

**Summer Assignment: 11th Grade
Grade Level 2021-2022**

Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd: ISBN-10 : 0670024783 or ISBN-13 : 978-0670024780

Your summer assignment reading, *Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd, is historical fiction about Sarah and Angelina Grimke, two sisters who were born in South Carolina in a slaveholding family, left to become abolitionists and eventually advocated for women's rights. It also tells a story from the perspective of an enslaved person who resists the oppression of slavery and eventually achieves freedom.

Answer the questions below in paragraph form and email them to me before you leave for Muss. I will give you feedback via email and we will discuss the main ideas of this book during the 2nd trimester when you return.

This story is told from the perspective of two different narrators, Handful, an enslaved person and Sarah, her enslaver, who later becomes an abolitionist. The story begins as they are both young children who grow up throughout the novel. Each chapter name indicates whose point of view is being shown.

If you have any questions about this assignment, please email Mrs. Scheinmann rscheinmann@jbha.org.

I. Main characters in *Invention of Wings*

Below is a list of the main characters from the book. As you read the novel, for each of these main characters, write three bullet points that describe them:

Hetty (Handful) Grimke

Sarah Grimke

Angelina (Nina) Grimke

Charlotte Grimke

Denmark Vessey

Mary Grimke

John Grimke

II. Questions to answer

Answer the three questions below in paragraph form (No more than 5-8 sentences for each one):

1. Sarah promises Charlotte to free Handful. After her manumission (freedom from slavery) fails, she decides to accomplish this by teaching Handful to read. In the end, she does free Handful from slavery. Handful's life would have been limited if she had not escaped slavery, but what if she had escaped slavery without the freedom of knowledge and skill of reading, too?
2. Handful's mother, Charlotte resists the oppression of slavery in multiple ways. Describe two different ways she defies her enslaver in the novel.
3. In what ways does Sarah struggle against the expectations of her family, society and religion? Provide specific examples from the book where she defies each of these norms. (Describe one example for each norm)