

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# The Last Mapmaker

## by Christina Soontornvat

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

### What's It About?

Nere has never understood why she feels so much more comfortable and confident in water than on land, but everything falls into place when Nere learns that she is one of a group of kids who --unbeknownst to them-- have been genetically altered to survive in the ocean. These products of "The Neptune Project" will be able to build a better future under the sea, safe from the barren country's famine, wars, and harsh laws. But there are some very big problems: no one asked Nere if she wanted to be a science experiment, the other Neptune kids aren't exactly the friendliest bunch, and in order to reach the safe haven of the Neptune colony, Nere and her fellow mutants must swim through hundreds of miles of dangerous waters, relying only on their wits, dolphins, and each other to evade terrifying undersea creatures and a government that will stop at nothing to capture the Neptune kids . . . dead or alive.

Fierce battles and daring escapes abound as Nere and her friends race to safety in this action-packed aquatic adventure.

### Who Wrote It?

Christina Soontornvat grew up behind the counter of her parents' Thai restaurant in a small Texas town with her nose stuck in a book. She is very proud of both her Thai and her Texan roots, and makes regular trips to both Weatherford and Bangkok to see her beloved family members (and eat lots and lots of Thai food!). In addition to being an author, Christina holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and a master's degree in Science Education. She spent a decade working in the science museum field, where she designed programs and exhibits to get kids excited about science. She has won many awards including



the Newbery Honor Award (twice!). She lives in Austin, Texas with her husband, two young children, and one old cat. You can learn more about her on her website: [www.soontornvat.com](http://www.soontornvat.com).

AR Reading Level: 5.2

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆

---



---



---



---



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.