

6<sup>TH</sup> Grade Summer Reading  
*Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick

Students will keep a short journal during their summer reading. It should have 3 columns. The first column should have a quote from the text. The second column should have the chapter and page number. The third column will have an explanation of the quote using one of the stems listed below.

Format of your journal:

- must include at least 7-8 quotes from beginning to the end of the book
- will be graded based on quality of entries and the number of entries
- may be typed or hand written

STEMS

Please use a variety of these stems to help you think about the text that you are reading. Do not use the same stem more than twice. Please expand on your responses in paragraph form.

- I can't believe \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I wonder why \_\_\_\_\_?
- I like the way the author \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- This made me think of \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I wonder what this means?
- I really don't understand this part \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- This (name of character) in (title of book) is like (a different character) in (a different title of book) because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I think this setting is important because \_\_\_\_\_.
- If I were (name of character) at this point, I would \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I think the lesson of the novel is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (Character name) changed when \_\_\_\_\_ happened because \_\_\_\_\_.

On the next page is an example of what the journal entry should look like. There is only one entry in the example, but this is the exemplar of what your entries should look like.

Example of a Journal Entry  
From Frank L. Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*

Quote	Ch. & Pg. #	Journal Response
<b>“But I do not want people to call me a fool, and if my head stays stuffed with straw instead of with brains, as yours is, how am I ever to know anything?”</b>	26	If I were the Scarecrow I would travel with Dorothy to the Emerald City because I would want the chance to get a brain. In the quote, Scarecrow explains (to Dorothy) that he doesn't mind having a body stuffed with straw because he cannot get hurt. However, he fears living with a head filled with straw for he feels he will never know anything. He desires the ability to possess knowledge and just like all the other characters, he is on a search for something better in life. Perhaps the Wizard can help him on his quest to gain knowledge.