

Whirligig Timeline

Name _____

Whirligig incorporates several different time and location sequences throughout the novel. One of the sequences describes Brent's travel across the United States. Other chapters elaborate on the effect Brent's whirligigs have had upon various people. Below is a rough estimate of how the chapters occur sequentially over time.

Chapter One - Party Time
Chapter Three - The Afterlife
Chapter Five - Twinkle Twinkle
Chapter Seven - Apprentices
Chapter Nine - Everybody Swing
Chapter Six - Bolivia, Washington
Chapter ~~Four~~ - Miami, Florida
Chapter Eight - San Diego, California
Chapter Two - Weeksboro, ~~Maine~~

Whirligig Projects -

Due _____

Projects worth a possible 75 points & will be scored using "Projects" rubric.

- Follow Brent's example and teach yourself how to play the harmonica. Play at least three of the songs that Brent names in the novel for the class. Songs include such hits as "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean", "Hot Cross Buns", "Tom Dooley", "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". Write up a brief summary of the steps you took to accomplish this, including the hours you spent learning the songs. Exceptional performances will also include a description of the significance of at least two of the songs on Brent's character development (how Brent changes).
- Using the information on page 94 as a starting point, create a working model, including text, which explains why we have seasons. Exceptional projects will include a dramatization (videotaped is acceptable) which includes the sun and planet Earth.
- Make a star chart or box depicting or labeling all of the constellations named in the book. You might use different sides of the box to represent the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Be sure to include a paragraph or two stating Brent's interest in the constellations and how they affect his character development (which lifeskills does he strengthen through his exploration of the stars...)
- On page 122, the artist makes note of Corelli's music and how we're (the human race) listening to it "whole centuries later." Create a work of art that may last and have an effect on others. Write a paper explaining what it is, the materials and time it took to create, and why it might affect others.

*especially a song!

• See Ms. Stockton for a "wheels in motion" quilt block (or locate an appropriate pattern yourself.) Create a baby quilt for the "Blankets for Babies" project for the Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, our local Dominican Hospital, or for another needy person (not yourself nor a member of your family). This project could be completed as a group with each person contributing a square. Projects must be accompanied by a letter to the hospital explaining the connection between the "make a difference" theme of Whirligig and your quilt donation. Ask Ms. Stockton to help you with proper business letter format and to edit your letter for correctness. Community service hours are awarded to those who donate quilts.

• Create a whirligig that represents a person or event of significance in your life. Build the whirligig. Set it up in a place that seems appropriate and is legal... Take a picture of it. Attach the photograph to a final-draft quality explanation of the significance, creation process, and placement of your whirligig. Check out the library and the net for ideas on whirligig production!

• Create a visual map where you creatively show the key points of *Whirligig*. You need to use a sheet of paper (14" x 11") to:

_____ Show the placement site of each whirligig with a model/visual of the specific whirligig at that site (harp player, band, etc.)

_____ List the main characters who are effected by each whirligig at the correct site

_____ State how each of the above characters is affected

_____ Write a brief summary of the theme of the novel. This should fit onto the front of your map somehow

_____ Show Brent's physical journey with the starting and ending points clearly labeled on the map, as well as his movement from place to place - what sets him on the road to make whirligigs? (HINT: the inciting incident)

_____ Explain how he begins his story - what leads him to accept the task?

_____ Explain his character development at each whirligig stop - what does he learn about himself and the world? (Think Lifeskills and beyond...)

_____ Use color and GOOD graphics/visuals on your map!

_____ Write neatly and clearly

_____ Put YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME on the back!!!

• Read *Walk Two Moons*. Write an essay comparing and contrasting the concrete and abstract goals and results of the main characters of each novel. Include details on how the main character of each novel changes and the similarities and differences in their journeys and outcomes - including their reasons for traveling. (not just the obvious reasons- address the underlying reasons and motivations as well...)