

8th Grade
Summer
Reading

June 2022

CHERRY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer Reading Assignment

- The following summer reading books were selected to allow you to explore the thematic topic of **resiliency**.
- Read at least one of the books from the list and complete the double-entry journal that follows.
- When you return to school in September, you will be asked to analyze, summarize, discuss, and write about the text you read.

Summer Reading Assignment

Resiliency: the ability to positively respond to a challenging situation

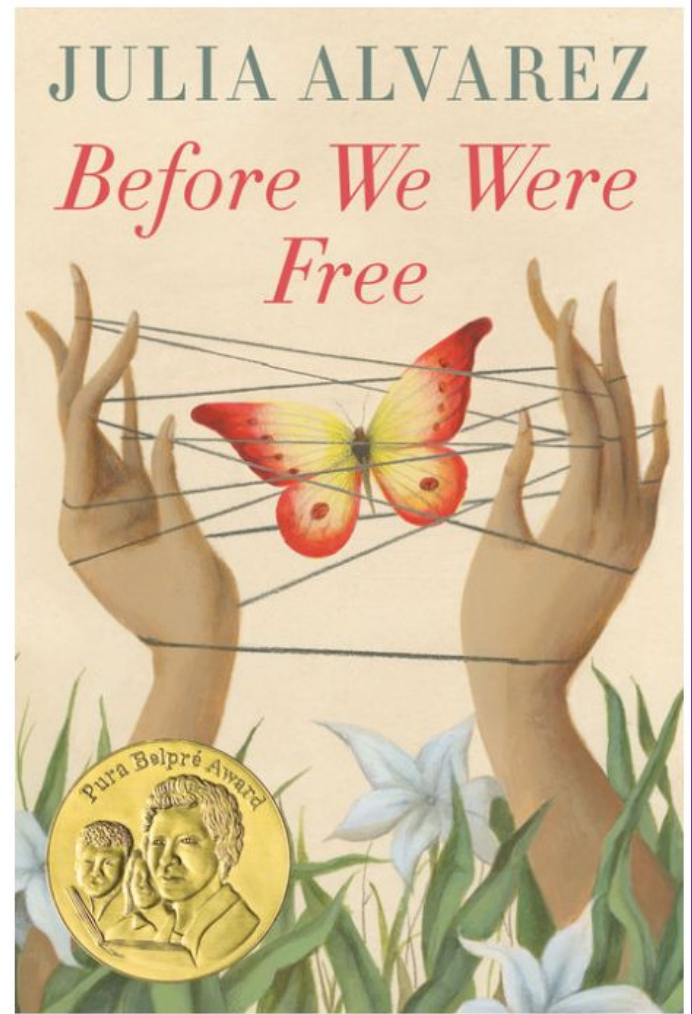
Guiding questions

- What characteristics and qualities help a person deal with conflict and change?
- How does conflict lead to change?
- How does an individual's point of view affect the way he or she deals with conflict?
- How might it feel to live through a conflict that disrupts your way of life?

Before We Were Free

by Julia Alvarez

Anita de la Torre, a 12-year-old girl living in the Dominican Republic in 1960, watches most of her relatives immigrate to the United States. Her Tio Toni has disappeared, Papi has been getting mysterious phone calls about butterflies and someone named Mr. Smith, and the secret police have started terrorizing her family for their suspected opposition to the country's dictator. While Anita deals with a frightening series of events, she also struggles with her adolescence and her own personal flight to be free.



Brown Girl Dreaming

by Jacqueline Woodson

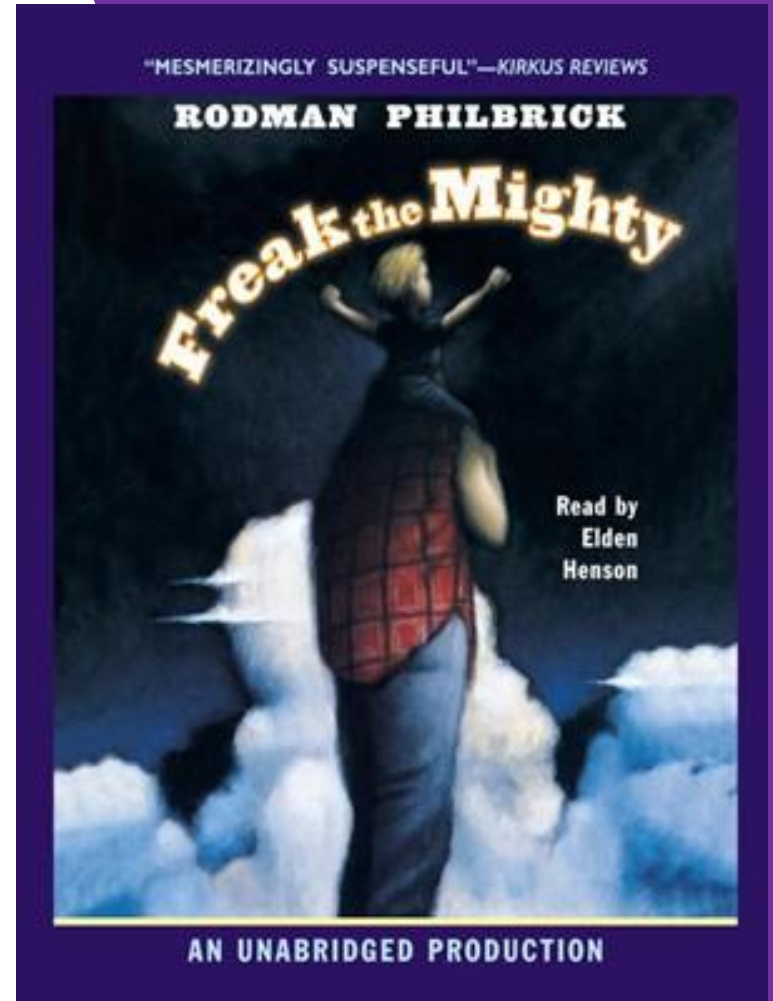
Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.



Freak the Mighty

by Rodman Philbrick

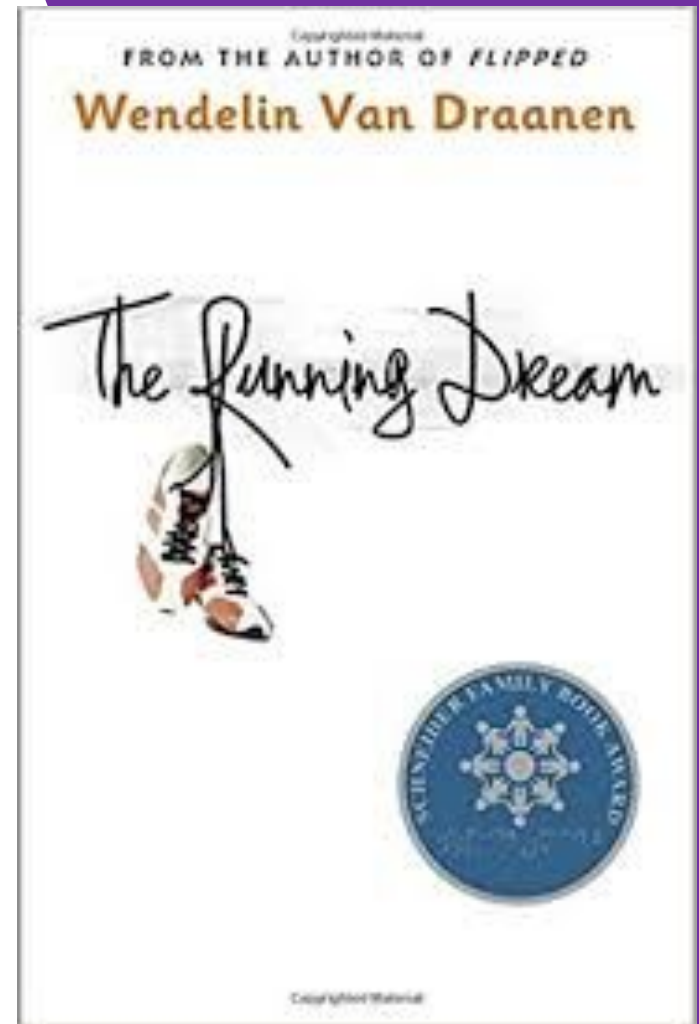
Meet Maxwell Kane, narrator of *Freak the Mighty*. He's a timid soul stuck in the body of a teenage giant with size 14 shoes. Haunted by a dark secret in his past, he hides out in his basement room, avoiding the world. But when a new kid moves in next door Max's life changes forever. The two outcasts form the 'normal' world team up to become "Freak the Mighty." Like knights of old they defend the weak, right every wrong—and solve the mystery of Max's past. Proving once and for all that courage comes in all sizes.



The Running Dream

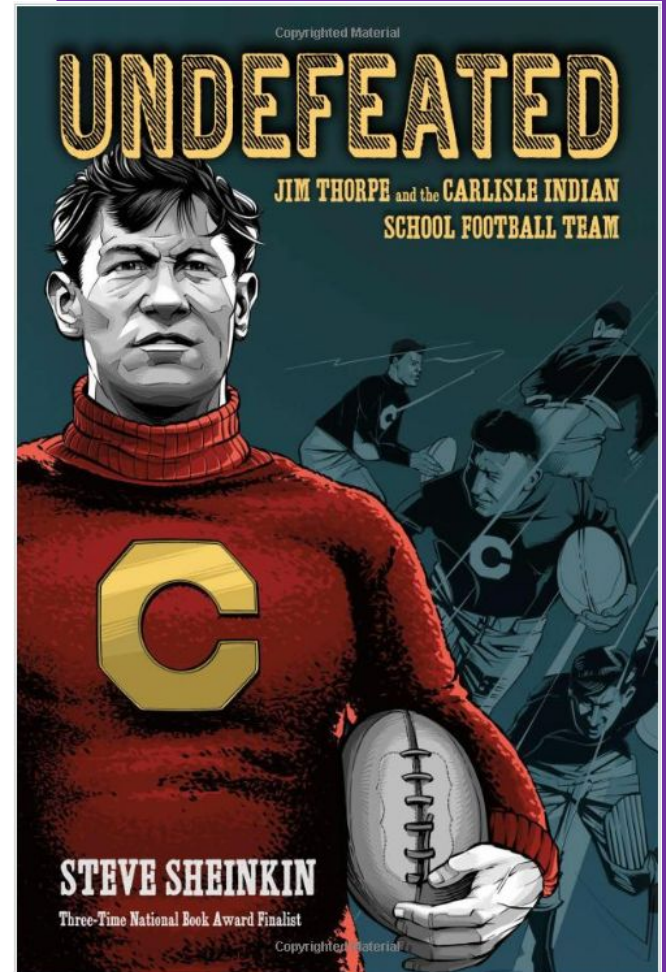
by Wendelin Van Draanen

When track star Jessica loses her leg in a school bus accident, she is devastated that she will never run again. She's not comforted by the news that she'll be able to walk with the help of a prosthetic leg. Her family, friends and teammates support her as she returns to school and practice. However, it is her friendship with Rosa, a girl with cerebral palsy, which helps Jessica accept the limitations and discover the gifts of her new life.



Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team **by Steve Sheinkin**

Jim Thorpe was an extraordinary athlete, a Native American who became an Olympic gold medalist. Pop Warner was an indomitable coach and a football mastermind. The two met at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, where they forged one of the most celebrated teams in American football history. Called "the team that invented football," they took on the best opponents of their day. This is the story of a group of young men who came together at that school, the obstacles they faced both on and off the field, and their absolute refusal to accept defeat.



Summer Reading Assignment

Directions: Consider how **resiliency** is exemplified through character, setting, and/or plot development as you read your book. Complete the double-entry journal below with textual evidence and reasoning.

Textual evidence that exemplifies the theme of resiliency.	Describe how the evidence in the text relates to the theme of resiliency and explain why.
<p>Example from <u>Freak the Mighty</u> Freak goes, “Whew! That was a close encounter of the turd kind,” and it takes me a second to get the joke, but then I’m laughing, amazed he can be so cool about it, like it was no big deal that Tony D. was after us.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page # 31</p>	<p>Tony D. and his friends were harassing Max and Freak as they walked home. Max was scared, but Freak stuck up for himself and talked back to Tony D. After, Freak is able to laugh about the incident. This shows resiliency because Freak continues to stay positive, and looks for humor in the situations that challenge him.</p>

Summer Reading Assignment



TeachingBooksSM

More resources are available at
TeachingBooks.net!

<https://www.teachingbooks.net/qlviewqi>

Username: chclc
Password: books

Summer Reading Assignment

You can find the books at these locations:

Cherry Hill Public Library

www.chplnj.org

856-667-0300

Inkwood Books

<https://shop.inkwoodnj.com/chps-summer-reading-2021>

Use coupon code CHPS21 for 20% off summer reading books!

856-429-1298

Barnes & Noble

www.barnesandnoble.com

Cherry Hill – 856-486-1492

Marlton – 856-596-7058

Moorestown – 856-608-1622

