

Dear student,

This year you will be required to read one common text that will be incorporated into both your ELA and social studies classes. It is called *Homeless Bird* by Gloria Whelan. Set in India, *Homeless Bird* is about a young girl named Koly who, like many girls her age, must leave her home forever. This book will immerse you in the customs and traditions of India while introducing you to a strong female character. You are also required to complete the project (detailed below) and bring it to school on August 2nd.

You are not restricted to reading this one book. We encourage you to read all summer long. Attached is a list of *suggested* books that you may read in addition to *Homeless Bird*. You may select titles on your own that are on your reading/grade level.

Final product/Assignment

The themes throughout *Homeless Bird* are revealed in the embroidery work that Koly stitches when making her quilts. Create a quilt block that Koly might have designed to symbolize or represent a theme of the book *Homeless Bird*. Write a paragraph that thoroughly explains the theme of the book and how the symbols/images in your design express that theme.

Your quilt block may be created using any materials you have accessible or that you prefer. There isn't one, specific way to make it. You may draw it on paper, create it using a computer (using google slides, for example, or a google document that you can print out), or use thread or paint on cloth. You must, however, write a paragraph that explains the symbols/images that you used to express a theme of the book *Homeless Bird*.