

Dear 6th Grade Parents and Students,

For the Spring Break, I am assigning Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, Children's Edition. The link to access the website to read online is available on Google Classroom and in Archie. Should you want your child to read a hard copy, I would suggest the Young Folks' Edition:

https://www.amazon.com/Uncle-Toms-Cabin-Young-Folks/dp/1520697570/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&dib_tag=se&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.-PTEPgk7fEGXU7YsK0sPG8P7pgvb0gqrQf_i5W3TMBJ3V-rM9O66aQ2o4dSHEo3ZdJISvQDf6QOTIIQCPxpzYUCz8F5LvCEHN0DVtRRPg3H7tzyAIQYgz12rFOtg593DMtMICn1T7hJ971yLNkLbP-QPXOvHvBu_agxuWnQdZMMFneEa9fVY9zzw8qDaiCM4rxULm802LpbHbTrfQutE-uXraZqcZ-nsx8c1ATHRR9g.nQjlcRhTyuG9kpg4jyGRfY11N0gusfy9xzPurdxsX0&qid=1708976398&sr=8-6

A short summary of this classic story:

Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly is an [anti-slavery](#) novel by American author [Harriet Beecher Stowe](#). Published in two [volumes](#) in 1852, the novel had a profound effect on attitudes toward African Americans and [slavery in the U.S.](#), and is said to have "helped lay the groundwork for the [American] Civil War".^{[1][2][3]}

Stowe, a [Connecticut](#)-born woman of [English descent](#), was part of the religious [Beecher family](#) and an active [abolitionist](#). She wrote the [sentimental novel](#) to depict the reality of slavery while also asserting that [Christian love](#) could overcome slavery.^{[4][5][6]} The novel focuses on the character of Uncle Tom, a long-suffering black [slave](#) around whom the stories of the other characters revolve.

In the United States, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was the best-selling novel and the second best-selling book of the 19th century, following the Bible.^{[7][8]} It is credited with helping fuel the abolitionist cause in the 1850s.^[9] The influence attributed to the book was so great that a likely [apocryphal](#) story arose of [Abraham Lincoln](#) meeting Stowe at the start of the [Civil War](#) and declaring, "So this is the little lady who started this great war."^{[10][11]}

This will be students' only homework for next week (week prior to spring break) and the spring break. This allows students to get a head start. They can even start this weekend! My idea is that on a plane, car ride, hotel, or wherever students may be traveling, they can read. Students will be assessed on the novel on Tuesday, March 19th. This gives students an additional week after the spring break to review the book and prepare for the TEST ON MARCH 19th.

While students will not be required to annotate their books, it is highly recommended, as it is a study tool that can be used to help students review the novel prior to the test. It is also recommended that students use online quizzes such as proprofs.com, quizizz.com, cliffsnotes.com, or sparknotes.com to prepare for the test and to check for comprehension. These websites offer chapter summaries, vocabulary assistance, and online tests.

READING PLUS/INTENSIVE STUDENTS:

READING PLUS STUDENTS DO NOT NEED TO READ/PURCHASE THE NOVEL. INTENSIVE READING AND READING PLUS STUDENTS SHOULD COMPLETE THEIR REGULAR READING PLUS LESSONS EVERY WEEK (including the week of spring break– 5 READING LESSONS AND 4 VOCABULARY). THEIR AVERAGE READING COMPREHENSION SCORE IN READING PLUS FOR THE WEEK OF SPRING BREAK WILL BE ENTERED AS THEIR TEST SCORE FOR MARCH 19TH.

****Should Reading Plus/Intensive students be interested in an **EXTRA CREDIT** opportunity, they **may** read the novel **AND** complete the Reading Plus. An extra credit test grade will be given should they receive a 70% or higher on the test on March 19th. There will be no penalty should they NOT pass the test. Should Reading Plus/Intensive students opt to read the book, be sure to purchase the first book listed–the first link (The Young Reader's Edit).

Best Regards,
Ms. Briz

(Text taken from email sent to all students and parents on February 22nd)