

SUMMER READER RESPONSE JOURNAL AND READING LOG

In this packet, you will find your book for the summer, information about the Summer Reader Response Journal and Reading Log.

My goal for this summer is for each student to read daily and log it in the reading log. Weekly, they will complete a journal entry about their reading. I'd like for them to use a letter writing format for their response and reflection. I've included a teacher model for reference, as well as an organizer to help students with summarizing and a student checklist.

Here's what you need to do to successfully complete your summer reading:

1. Purchase your book- **8th Grade** *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick and notebook/ journal.
2. Make a plan of how you are going to complete your reading and journaling this summer and stick to it.
3. Set up a spiral notebook or composition book to use as your journal.
4. Read daily and log it in your reading log.
5. Write at least 1 journal entry each week (in letter format, to me. I look forward to reading them!)
6. Refer to the student checklist, organizer for summarizing, and teacher model to help you in your writing.
7. Have fun!! Email me with any questions you have @ sweakley@tiptonchristianacademy.com.
8. You will test over your book during the 1st week of school.

Thanks so much and I look forward to reading your journals in August,

Mrs. Stephanie

8TH GRADE SUMMER READING: FREAK THE MIGHTY

A brilliant, emotionally charged novel about two boys. One is a slow learner, too large for his age, and the other is a tiny, disabled genius. The two pair up to create one formidable human force known as "Freak the Mighty". MAX. FREAK. BEST FRIENDS. FOREVER. I never had a brain until Freak came along... That's what Max thought. All his life he'd been called stupid. Dumb. Slow. It didn't help that his body seemed to be growing faster than his mind. It didn't help that people were afraid of him. So Max learned how to be alone. At least until Freak came along. Freak was weird, too. He had a little body, and a really big brain. Together Max and Freak were unstoppable. Together, they were Freak the Mighty. "A wonderful story of triumph over imperfection, shame, and loss." - School Library Journal



*Sample page for reference.

Name _____ Date _____

Organizer for Summarizing

Someone
Who is the main character?

Wanted
What did the character want?

But
What was the problem?

So
How did the character try to solve the problem?

Then
What was the resolution to the problem?

Summary

Student Checklist

- ☆ I wrote in complete sentences.
- ☆ I used detail in my writing.
- ☆ I used punctuation appropriately.
- ☆ I included a date, greeting, and signature.
- ☆ I wrote 2 separate paragraphs.
summary paragraph
reflection paragraph
- ☆ I used my best handwriting.

A sample page for reference.

Examples of student work:



Teacher Model:

Book I'm reading: Wander by P.J. Polacco
Chapters 18

January, 2015

Dear Students,

This week my reading has been fantastic! The main character is August, but everyone calls him Fudge. He has a face deformity from birth and has had 27 surgeries to repair his face. Needless to say, he is severely disfigured and has always been homeschooled because of his medical needs. He is entering fifth grade this year and his parents have encouraged him to enroll in main stream schools. Although he was nervous, Fudge agreed and the first few weeks of school have had their challenges. He has overheard many kids talking about his "weird face" and he leaves school often really upset. It's hard enough being the "new kid", not to mention having a different-looking face. He's made a few friends so far, but there is a lot of mean behavior, awkward stares, and sideways glances.

I am LOVING this book so far. I feel really bad for Fudge because I can't imagine what it must be like to endure life with a disfigured face. People these days are so concerned with appearances, they tend not to care about the inside. It makes me think that we have Fudge's all over our world, at school and at home. This book really makes me think about the central message: being kinder than necessary. I hope that I can take this lesson with me and learn to be kinder than I really have to be, not only to Fudge's, but to everyone.

Till next Friday,
Your teacher ☺