



Summer Reading 2025
Future 7th Graders

Dear Future 7th Graders and Parents,

The Diocese of Rockville Centre Language Arts curriculum states, “Students will read a minimum of 25 books or the equivalent per year across all content areas.” Similarly, the Next Generation Standards encourage the constant reading of both fiction and nonfiction texts. Learning is a year-round endeavor, and summer vacation presents a unique opportunity to catch up on reading for personal enjoyment.

To assist students in reaching the goal of becoming active readers, I have assembled a summer reading list. This year, there is **one required text** for future 7th graders, as well as a **second book of student choice**. All students must read:

- *Freak the Mighty* by W.R. Philbrick (Fiction Text)

Students will also choose **one book** from the list below and complete the attached “Summer Reading Project”:

- *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Travel Team* by Mike Lupica
- *Flipped* by Wendelin van Draanen
- *Nothing but the Truth* by Avi
- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander
- *Thief Lord* by Cornelia Funke
- *Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt
- *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams- Garcia
- *Tangerine* by Edward Bloor

- *Steve Jobs- The Man Who Thought Different* by Karen Blumenthal
- *Blizzard of Glass: The Halifax Explosion of 1917* by Sally Walker
- *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal--- the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin
- *Imprisoned: The Betrayal of Japanese Americans during World War II* by Martin W. Sandler
- *Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickels, America's First Black Paratroopers* by Tanya Lee
- *The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi* by Neal Bascomb

"I read for pleasure and that is the moment I learn the most." -Margaret Atwood

"If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book." -J.K. Rowling

Name_____

Date_____

ELA 7 Summer Reading- *Freak the Mighty*

7-_____

Task: Complete the following to demonstrate your understanding of *Freak the Mighty*.

Part I: On looseleaf, write a well-developed paragraph answering one of the two following questions. Please do your best to include a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding statement. Be sure to write in complete sentences and proofread your work.

Option #1: Which character from the story can you identify with most? Why?

Option #2: What is your opinion of the ending of the novel? Would you have changed anything about the story?

Part II: Use the text of your choice and complete the following 4 TASKS. The criteria for each task is on page 3.

SUMMER READING PROJECT

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Task #1-Dear Abby

Imagine that you are allowed to give one character some advice or words of wisdom. Write a letter to one of the characters that offers them some wise advice that can help them in the novel. Be sure to use specific evidence from the novel as support.

Task #3-Word Cloud Collage

Create a Word Cloud Collage of words, phrases, and sentences from the novel that describes the novel to someone who has never read it. You may select to cover the entire novel or focus on a single element (character, setting, theme, etc.)

Task #2-Morning Announcements

Imagine that your school is trying to encourage reading by promoting a different book each morning during announcements. You have been selected to write an announcement for the novel you just read. Create a 30 second advertisement that will describe the novel and the reasons why other students at your school should read the novel.

Task #4-Trading Places

Imagine that you wake up one morning and have become the main character in the novel. What would you do differently in the novel? Use textual evidence to explain why you would change things or keep them the same.

SUMMER READING PROJECT CRITERIA LIST

Task #1-Dear Abby

Your letter should include:

- > At least one piece of advice or words of wisdom that would help out one of the characters in the novel.
- > Explanation of why this advice would help out the character.
- > Textual evidence to help support your explanation. Evidence should be specific information from the novel.
- > Letter should be at least THREE paragraphs.

Task #3-Word Cloud Collage

Your Word Cloud Collage should include:

- > A minimum of 50 words (that includes word, phrases, and sentences) that describes the novel or one element of the novel (character, setting, theme, etc.)
- > Book title should be included in the Word Cloud Collage.
- > Entire page should be covered.
- > Eye-catching and neat design to draw in a potential reader. This should encourage someone to read the novel.

Task #2-Morning Announcements

Your response should include:

- > A 30 second advertisement that includes a brief description of the novel and reasons why other students should read this novel.
- > Reasons should include specific evidence from the text along with your own personal insights/opinions on the novel.
- > A catchy tagline that will help others remember the novel and hook them into wanting to read the novel.

Task #4-Trading Places

Your response should include:

- > A detailed explanation of what you would do differently if you traded places with the main character and why you would make those changes OR a detailed explanation of what decisions/actions would stay the same and why you did not want to make changes.
- > Explanation should be supported with textual evidence and/or a personal connection, opinion, or insight.
- > Response should be at least one paragraph in length.