

Bak Middle School of the Arts Mandatory Summer Reading Assignment- Grade 6 Summer 2025

Before the first day of school on August 11 2025, all incoming 6th grade students must read the novel, *Count Me In*, and complete the assignments below.



About the book: *Count Me In* is about Karina Chopra, an Indian American seventh-grader who's just trying to make it through middle school without having to deal with the mean boys in her class. When her beloved grandfather, Papa, moves in with her family, Karina's not sure what to expect. She certainly doesn't anticipate that one of the mean boys, Chris Daniels, will start getting tutored by Papa and actually become her friend.

After completing the reading of the novel, students will complete the following activities, which will be turned in during the first week of school.

Activity Directions:

Imagine the novel is being made into a movie! **Create a poster** that will advertise the book's upcoming release in theaters.

SIZE REQUIREMENT: Posters should be on poster paper size 11x14" ONLY

Your poster should feature an eye-catching design that attracts attention. It can be a scene from the story, a drawing of a character's portrait, an important element of a scene or setting...whatever you picture as an interesting element of the novel.

Poster should not have large blank spaces, it should be covered with color or design. Include the title of the book and the author's name as a design element. The poster should include a tagline on the front that represents the theme of the story. (Example: "With great power comes great responsibility.")

IN ADDITION TO THE POSTER, on a separate sheet of paper, type (or write neatly) the following:

1. Describe what you included on your poster and what inspired you from the novel. (2-3 sentences)
2. List the 5 plot elements in a story and provide an example of the exposition, climax, and resolution from the book *Count Me In*.
3. Identify a theme in the novel and give two specific examples from the book to support your idea for the theme.

Your poster can use any art medium (crayon, paint, marker, collage, watercolor, computer design) but must be completely your own original work (not images found through an internet search, not a photocopy or reproduction of the novel cover). Work that is created using AI (artificial intelligence) will not be accepted.

(Project is assessing students' mastery of the following 5th grade ELA standards: ELA.5.R.3.2- summarize a plot and theme of a literary text. ELA.5.RL.1.1- Analyze setting, events, and how characters contribute to the plot in a literary text.)

Students will be presenting their poster and writing assignment and will have a quiz on the story during the first weeks of school.