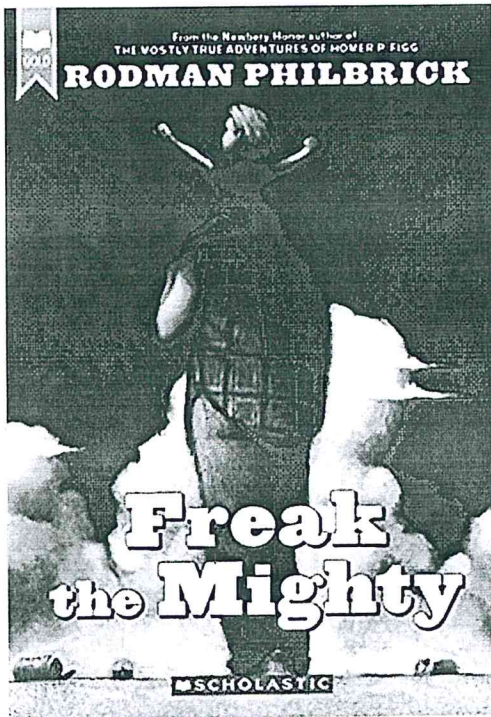


# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2021



## *FREAK THE MIGHTY*

by

Rodman Philbrick

Two boys - a slow learner stuck in the body of a teenage giant and a tiny Einstein in leg braces - forge a unique friendship when they pair up to create one formidable human force.

Wal-Mart - \$7.93    Amazon - \$7.99

Books are available for check-out in the FMS Office during summer break. There is no charge, but the books must be signed out and returned in August.

YouTube Audio Option (Turn on captions)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR1Hv42u2Co&t=4188s>

Students will read the novel over the summer and complete 4 short graded quizzes after every six chapters when school starts.

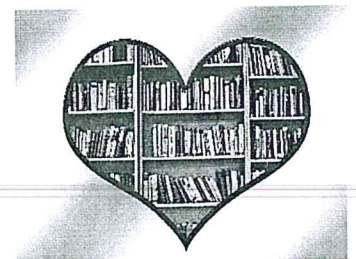
Use the attached vocabulary to help you understand the context of the words as you read.

There will be **practice quizzes online** in the  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Google Classroom**



( Join w/ code **ffaqtal** ) Students will be able to contact me with questions as well as access the audio version of the novel. It is imperative that all incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade students read the entire novel (160

pages) by the start of school in August. Multiple graded assignments will be given the first few weeks of school.



*Happy Reading!*

*Mrs. Jennifer Cowart*

# Freak the Mighty

## Vocabulary with Definitions

### Chapter 1

**unvanquished** – undefeated; unconquered

### Chapter 2

**microsecond** – one millionth of a second

**mainstream** – belonging to a widely accepted group

**fiend** – someone who is extremely addicted

**hunkering** – crouching down

### Chapter 3

**humanoid** – having human characteristics; resembling humans

**bulkhead** – an outside door over a stairway, leading to a cellar

**ornithopter** – an aircraft propelled by flapping wings

**propulsion** – the action or process of propelling

### Chapter 4

**sobriquet** – nickname

**demeanor** – conduct; behavior

**postulated** – assumed without proof; guessed

**fair** – pleasing in appearance; attractive; beautiful

**quest** – an adventurous expedition to achieve or secure something

**invincible** – incapable of being conquered

**ignorance** – lack of knowledge or information

**sophisticated** – complex or intricate

**opiate** – a drug, sedative, or narcotic

**massive** – large and heavy-looking

### Chapter 5

**hulking** – heavy and clumsy; bulky

**offended** – caused hurt feelings

**abide** – put up with; tolerate; accept

**tenements** – low rent apartment buildings that barely meet minimum standards

**spastic** – (slang) clumsy or inept

**flinch** – draw or shrink back from what is dangerous or unpleasant

**depleted** – used up; empty

**expel** – drive or force out; eject

**regurgitate** – throw up in the mouth; vomit

### Chapter 6

**swilling** – drinking greedily or grossly

**strutting** – walking with head up high, chest out, expecting to impress others

**cretin** – a mentally defective person

**deficiency** – lack; incompleteness; insufficiency

### Chapter 7

**perspective** – viewpoint; visible scene; vista

**trajectory** – path of a body moving through space

**converging** – meeting at a point; coming together

**swaggering** – walking in a defiant manner

**nanosecond** – one billionth of a second

### Chapter 8

**evasive** – trying to avoid something

**confrontation** – face-to-face conflict

**albino** – a person with pale skin, very light hair, and pinkish eyes due to lack of pigmentation

**vegetate** – to do nothing; be unthinking

**archetype** – model or first form; prototype

**microsurgery** – delicate surgery performed under magnification

### Chapter 9

**artifact** – manmade object or tool, characteristic of an earlier time or cultural stage

**avarice** – greed

**sucrose** – sugar

**incision** – cut, especially in surgery

**divulged** – made known

**bionic** – having particular physiological functions replaced by electronic components

**modification** – change in shape or form

### Chapter 10

**optimum** – most desirable; best

**dungarees** – blue jeans

**fealty** – loyalty

**retrieval** – recovery; reeling in

**grotty** – disgusting; dirty; "gross"

**damsel** – young woman of noble birth

**distress** – great pain or mental suffering



**Chapter 11**

**urgency** – necessity; importance  
**hombre** – dude; guy; man

**Chapter 12**

none

**Chapter 13**

**gruel** – cooked cereal

**Chapter 14**

none

**Chapter 15**

**toxic** – poisonous

**Chapter 16**

**furrowed** – deeply wrinkled, as on the forehead

**Chapter 17**

**dysfunctional** – not functioning normally  
**kin** – relatives  
**injustice** – an unjust or unfair act

**Chapter 18**

**illiterate** – unable to read and write  
**precaution** – action taken ahead of time to secure good results; safeguard  
**trussed** – tied; bound; fastened  
**functional** – operative; in working order

**Chapter 19**

**accommodations** – room and board; lodging  
**bloated** – swollen; puffed up  
**godforsaken** – desolate; wretched; pitiable

**Chapter 20**

none

**Chapter 21**

**violation** – disobedience; breaking the rules  
**abduction** – kidnapping  
**genetic** – relating to genes; inherited at birth  
**aberration** – different from normal or ordinary  
**lofty** – elevated in style, tone, or sentiment  
**dynamic** – energetic; vigorously active

**Chapter 22**

**prodigy** – a young person with extraordinary talent or ability  
**seizure** – a sudden attack, as of epilepsy

**Chapter 23**

**gyp** – swindle; fraud; cheat  
**tracheotomy** – operation cutting into the trachea or breathing tube  
**facilitate** – assist; make easier  
**stabilized** – made stable; held steady

**Chapter 24**

none

**Chapter 25**

none

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Freak the Mighty

## Vocabulary Context Practice

**Directions:** Using the vocabulary words from Chapters 1-5, answer the question or choose the word that best completes the sentence. Write your answer on the line provided.

1. You might give a special person a special nickname or \_\_\_\_\_
2. A shark uses its tail fins to provide \_\_\_\_\_ through the water.
3. Despite the terror attacks on 9/11, our country is still \_\_\_\_\_ : we won't be defeated.
4. This word could be a synonym for "accept" or "put up with." \_\_\_\_\_
5. This word has the same meaning as *throw up*, *vomit*, or *heave*. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Superman is thought by his followers to be \_\_\_\_\_ because he can't be beaten.
7. If our world population became too large and all of the resources we have on the earth were totally used up, our supply would be said to be \_\_\_\_\_
8. Synonym for "guessed" or "assumed without having any proof." \_\_\_\_\_
9. Sometimes, teens are accused of things they did not say or do, because of the stereotype that some adults have about the \_\_\_\_\_ of teens.
10. Max admits that he is a \_\_\_\_\_ young man.
11. When a person is crouching down, trying not to be seen, it can also be said that he is:  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. If you are too tall going down a set of stairs to a basement, you must be careful not to hit your head on this. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Freak the Mighty

## Vocabulary Quiz

**Part A: Write the letter of the correct definition next to each vocabulary word.**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. _____ hunkering    | A. assumed without proof; guessed           |
| 2. _____ abide        | B. used up; empty                           |
| 3. _____ depleted     | C. vomit; throw up                          |
| 4. _____ postulated   | D. crouching down                           |
| 5. _____ sobriquet    | E. heavy and clumsy; bulky                  |
| 6. _____ regurgitate  | F. nickname                                 |
| 7. _____ hulking      | G. incapable of being defeated or conquered |
| 8. _____ invincible   | H. put up with; tolerate; accept            |
| 9. _____ unvanquished | I. act or process of propelling             |
| 10. _____ bulkhead    | J. beam over a cellar stairway              |
| 11. _____ propulsion  | K. undefeated; unconquered                  |

**Part B: Answer each question, using explanations and descriptions to illustrate your understanding of the meaning of the underlined vocabulary word.**

12. What types of things might one see a prodigy doing?
13. Explain a situation that might cause a confrontation.
14. If you are being evasive about your homework, what are you doing?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

15. Explain how someone with avarice might behave.
16. During the COVID-19 crisis, the United States experienced a deficiency of masks. Explain what this means.
17. Use your knowledge to explain the trajectory of the sun and the earth.
18. Explain the difference in your demeanor when you are with your parents and when you are alone with your friends.

**Part C: Write the letter of the best answer matching the definition in the space provided.**

19. \_\_\_\_\_ meeting at a point; coming together  
A. propulsion  
B. confrontation  
C. trussed  
D. converging
20. \_\_\_\_\_ made known  
A. abide  
B. divulged  
C. evasive  
D. optimum
21. \_\_\_\_\_ most desirable; favorable  
A. optimum  
B. aberration  
C. lofty  
D. prodigy
22. \_\_\_\_\_ recovery; reeling in  
A. hunkering  
B. trussed  
C. lofty  
D. retrieval
23. \_\_\_\_\_ tied; bound; fastened  
A. trussed  
B. retrieval  
C. divulged  
D. hulking
24. \_\_\_\_\_ elevated in style, tone, or sentiment  
A. trussed  
B. lofty  
C. optimum  
D. avarice
25. \_\_\_\_\_ different from normal; odd  
A. optimum  
B. sobriquet  
C. aberration  
D. deficiency