

Dear Parents,

Reading is a vital part of every child's development. At IDS-CC, the students actively read throughout the year, both as a whole class and individually. Reading promotes comprehension, develops vocabulary, and increases sensitivity to other cultures, social conditions, historical events, and the student's own personal awareness. The summer reading program encourages students to actively read during the months that they are away from school.

The Three Required Novels Are:

1. Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
2. Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World...One Child at a Time. (Young Readers' Edition) by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, adapted by Sarah Thomson
3. The Puzzling World of Winston Breen by Eric Berlin

The Three Required Novel Assignments:

1. For Freak the Mighty your child will complete a timeline of events. Please refer to the attached directions and model as an example.
2. For Three Cups of Tea your child will complete chapter questions and a compare and contrast essay response.
3. For The Puzzling World of Winston Breen your child will answer response questions as well as complete a puzzle-making activity. Please see the attached assignment requirements.

All of the final drafts of these assignments require a parent signature. Please take this opportunity to discuss the literature that your child has read. You may find yourself engaged in a wonderful dialogue inspired by your child's reading. *When you sign each assignment, you acknowledge that you are aware of what your child has read and that he/she understands the text.*

Extra Credit Opportunity!

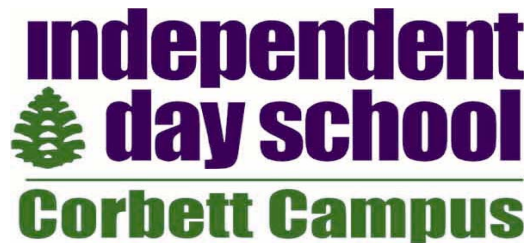
Your child could choose to read a free choice novel. **This choice must be from the attached Sunshine State Reading List.** For this novel, your child will need to complete an attached "Novel in a Nutshell" form. This form compels the students to look more deeply into the text, requiring them to show their understanding of the basic elements of literature and to respond personally to the work. Parents, please sign this assignment as well.

Please know, if your child chooses to read more than the three required novels and free choice novel, we will happily give extra credit for going above and beyond. **Please attach a signed note to the four completed assignments which lists all other novels read. All assignments and notes are due to be turned in on the first day of school in English class.**

Thank you for your support in encouraging your child's reading. If you have any questions, please contact one of us. We would be happy to speak with you about our summer reading program. Reading is a learned joy, and we hope that all of our students discover it.

Sincerely,

The Middle School English Team
The Middle School Math Team



Freak the Mighty Timeline

Now that you have finished reading Rodman Philbrick's *Freak the Mighty*, think about the amazing friendship between Max and Kevin.

- ❖ Draw a timeline that spans the entire novel. Your timeline should be a chronicle of the friendship, adventures, triumphs and tragedies that *Freak the Mighty* experienced throughout their brief friendship.
- ❖ On the timeline, place significant events in the book that highlight what the character or characters experienced, keeping all the events in chronological order.
- ❖ Please include at least *10 important events* from the novel. These events may include other characters, or they may be important experiences the character had alone. Your choices should re-tell the story at a glance.

This timeline must fit on an 11" x 17" piece of paper. It should include color and other artistic details. It may be typed or hand-written.

Please bring this completed assignment with you to class on the first day of school with all other required work.

Remember that this and all assignments need to be shared with and signed by your parents.



Three Cups of Tea - Summer Reading Assignment 6th Grade

As you read Greg Mortenson's book, Three Cups of Tea, please answer the following questions in one to two complete sentences.

Please type and double-space your answers. Include your name, date and grade in the top, right-hand corner. Remember to proofread each answer to ensure grammar and spelling perfection!

Chapters 1-3

- What role does the setting- the high altitude and the treacherous terrain of the Himalayas- play in the initial events of this story?
- How do the villagers help Mortenson, and what promise does he make to the villagers of Korphe as a result?

Chapters 12-13

- What are some of the sacrifices the people of Korphe made in order to build this school?

Chapters 15-16

- What does this story reveal about the rights of girls in Afghanistan?

Chapters 17-18

- Has your understanding of Muslim culture changed from reading this book? Please use an example from the reading to support your idea.

Chapters 21-22

- What evidence is revealed that demonstrates that the schools are improving the lives of the students who attend them? Please be specific.

Task Two: Please type two paragraphs following these guidelines:

- ❖ The first paragraph will identify and describe the similarities between your culture and the culture found in the novel.
- ❖ The second paragraph will identify and describe the differences between your culture and the culture found in the novel.
- ❖ Be sure to use specific examples both from your life and the book.

Think about what you have learned of the school conditions in Afghanistan. Reflect on your own educational experiences. Now, write a two-paragraph response comparing and contrasting the two.



6th Grade Math Connection to Summer Reading

Task One:

After reading The Puzzling World of Winston Breen by Eric Berlin, you are to **pick two** questions from the list below to answer in a 3.8 paragraph format. (A 3.8 paragraph is comprised of 3 different ideas conveyed in at least 8 different sentences.) All grammar, spelling, and punctuation should be correct.

- 1) Explain why you think this book was assigned by the math department as part of your summer reading. How does it relate to math? Can puzzles really be considered math?
- 2) There were many different types of puzzles shown throughout the book. What was your favorite puzzle in the book? Why? How difficult was the solution to the puzzle? Explain your answer.
- 3) If you were Winston in the library at the end of the book, what would you have done? Why? Support your reasoning.

Task Two:

Take one of your favorite puzzles that was solved in the book and create a puzzle of your own. Please create it very neatly by hand or on a computer. (If you would like to mount it on construction paper and use colors to make it look nice, there will be some extra points involved.) Have the puzzle on one page and the answer to your puzzle on a separate page.

Please put all completed work in a folder with your name on it to be handed in on the first day of school in your math class.

The Puzzling World of Winston Breen
 CRITERION B

Name: _____
 Class: _____

Score	Description
9-10	<p>The project has all of the necessary elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least two of the questions answered in 3.8 paragraph form. Each paragraph's spelling and grammar is perfect and completely answers the question with depth and insight. If the question requires facts, the facts given are accurate. If the question requires creativity, the writing is unique and goes beyond the anticipated response. - At least one student made puzzle. The puzzle is generated by a computer or incredibly neat on paper. It is mounted on construction paper or presented in some other aesthetic means. It was modeled after a puzzle from the book and has an answer key provided on a separate piece of paper. It is challenging but solvable. <p>A person scoring 9 or 10 on this project would have reached above and beyond the level of expectation. They have taken the risk to create more than one puzzle or to answer all three questions, or both. Their project is essentially perfect from all perspectives and expectations.</p>
7-8	<p>The project has all of the necessary elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two of the questions answered in 3.8 paragraph form. Each paragraph's spelling and grammar is perfect and completely answers the question with depth and insight. If the question requires facts, the facts given are accurate. If the question requires creativity, the writing is unique and goes beyond the anticipated response. - One student generated puzzle. The puzzle is generated by a computer or incredibly neat on paper. It is mounted on construction paper or presented in some other aesthetic means. It was modeled after a puzzle from the book and has an answer key provided on a separate piece of paper. <p>A person scoring 7 or 8 on this project would have obviously worked hard to achieve perfection. Their project is essentially perfect from all perspectives and expectations.</p>
5-6	<p>The project has all of the necessary elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two of the questions answered in 3.8 paragraph form. Each paragraph's spelling and grammar is perfect and completely answers the question. If the question requires facts, the facts given are accurate. If the question requires creativity, the writing is unique. - One student generated puzzle. The puzzle is generated by a computer or incredibly neat on paper. It was modeled after a puzzle from the book and has an answer key provided on a separate piece of paper. <p>A person scoring 5 or 6 on this project would have obviously worked hard to achieve excellence. They have obviously done their best to meet all expectations.</p>
3-4	<p>The project has all of the necessary elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two of the questions answered in 3.8 paragraph form. Each paragraph is nearly perfect in both spelling and grammar and answers the question. If the question requires facts, the facts given are accurate. If the question requires creativity, the writing is unique. - One student generated puzzle. The puzzle is neat and legible. It was modeled after a puzzle from the book and has an answer key provided on a separate piece of paper. <p>A person scoring 3 or 4 on this project would have shown a desire for excellence. They have obviously done their best to meet the expectations.</p>
1-2	<p>The project has all of the necessary elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two of the questions answered in paragraph form. Spelling and grammatical errors are common. The writer does a good job of answering the question. - One student generated puzzle. The puzzle is neat and legible. It was modeled after a puzzle from the book and has an answer key provided on a separate piece of paper. <p>A person scoring 1 or 2 on this project will have a need to refine some of the material. They did well for a first attempt and will be given the opportunity to correct.</p>
0	<p>The project is elsewhere or needs significant refinement.</p>

Score: _____ - () days late = Total: _____

SUNSHINE STATE YOUNG READER'S AWARD 2010-2011

Grades 6 - 8 Titles

Author:

<i>Billy Creekmore</i>	Porter, Tracey
<i>Changeling</i>	Sherman, Delia
<i>Diamonds in the Shadow</i>	Cooney, Caroline
<i>Do Not Pass Go</i>	Hill, Kirkpatrick
<i>Football Hero</i>	Green, Tim
<i>Independence Hall (I.Q. Series #1)</i>	Smith, Roland
<i>Lawn Boy</i>	Paulsen, Gary
<i>Lost Time</i>	Maupin, Susan
<i>Mercy on These Teenage Chimps</i>	Soto, Gary
<i>Smiles to Go</i>	Spinelli, Jerry
<i>Taken</i>	Bloor, Edward
<i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Bartoletti, Susan
<i>The Great Wide Sea</i>	Herlong, M.H.
<i>The Mailbox</i>	Shafer, Audrey
<i>The Seer of Shadows</i>	Avi

Name _____ Date _____

6th

Please make sure that all sections include complete sentences.

Novel in a Nutshell (Extra Credit)

Title of novel: _____

Author: _____ Genre: _____

Main Character(s): Give a brief description of at least three.	1.
	2.
	3.
Conflict that the book centers around:	
Main Setting(s) - Time and Place	Time Place
Rising Action: Event 1	
Event 2:	
Event 3:	

Name _____

Date _____

Climax:

Resolution:

Please write a paragraph long review of the novel. Be sure to include the following:

- A topic sentence that explains your reaction to the novel.
- Specific reasons and examples from the story to support your opinion.
- Finally, give your book a rating using a five-star scale.