

3rd Grade English Language Arts Summer Book Report-Project

I am excited about teaching our scholars during the 2022-2023 fiscal school year! English Language Arts will be a very exciting class as we navigate through the art of language and written text! With that in mind, William Kamkwamba grew up amidst poverty and famine in rural parts of the African nation of Malawi. With the use of discarded motor parts, a PVC pipe and an old bicycle wheel, Kamkwamba created a windmill to harness one of the only resources available to the people of Malawi: wind. He was only 14. I encourage you to watch the film as a part of your family time during the summer! In addition, students are asked to read the informational text to ask and answer question after looking at interesting key details about wind energy.

- Students will read *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer
- Students will read and respond by writing a three-paragraph summary from their *point of view*.
- Students will present/read their response via *flip grid*.
- Students should be dressed appropriately during the oral presentation.

Grading Rubric:

Written from the student's Point of View	Provided Text Evidence	3 Complete Paragraphs (5 sentences in each paragraph with 7 words or more in each sentence)	Presentation: Tone, Poise, and Dressed Appropriately	Overall Written Report Prepared for the first week of school
Satisfies the requirements	Satisfies the requirements	Satisfies the requirements	Satisfies the requirements	Satisfies the requirements
20 points	20 points	20 points	20 points	20 points

Flip Grid Link:

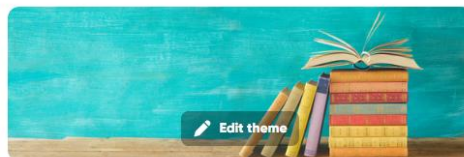
<https://info.flipgrid.com/>

Join Code: fee6231e

May 31, 2022

Mr. Payne's 3rd Grade English Language Arts

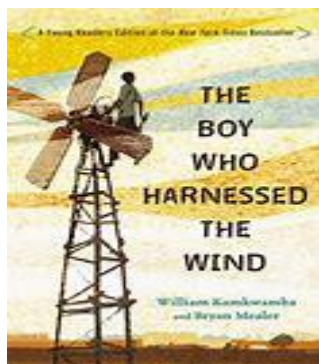
Mr. Payne 0 responses • 0 views • 0 comments • 0 hours of discussion

[Add a co-lead](#)

After downloading the Flip Grid app or using the link, students will use the join code to record and submit their oral responses to Mr. Payne's 3rd Grade English Language Arts Class. The join code is [fee6231e](#).

Book Information:

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer



Amazon link to purchase the book:

[The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, Young Reader's Edition: Kamkwamba, William, Mealer, Bryan, Hymas, Anna: 9780147510426: Books \(amazon.com\)](#)

YouTube link for the audio of the book:

<https://youtu.be/methl3q1Wdl>

YouTube link for the author's TED Talk:

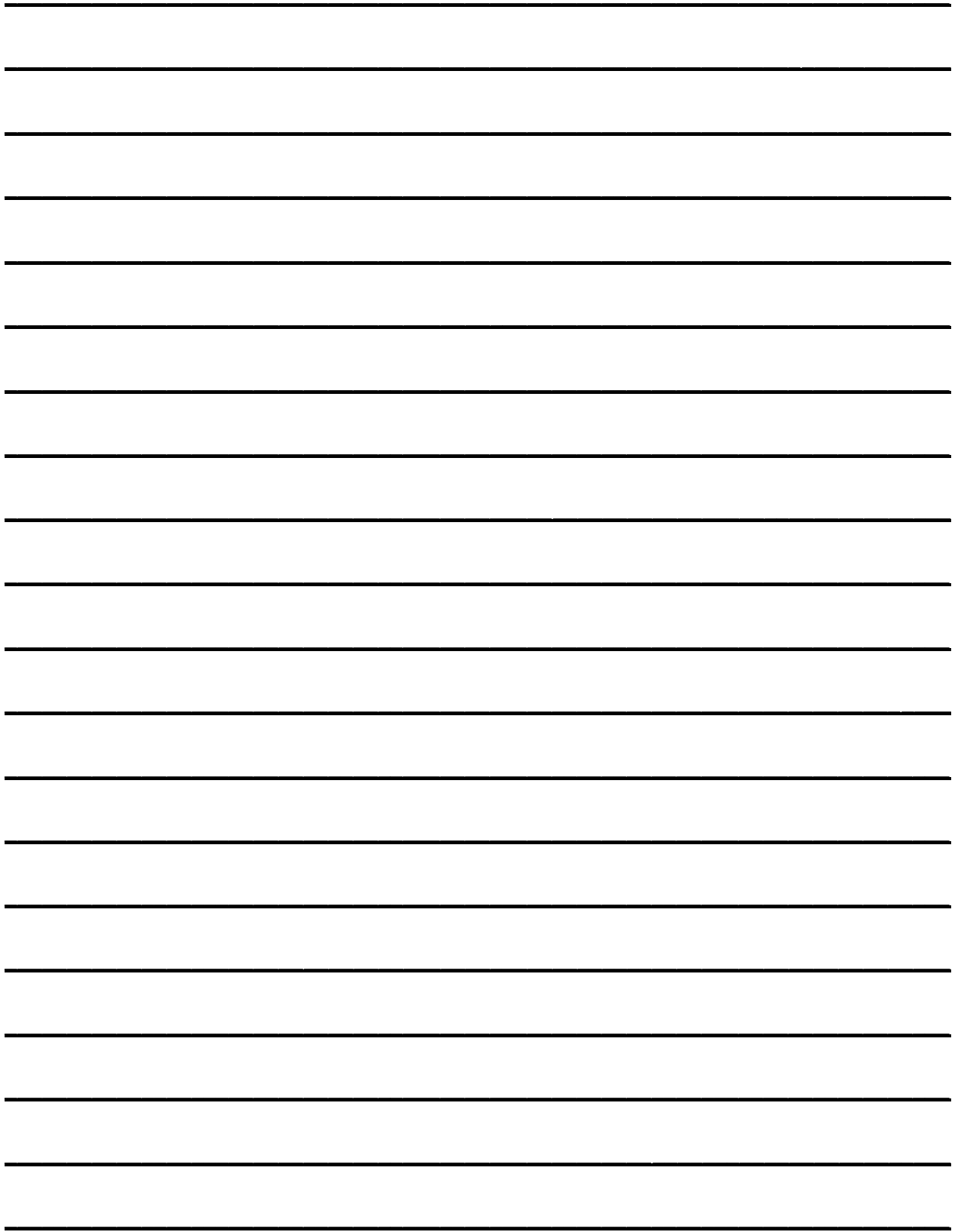
<https://youtu.be/6QkNxt7MpWM>

YouTube link for movie trailer available on **Netflix**:

<https://youtu.be/nPkr9HmqIG0>

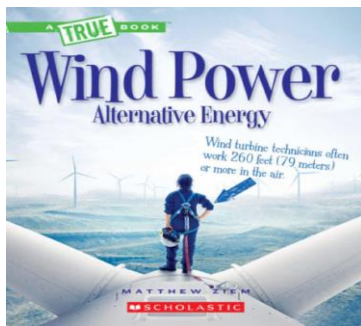
Questions to consider for discussion:

1. Could you imagine living without electricity? What would your life be like? Describe William's life and compare it to American teenagers and even your own.
2. How did the villagers compensate for not having electricity, telephones, or most of the modern conveniences we take for granted?
3. What is the role of magic in the story? What about education? Contrast the two. Is there room for both in a culture? What about education and religion? How do the two impact each other? How did William's religion influence his outlook?
4. What did electricity and the creation of the windmill mean for William, his family, and his village? What might his accomplishment mean for the world?
5. What motivates people like William to attempt the unthinkable? How would you describe him to someone who's never heard of his achievement?
6. Compare William to his father and to his mother. How are they alike? How did his parents shape William's outlook?
7. Imagine what a handful of Williams with some encouragement and financial backing from government and private sources might accomplish. Offer some ideas.
8. Malawi is an extremely poor nation. What are the causes of this poverty and what exacerbates it? How might these causes and influences be overcome? How has the West—think of organizations like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, run by Americans and Europeans—helped to contribute to nations like Malawi's troubles?
9. William writes of the corruption, greed, nonexistent services, and lack of empathy that turned the drought into a disaster for average people like him and his family. Can you see any similarities with our own culture, both past and present? Think about the American Depression. How did that compare to Malawi's drought?
10. William was desperate to stay in school but could not because of money. Think about American students. Why do you think with all the opportunities for schooling, students are disinterested in learning? In your opinion, what accounts for the differences between William and his American counterparts?
11. Many Americans criticize public schools and some even question the need for them. Others argue that money doesn't matter when it comes to education. How does William's experience address our own debates on the subject? Think about his school, and compare it to American schools. Might William's life be different if he had access to education without having to pay? How so?
12. What lessons did you take away from William's story?



Informational Text:

I have attached the link to the informational text that your scholars should have completely read before the first day of school. This text will encompass various text features that students will be required to know during the first 9 weeks of school.



<https://shop.scholastic.com/teachers-ecommerce/teacher/books/a-true-book-alternative-energy-wind-power-9780531239452.html>