make sure that students read the book as it is vastly different than the movie.

In addition, students must complete the following activities for this novel:

Vocabulary Activities for *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio

Devote one section of a composition journal (any type) to **Vocabulary**. Define the following words using an online or book dictionary to assist in your reading experience.

Section 1 of the novel

petrified, anomalies, elective, literally, sarcastically, forewarned

Section 2 of the novel

apprentice, technically, deeds, mortally, aversion, classify

Section 3 on the novel

noble, disproportionately, dynamics, meticulously, bitterly, emphatically

Section 4 of the novel

artifact, psyched, accusingly, morphed, shepherd, sympathetic

Section 5 of the novel

retrospect, impressionable, inclusion, stringent, prejudicial, resolute

Section 6 of the novel

dutifully, gravelly, unison, defensively, spitefully, taciturn

Section 7 on the novel

prude, remotely, euphoric, incantation, preserving, venture

Section 8 of the novel

seismic, polyphonic, quantifiable, keenness, verbosity, ruminating

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Writing Activities for *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio

Devote another section of your composition journal to **Writing**. Write two or three sentences in response to each question below:

1. Why has August never gone to school? Do you think he should?
2. August goes on a tour of the school and meets three students. In your opinion, which one would turn out to be a bully and why?
3. What does September's precept mean? "*When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind.*"
4. Why is Halloween a positive thing for August?
5. Did Via have a good first day of high school? Why or why not?
6. Who is Miranda and why did she call?
7. Jack seems to struggle with how he feels about August. What are the positive and negative reasons he gives about being ex-friends with him?
8. Who says, "Sometimes you don't have to mean to hurt someone to hurt them," and what does he or she mean by this statement?
9. Who does something to the class picture and what character traits does it show about that person?
10. At some point, August gets hearing aids. How does he feel about them in the beginning and towards the end of pages in this section?
11. How does August feel about going on the 5th Grade Nature Retreat?
12. Jack and August find themselves in trouble. What is the trouble and who helps them?
13. August lies to the teachers about not being able to remember the 7th graders' faces. Why do you think he did this?
14. What happens at the ceremony at school that shows a change from the beginning to the end of the school year?
15. Mr. Tushman says "Always try to be a little kinder than necessary." What does that mean to you?
16. The last part of the book, "You are a wonder," shows how the author came up with the title of the novel. Do you think *Wonder* is a good title for the novel? Why or why not?

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Bibliographic Information for Purchasing the Correct Edition

This book is available at Amazon.com. Local bookstores can also order this novel for our students. ISBN numbers for this novel are listed below:

***Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio**

ISBN-10 : 0375969020

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