

Fields/Davis Academy

Summer reading: *Boy's Life* by Robert McCammon

In order to prepare for your paper that you will write, you MUST ANNOTATE and mark pages that relate to the following parts (see below) of the novel. If you fail to do this, you will be disorganized when you need specific support for your paper; the text is large, so locating information that you need but have not marked will add to your labor up ahead...

This is a great mystery and coming-of-age story, so I have focused on a. gathering of clues and b. lessons learned. Address all of the following; you may do so by taking notes as you go through the reading. These responses/notes should be thorough, but you may bullet point vs. write in sentences for sake of brevity.

1. Cory Mackenson learns valuable coming-of-age lessons from the following people, animals/events in this book:
2. Rebel and Davy Ray (deaths of)
3. Dr. Lezander (appearance vs. reality/moment of grace in the end of one's life)
4. Vernon (effects of impaired parenting on children)
5. Nemo (effects of impaired parenting on children/hidden potential in children); look up/define "Nemo" in Latin;
6. Lessons taught by Ms. Neville
7. Huge failures/disappointments can mark a person for life (Vernon) and often cause emotional/mental problems
8. Ben's dad (alcoholism/ real monsters worse than imagined monsters); Cory's better understanding/appreciation of his own parents, especially his dad.
9. Candy Stick kid (appearance vs. reality)
10. How bullies become bullies/what sometimes is only way to tame a bully/effects of bullies on others
11. Special "powers" some people among us seem to embrace (The Lady)
12. Most magical memories of Cory's childhood, in your opinion
13. Difference between inductive and deductive reasoning; **what are all the clues** that solve the mystery of the man who died in Saxon's Lake?
14. Explain and give proof of the method Cory uses to solve the mystery? Inductive or deductive? Be sure to show steps and consider the definition of each.
15. Research and take notes on the 1963 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama, where one of my little summer-playmates died in the blast (Addie Mae Collins).
16. Research/take notes on how Nazis were recruited by US and other countries to change identities and come to work in space program and other science-related areas after WW II. Particularly, take a look at their involvement in Redstone Arsenal in Alabama.