

8th Grade
Summer
Reading

June 2019

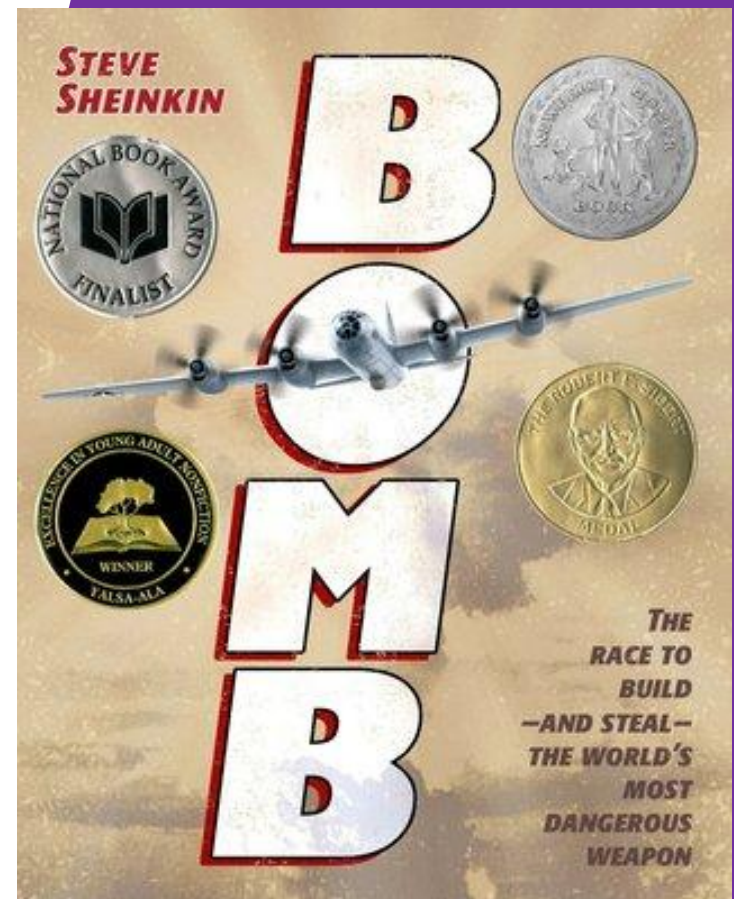
CHERRY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer Reading Assignment

- The following summer reading books were selected to allow you to explore the theme 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.

Bomb: The Race to Build – And Steal – The World's Most Dangerous Weapon **by Steve Sheinkin**

In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a Uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned 3 continents. In Great Britain and the United States, Soviet spies worked their way into the scientific community; in Norway, a commando force slipped behind enemy lines to attack German heavy-water manufacturing; and deep in the desert, one brilliant group of scientists was hidden away at a remote site at Los Alamos. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb.



Brown Girl Dreaming

by Jacqueline Woodson

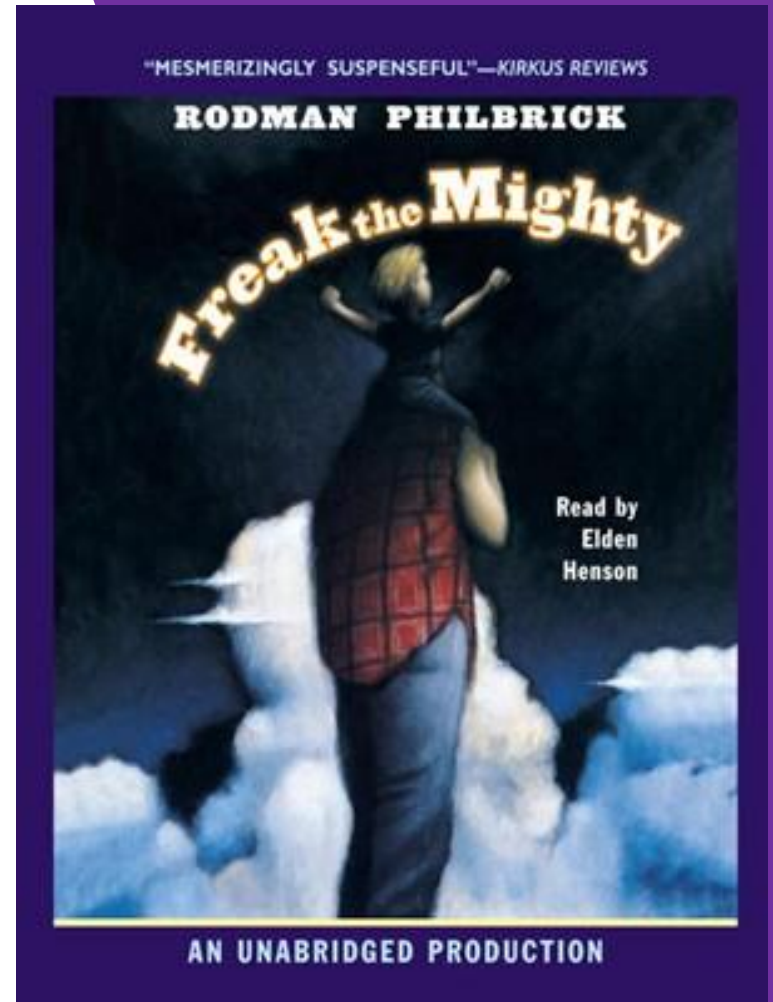
Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, 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

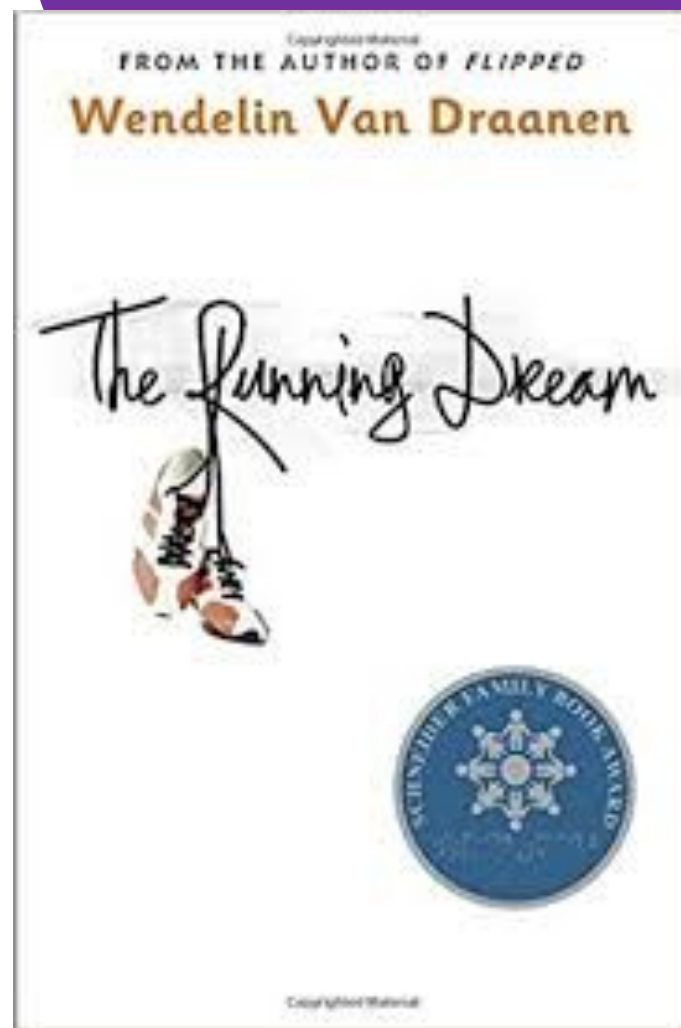
Meet Maxwell Kane, narrator of *Freak the Mighty*. He's a timid soul stuck in the body of a teenage giant with size 14 shoes. Haunted by a dark secret in his past, he hides out in his basement room, avoiding the world. But when a new kid moves in next door Max's life changes forever. The two outcasts 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.



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?

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



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