

## ***Ms. Callahan- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Summer Assignment***

*“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” –Dr. Seuss*

**Attached is the summer reading packet for students entering fifth grade. We will start the school year with the book, *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick. This book is required reading this summer for students who will be entering the fifth grade in September. Use these guided reading questions to make notes on post-its as you read to be prepared with your text evidence for future discussions and/or essays.**

**Bring your book and post-it notes to school with you when we return in September.**

1. From whose perspective is the story being told? What was the nickname given to him in day care?
2. What opinion do you think Max has of himself as the story begins? Why do you think he feels this way?
3. What is it about Max that startles Gwen when she first sees him?
4. In a few sentences, explain how Max and Kevin end up as a partnership. What do Kevin and Max each gain by being *Freak the Mighty*?
5. What is significant about the people that *Freak the Mighty* meet while returning a purse?
6. Two big events occur on Friday the 13. Describe what happens to Max and to Kevin on this date.
7. What upsetting news does Grim tell Max over the Christmas vacation?
8. How is Max treated by his father? What does this indicate about Killer Kane?
9. What does Max take with him to see Kevin in the hospital? Why do you think he brings that object?
10. Kevin gives Max a book of blank pages. What does this say about his character?
11. Max learns that Kevin’s story about a robotic body was not true. How does Dr. Spivak explain Kevin’s fantasy to Max?
12. How does Loretta Lee actually help Max write his story?

**The last 3 questions are your opinion, but should be supported with information from the story.**

13. Who can be considered a hero in the story? Be sure to explain your answer.
14. What is your opinion of the ending of the novel? Would you have changed anything about the story?
15. Which character developed most in the story? Explain your answer.

**FOLLOWING IS THE RECOMMENDED BOOK LIST FOR RECREATIONAL SUMMER READING:**

**Recommended Fiction:**

*Skullduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landry  
*The Schwa Was Here* by Neal Shusterman  
*Homecoming* by Cynthia Voight  
*My Side of the Mountain*  
by Jean Craighead George  
*Nothing but the Truth* by Avi  
*The Secret Garden* by  
Frances Hodgson Burnett

**Recommended Science Fiction and Fantasy:**

*The Eye, the Ear, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer  
*Half Magic* by Edward Eager  
*The Name of this Book Is Secret* by Pseudonymous Bosch

**Recommended Historical Fiction:**

*The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck  
*Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes  
*Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman  
*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*  
by Avi  
*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse

**Recommended Nonfiction:**

*The Dark Game: True Spy Stories* by Paul B. Janeczko  
*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science* by John Fleischman  
*The Tarantula in My Purse and 172 Other Wild Pets* by Jean Craighead George  
*Arab Science and Invention in the Golden Age* by Anne Blanchard  
*Can I See Your ID? True Stories of False Identities* by Chris Barton  
*The Word Snoop* by Ursula Dubosarsky

**Recommended Biography/Memoir:**

*Gorilla Mountain: The Story of Wildlife Biologist, Amy Vedder* by Rene Ebersole  
*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip M Hoose

*The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain* by Peter Sis  
*Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery* by Russell Freedman  
*Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement* by Ann Bausum