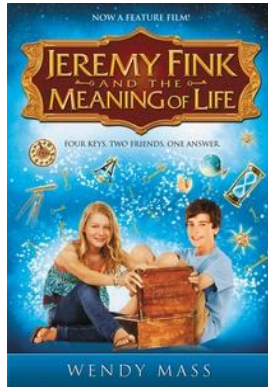


MS 447 Rising 6th Grade Summer Assignment

Welcome 6th graders! We are so excited to meet you in the fall!

Our first unit in ELA is independent reading and establishing strong reading habits. To prepare you for this, you will need to read a great novel called *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass.



TASK

Step 1: Read the book within a 2-week time span, and take notes as you read. The notes should correspond to the specific reading skills noted (inferences, predictions, traits, and character changes). Use the charts in this packet to take your notes.

****There is no need to turn in additional pages of notes!** Turn in this packet only.

Step 2: Complete the activity pages on the plot and themes of the book.

Step 3: After reading the book and taking notes, write a 3-paragraph reader's response to the book.

- In the first paragraph, write a 5-6 sentence summary of the book.
- In the second paragraph, write about your thinking while reading. This paragraph is all about showing off and explaining your reading skills. Choose at least 2 of the skills below to focus on, and use text evidence to support your observations. (Use the work you did in this packet to support your writing.)
 - predictions
 - inferences
 - tracking character changes
 - noticing traits and flaws
 - identifying the parts of plot
 - analyzing themes
- In the third paragraph, write your opinion of the book, and explain in detail why you feel that way. Would you recommend it to a peer? Why or why not?

**This packet and your reader's response will be collected during the first week of school.
We look forward to reading your amazing work!**

Reader's Response Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Organization	There are three clear paragraphs, written in the correct order of the assignment. The piece is <u>typed</u> and neat.	There are three paragraphs, written in the correct order of the assignment, but they are not typed.	There are less than three paragraphs and/or they are not written in the correct order of the assignment.	There are no clear paragraphs.
Summary	There is a clear overall summary of the book, which shows a clear, deep and critical understanding of what happened from beginning to end.	There is a clear overall summary of the book, which shows a solid understanding of what happened from beginning to end.	There is a clear overall summary of the book, but there may be a few gaps in understanding what happened.	The summary of the book shows big gaps in understanding.
Critical Thinking and Analysis	The "skill" and "opinion" paragraphs show plenty of critical analysis of the book AND use plenty of text evidence to support ideas.	The "skill" and "opinion" paragraphs show some critical analysis of the book AND use some text evidence to support ideas.	The "skill" and "opinion" paragraphs show that the reader tried to analyze the book AND use a bit of text evidence to support ideas.	The "skill" and "opinion" paragraphs do not show any analysis; they a summary of what happened.

Reader's Response Score:

Reading Notes and Plot/Theme Pages Score:

Overall Score:

Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life

Reading Notes

As you read the book, use this graphic organizer to collect notes. Take notes on these skills at any point in the book. Use these ideas to help form your reader's response.

Skill	Where I See It Page numbers	Explanation How does it add to the overall meaning of the book?
Predictions What do you think will happen next? What in the text makes you think that?	#1	
	#2	
	#3	
Inferences Draw a conclusion about something in the text that is not directly stated. For example, did something happen in a character's past? How is a character feeling based on their actions?	#1	
	#2	
	#3	

<div>Character Traits and Flaws</div> <div>Name personality characteristics, either positive or negative, of any of the characters in the book.</div> <div>What type of person are they? What in the text shows you these traits or flaws?</div> <div>(Think about their speech, actions, and inner thinking.)</div>	#1	
	#2	
	#3	
<div>Character Changes</div> <div>Identify differences in any of the characters from the beginning of the book to the end.</div> <div>Did they face an internal or external conflict that caused them to change?</div>	#1	
	#2	
	#3	

Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life

Activity Pages

Tracking Plot: Fill in the story mountain below. Write the most important parts of the plot. You don't have to include every single event in the story, just the main events that seem to fit into the story mountain. (There is no one correct answer!)

[illegible]

Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life

Analyzing Themes: In this book, Jeremy is trying to discover the meaning of life. He meets many characters that have different ideas about the meaning of life. In the chart below, infer and imagine what some of the different characters might say about the meaning of life.

Character	Meaning of Life What would THIS CHARACTER say is the meaning of life?	Text Evidence The character's speech, actions, or inner thinking that reveal their meaning of life perspective.
Lizzy Muldoun		
Simon Rudolph (p. 148-157)		
Dr. Grady (p. 185-195)		
Madame Zaleski (p. 211-216)		
Mr. Oswald		
Jeremy's father, Daniel Fink		
Put it all together! What is the overall theme of this book as a whole?		

