

8th Grade Summer Reading

2015

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.

Title and Author

Synopsis

The War Between the Classes
Gloria Miklowitz

What are Amy and Adam going to do about their love life? Neither Amy's traditionalist Japanese parents nor Adam's snobby, upper-class mother will accept their relationship. To make things worse, Amy and Adam are involved in the "color game" at school, an experiment that's designed to make students aware of class and racial prejudices. Now the experiment threatens to alienate Amy from her friends and tear her apart from Adam. She knows it's time to rebel against the color game. But will the rest of the class follow her lead?

Freak the Mighty
Rodman Philbrick

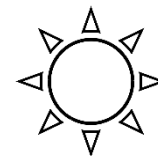
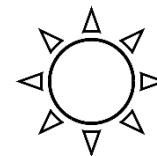
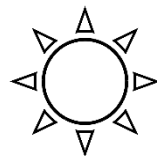
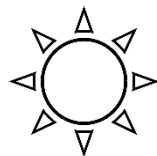
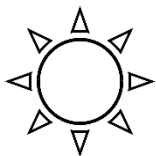
Meet Maxwell Kane, narrator of *Freak the Mighty*. He's a timid soul stuck in the body of a teenage giant with size 14 shoes. Haunted by a dark secret in his past, he hides out in the basement room, avoiding the world. But when a new kid moves in next door, Max's life changes forever. The two outcasts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

Uglies
Scott Westerfeld

Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her friend decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen-year-old girls into beauties. She realizes there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.

Black Diamond: The Story of the Negro Baseball Leagues
Patricia and Frederick McKissack

The history of the Negro Leagues is the story of legendary heroes such as Cool Papa Bell, who some say was the fastest runner ever to steal a base, and Satchel Paige, whose fastball was called a Bee Ball because all the batter heard was a buzz as it zinged past him over the plate. The players were forced to endure segregated, second-rate living and playing conditions, but their talent, courage, and determination were always first-rate.



Name _____

Book Title _____

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The book you have chosen to read this summer will help you understand the theme of resiliency. *Resiliency is defined as the ability to positively respond or adapt to and cope with a stressful experience.* 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><i>Example from <u>The Outsiders</u> by S.E. Hinton: "I had seen Johnny take a whipping with a two-by-four from his old man and never let out a whimper. That made it worse to see him break now. Soda just held him and pushed Johnny's hair back out of his eyes. 'It's okay, Johnnycake, they're gone now. It's okay'" (32).</i></p>	<p><i>It must take a lot of strength for Johnny to put up with the way his dad treats him. The strength that he gained from dealing with his father's abuse prepared him, with Soda's help, to deal with the gang that attacked him. Even though this moment shakes him up, Johnny displays resilience; he whimpers but doesn't let it destroy him.</i></p>

