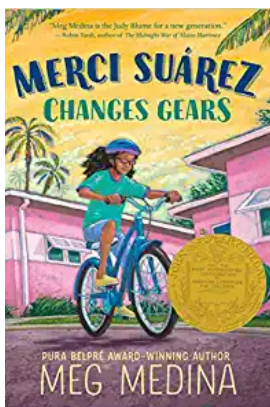


Name _____

Date _____



Merci Suarez Changes Gears

by Meg Medina



Read Aloud Video

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.

What's It About?

Merci Suárez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. For starters, she's not exactly like the other kids at Seaward Pines because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. At home, Merci's most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely and no one in her family will tell her anything about what's going on with her grandfather. In a coming of age story that features family, friends, frenemies – and ripped off eyebrows – we look at the confusion and constant change that define middle school and the steadfast connection that defines family.

This book won the Newbery Medal in 2019.

If you like this book, you might also enjoy the sequel: *Merci Suarez Can't Dance*.

Who Wrote It?

Meg Medina is an award-winning and New York Times best-selling author who writes picture books, as well as middle grade and young adult fiction. Her works have been called 'heartbreaking,' 'lyrical' and 'must haves for every collection.' When she's not writing, Meg works on community projects that support girls, Latino youth, and/or literacy. She is a faculty member of Hamline University's Masters of Fine Arts in Children's



Literature and lives with her family in Richmond, Virginia. You can learn more about Meg on her website: www.MegMedina.com.

AR Reading Level: 4.8

Lexile Level: 700L

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.