

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS FOR INCOMING 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS  
RAA MIDDLE SCHOOL

**ALL INCOMING 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS MUST COMPLETE 2 OF THE FOLLOWING:  
(GIFTED MUST READ *DOWNRIVER*, AND ONE OTHER NOVEL; SEE BELOW.)**

READ THE NOVEL *DOWNRIVER* BY WILL HOBBS.

COMPLETE **TWO** OF THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENT CHOICES. INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON YOUR PAPER:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
AUTHOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
PUBLISHER AND YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHOICE #1:**

Send a post card from one character to an adult in their life (parent, judge, law enforcement officer, probation officer). Use details from the novel. The communication should be significant.

FORMAT: See Below

DIRECTIONS: Imagine that you are one of the characters in the book. You plan to write a postcard to an imaginary adult relative (parent, aunt, uncle, foster parent, guardian). Remember to stay in character and discuss events, problems, and insights.

DATE:

STAMP

MESSAGE:

FICTITIOUS NAME:

ADDRESS OF RELATIVE:

SIGNATURE OF CHARACTER:

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**CHOICE #2**

Locate specific forms of imagery and figurative language that the author used in the novel to create word pictures, descriptions and a style of writing. Copy the lines from the text in the correct category and explain the meaning of the figurative language because it means more than what is literally stated. Make sure you include the page number.

SIMILE – A COMPARISON USING “LIKE” OR “AS”

METAPHOR – A COMPARISON OT USING “LIKE” OR “AS”

PERSONIFICATION – GIVING HUMAN TRAITS TO NONLIVING OBJECTS

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**CHOICE #3**

CREATE A POEM ON A THEME OR FEELING

Directions: Choose a theme or a feeling that the author weaves into this story. Write a poem using the theme or feeling as your central message in the poem. If you wish, you may illustrate your poem.

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**CHOICE #4 FORTUNE COOKIE SAYINGS FOR THE MAIN CHARACTERS**

Directions: Write a prediction or saying for each main character that is appropriate for that person based on your reading of the novel. Make sure you explain the relationship of the sayings for the characters.

FORTUNE 1

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 2

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 3

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 4

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 5

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 6

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_

FORTUNE 7

CHARACTER’S NAME AND EXPLANATION: \_\_\_\_\_



