



Middle School
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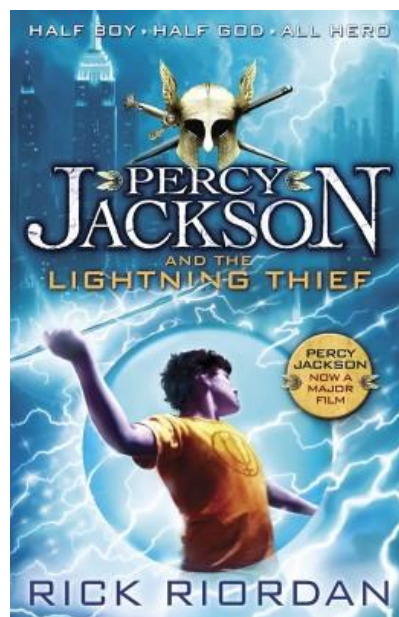
Dear 6th graders,

Welcome to Middle School Language Arts! The instructions for your summer assignment are outlined below.

This summer, you will journey through the world of Percy Jackson, a boy who discovers he is a demigod and is sent on a quest across America to find Zeus's stolen master bolt. You can purchase the book or use the linked [PDF](#).

As you read *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan, you will complete two ongoing tasks in a 50-page, B5-sized notebook: a **Notice & Note Signposts Journal** and a **Vocabulary Vault**.

- **First part of the notebook:** dedicated to the Notice & Note Signposts Journal (30 pages)
- **Second part of the notebook:** dedicated to the Vocabulary Vault (20 pages)









Task 1: Notice & Note Signposts Reading Strategy

Authors leave "signposts" in their stories to help readers understand the characters and themes.

Review the 6 different types of signposts on the following page. As you read, identify at least **twenty signposts** in total, and answer the corresponding questions.

Your journal entries will look like the template to the right.

Chapter 1
Signpost: <i>ex. Memory Moment</i>
Evidence : <i>"I remember the first time I heard the piano..." (p. 15)</i>
Question: <i>Why might this memory be important?</i> <i>(your answer)</i>

Signpost	What to look for...	The Question to Ask Yourself
 <p>CONTRASTS & CONTRADICTIONS</p>	A character acts in a way that is the opposite of how they usually act.	<i>Why is the character doing that?</i>
 <p>AHA! MOMENT</p>	A character suddenly realizes, understands, or finally figures something out.	<i>How might this change things?</i>
 <p>TOUGH QUESTIONS</p>	A character asks themselves a very difficult or confusing question.	<i>What does this make me wonder about?</i>
 <p>WORDS OF THE WISER</p>	An older or wiser character gives the protagonist serious advice.	<i>What is the life lesson, and how will it affect the character?</i>
 <p>AGAIN & AGAIN</p>	A word, phrase, or situation is repeated throughout the story.	<i>Why does the author keep repeating this?</i>
 <p>MEMORY MOMENT</p>	The author stops the action to tell you about a memory (flashback).	<i>Why might this memory be important?</i>

Notes:

- You are encouraged to purchase the book from a bookstore or order it online. You may also refer to the linked PDF.
- Try to keep your journal as neat and organized as possible, with clear handwriting.
- **Optional:** feel free to add drawings to your journal, to help you visualize the characters and mythological themes!

Task 2: Vocabulary Vault

Not only does Percy encounter living Greek myths, but readers are also introduced to powerful and sophisticated vocabulary. For **every chapter**, you must select **one word** that is new to you or used in an interesting way. You can write two or three words on each page.

For each word, include:

1. **The Word & Page Number:**
(e.g., *Symphony*, p. 12)
2. **Definition:** Look up the formal dictionary definition. You may use Dictionary.com or Vocabulary.com.
3. **Original Sentence:** Write a sentence of your own that uses the word correctly.

The Word & Page Number: (e.g., *Symphony*, p. 12)

Definition:

My sentence:

The Word & Page Number: (e.g., *Symphony*, p. 12)

Definition:

My sentence:

Summer Success Tips

- 1) **Pacing:** The book has 22 chapters. If you read **3 chapters a week**, you will finish with plenty of time to spare!
- 2) **Due Date:** Bring your completed notebook to the **first day of LA class**.

Have a wonderful summer filled with heroic adventures, and we will see you in September!

The 6th Grade Language Arts Team