

Curriculum and Project Ideas for The PHANTOM ISLAND Series

Windchaser

Windfall

Watercrossing

Watermark

Firetrap

Earthbound



by Krissi Dallas

*All assignments and projects are in downloadable form at www.KrissiDallas.com

*Looking to bring a local author to your school? Krissi's author visit information is enclosed here.

Phantom Island Series Literary Assignments (As You Read)

- 1. Vocabulary-** Have students compile a list of vocabulary words (documenting page numbers) they don't know or can't easily define. Then, have them look up the definitions (include parts of speech) and use them in their own sentence.
- 2. Characterization-** Assign students one of the main characters and have them do a working characterization of that person while they read. Include physical description, personality traits, strengths, weaknesses, fears, past experiences that have affected him/her, personal philosophies about life or dating or fate. Once the student gets to know each tribe, have them discuss how their character embodies the traits of a particular tribe.
- 3. Conflict-** Ask students to choose a main character and identify their main conflict in the following areas- person vs person, person vs. nature, person vs. society, person vs self, and person vs. fate. Have them list specific examples of these conflicts and determine which ones are resolved by the end of the book and which ones are still conflicts throughout the series.
- 4. Theme-** Give the following themes and have students find three situations in the book for each particular theme (documenting quotes and page numbers) that point to its existence.
 - a. Your choices define who you are.
 - b. Not all things (or people) are exactly as they appear to be.
 - c. Curiosity is a powerful motivator.
 - d. Loyalty and friendship empower people to do great things.
- 5. Root Word Knowledge-** Do a study of root words and their influence on the naming of certain aspects of the Island. Ex. Aero, Hydro, Geo, Pyra, Dora, Terra, etc. Use these as a jump into a root word lesson. Using root word knowledge, have students create new words for different things/animals/places on the Island.
- 6. Story Plotting-** *Windchaser* and *Windfall* were written as one cohesive story plot. Use Freytag's Pyramid to plot out the flow of the story leading up to its big climax at the end of *Windfall*. Explain that while most stories are leading to a big climax, an author inserts mini-climaxes and resolutions along the way to build the suspense for the big climax. Have students identify all the mini-climaxes (high points of emotional intensity) that lead to the big climax.
- 7. Multi-Cultural Connection-** Reflect on the Travelers' experiences in a new land with different customs and traditions than their own. Discuss the differences in the cultures of the

Mainland (Texas, United States) and the White Island. Fortunately, they spoke the same language, but how would their adventure have been different if they hadn't? What role did Gabriel play in helping them adapt to the culture of the Island? Relate this to what it must be like for students from other countries or with different cultural or linguistic backgrounds... how must they feel moving to a new place? What can others practically do to make their experience easier?

Phantom Island Series- Movie Poster Project

Your Graphic Design Firm has been hired by a big name production company to design the movie poster for a yet-to-be-filmed movie in the Phantom Island series based on the books by Krissi Dallas. The producer of the film has determined that your poster must consist of:

I. The Movie Title

- You can use the title of the *Phantom Island* book, or come up with a creative title on your own.
- Your title must include the subtitle, “Based on the book (insert book title) by Krissi Dallas.”

II. Original Artwork

- You can focus on one significant scene/item from the movie or a collage of different scenes, but your artwork must be original and must be IN COLOR.

III. Tagline (You need the catchy little line that you see on movie posters... ex. On the movie poster for “The Day After Tomorrow, that tagline was, “Nature has spoken.”)

IV. Cast

- A list of characters and the actors who will portray them
 - you must include the 3 main characters- Whitnee, Caleb, Morgan and then select 3 more of your choosing (at least 6 different characters)
 - be sure to select actors who would be believable in those roles, but have fun!

V. Critic’s quotes

- Write 3 POSITIVE quotes from fictional critics about the movie or actors and include them on your poster. (Be sure to include the critic’s names and publication with their quotes!)

Ex: “FANTASTIC movie! Now if we could just find that portal!”

-J. Pennington, USA Today

Movie Poster Project RUBRIC

Movie Title (creativity)	_____ /10
Original artwork (must be original and in color)	_____ /20
Tagline (Is it catchy?)	_____ /20
Cast	_____ /30
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitnee• Caleb• Morgan• Character 4• Character 5• Character 6	
Critic's Quotes	_____ /30
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quote 1• Quote 2• Quote 3	
Overall neatness (attention to detail)	_____ /10
Grammar, spelling, punctuation	_____ /10
TOTAL	_____ /130

White Island Travel Brochure Project

You are a travel agency trying to sell people on booking an exotic trip to the beautiful and magical White Island! Design an enticing paper or digital slide brochure that consists of:

I. Attention- Grabbing Cover Page

- The name “White Island” needs to be somewhere on the cover.
- Use words and pictures that will interest a traveler.

II. Tribal Information

- Describe the four different tribes and their geographical features
- Always keep your purpose in mind- you want to persuade people to visit! Your writing style should reflect that.

III. Hot Spots

- List and describe certain must- see places or must have experience on the Island.

IV. Pictures

- Every traveler wants to see pictures of where they are going! Use original artwork to show off different sites they might see while there.

V. Map of the Island

- Draw your own map of the Island. (Try to stay as true to the book as possible- see Whitnee’s description of the map Gabriel shows them in Chapter 13.)

NOTE: This project can easily be adapted to meet technology and speaking/presenting skills. Students can be given the task of selling a trip to the White Island to a group of interested travelers through the development and presentation of their own digital slideshow. Instead of original artwork, they could insert pictures and clip art that would interest a traveler. They could either draw a map on their computer or on a poster to go with their presentation. Students can present to the class!

Travel Brochure RUBRIC

Cover Page (must include “White Island”; creative; persuasive)	_____ /20
Tribal Information (descriptive and persuasive)	_____ /40
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aerodorian• Hydrodorian• Geodorian• Pyrodorian	
Hotspots (List at least 4 must see places on the island)	_____ /40
Pictures (original artwork)	_____ /30
Map of Island (accuracy is important!)	_____ /30
Overall neatness	_____ /10
Grammar, spelling, punctuation	_____ /10
TOTAL	_____ /180

Phantom Island Series Research Essay Project

As Whitnee says in the book, “there have always been phenomena in the world that could not be explained by science or reason.” She goes on to mention the Bermuda Triangle in her recollections of mysterious “phantom islands” or “lost lands.”

You are a friend of Whitnee’s back at school and have been told confidently about her adventures over the summer. She has asked YOU (because you have crazy mad research skills) to help her figure out this mystery of the Island's location. In order to do that, you need to know what research and explanations already exist on this topic.

Research what information you can find about disappearing islands—also called “phantom islands” or “lost lands.” Write up an essay for Whitnee that introduces and discusses these strange cases. What scientific or logical reasons are given for the disappearance of islands that were once charted and later lost?

Include in your research the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle. What strange phenomena have been documented about those mysterious islands and what scientific explanations or theories have been given?

Essay Writing Tips:

1. Make sure your essay follows a logical flow of discussion—using an effective introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.
2. Always weave facts, quotes, and concrete details with your commentary and cite your research sources!
3. Be sure to close out your essay with a concluding paragraph that gives your own insightful opinion regarding your topic.

Essay RUBRIC

Ideas	Points 1-10
Has well-developed thesis	
Poses relevant info about the topic; excludes extraneous details	
Records important ideas, concepts, and direct quotations, from a variety of reliable and appropriate sources	
Paraphrase and summarize various perspectives on the topic	
Total (/40)	

Organization	Points 1-10
Ideas are logically grouped and sequenced with intro and conclusion paragraphs	
Document resources avoid plagiarism	
Organizes and displays info on charts, maps, and/or graphs	
Total (/30)	

Style	Points 1-10
Engages reader with a hook and develops reader's interest	
Voice is distinct: Word choice is developed and precise	
Sentences are varied in structure and length; errors are minor and infrequent	
Total (/30)	

Phantom Island Character Name Research

In the Phantom Island series, Krissi Dallas chose certain character names based on their traditional meanings. When you look deeper into these name meanings and historical connections, you will discover a little more insight about their character.

Choose six of the following characters' names and research their meaning:

Whitnee

Caleb

Morgan

Gabriel

Benjamin

Abrianna

Nathan

Eden

Joseph

Ezekiel

Thomas

Tamir

- I.** List the traditional meaning of the name.
- II.** Identify two quotes in the book that point to that character embodying the qualities of his/her name meaning.
- III.** What historical or Biblical allusions might be contained within that character's name (particularly with some of the Hebrew names)?
- IV.** Describe what new insight you gained about that character.
- V.** Research your own name's meaning. Does your name fit your personality? Why? If not, then what do you think your name should mean?

Character Name Research Rubric

Character 1: _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Character 2: _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Character 3 _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Character 4: _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Character 5: _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Character 6: _____/30

- Meaning
- 2 character quotes
- Allusion
- New insight

Overall completeness and neatness _____/10

Grammar, spelling, punctuation _____/10

TOTAL- _____/200

***Windchaser: Phantom Island Book 1* Study Questions**

Prologue: Somewhere Over The Reality Rainbow

1. Describe the setting our main character finds herself in.
2. Characterization: Make two inferences about this character's personality based on the prologue.
3. List all the clues you can find from her narration about what could've happened leading up to this moment. (ie. What parts of her were already injured? Who is she looking for? Where was she before this? etc.)

Camp Fusion

Ch. 1- The Return to Camp Fusion

1. When and where did Whitnee, Morgan, and Caleb first meet?
2. What topic seems to be off limits between Whitnee and Caleb?
3. We're introduced to Ben as Whitnee arrives at Camp Fusion and he is described as someone who is "clued in more than anyone else to the mischief the campers and mentors got into." Do you know any adults like Ben? Describe that person.

Ch. 2- You Can't Trap a Lightning Bug

1. Why might a young person attend Camp Fusion?
2. What does Caleb share about himself at the first counselor's meeting?
3. What do we learn that Whitnee is deathly afraid of?
4. Do you think Whitnee's nightmare and what she thought she saw across the river are connected? Predict how.

Ch. 3- Awkward Turtle

1. What does Caleb overhear Whitnee talking to her Mom about?
2. Opinion: Do you think Whitnee and Caleb are just friends or is a crush forming here?
3. Prediction: What did you think about Morgan's reaction to her camper's backstory? Make a prediction about what's going on.

Ch. 4- The Devil Wears Pink

1. Characterization: Give a character description of Amelia Robinson—physical and emotional.
2. We get the details of Morgan's past here. How is she different from Whitnee?

3. Whitnee has another nightmare. What do you think is her main conflict in this dream sequence?

Ch. 5- King of the Rock

1. What connection does Jaxson make about Whitnee from years before?
2. What does Whitnee think she sees on the other side of the river?
3. Opinion: Do you believe Whitnee's dad is dead or alive?

Ch. 6- A Nightmare Is A Wish Your Heart Makes

1. What does Ben reveal to Whitnee about her parents and their connection to Camp Fusion?
2. What do you think Ben means when he tells Whitnee that "things are not always what they appear to be at first." What are some examples of this so far in the story?
3. Whitnee shares everything with Morgan and Caleb and trusts them with her secrets. Who do you consider to be a friend you would trust with your secrets?

Ch. 7- Secrets

1. What happened the summer Whitnee's mom was at Camp Fusion that almost shut the entire camp down?
2. Prediction: What do you think is going to happen with Amelia's mom?

Ch. 8- Riverside Confessions

1. How is Caleb and Whitnee's relationship changing? What is Whitnee scared of?
2. What does Whitnee think she sees that causes her to fall at the end of the chapter?

Ch. 9- The Plan is Hatched

1. "There *was* something dangerous about the river, but I couldn't go an entire summer without knowing what it was." What do you predict will happen this weekend?
2. What news does Whitnee get from Claire and do you think it's okay? Why or why not?

Ch. 10- Damage Control

1. What is wrong with Whitnee's hamburger and who is the first to notice?
2. Where did Whitnee find Amelia and why was she so upset?
3. What scene does Whitnee stumble upon as she's trying to make a phone call?

Ch. 11- Everything Changes

1. What has changed between Caleb and Whitnee?

2. Opinion: How do you think Caleb really feels? Is he making the right choices?

Ch. 12- The Other Side

1. What unexpected guests join Whitnee and Morgan as they decide to cross the river and explore?
2. Whitnee has been feeling a pull to go across the river since she arrived at Camp Fusion. What is the mood created by the setting as Whitnee and friends land on the opposite bank of the river?

White Island

Ch. 13- Somewhere Over the Reality Rainbow, Cont.

1. What is happening where we pick up from the prologue?
2. Opinion: What is your first impression of Gabriel?
3. What does Gabriel suggest could be the cause of Whitnee's sickness?

Ch. 14- Never Knew I Could Do That

1. As Whitnee wakes up a second time on the island, who is there?
2. What seems to help Whitnee's injuries, and what is Gabriel's explanation for it?
3. What color do her eyes turn?
4. What shows up at the end of the chapter and what crazy thing does Whitnee do?

Ch. 15- May the Force Be With Me

1. What color are Whitnee's eyes glowing?
2. How would you feel if you were Whitnee right now, learning about this newfound ability?
3. What tribe is Gabriel from and what life force does he have?
4. What is suspicious about the message Gabriel receives?
5. What is the next miraculous feat Whitnee does at the end of this chapter and for whom?

Ch. 16- When You Just Need A Bathroom

1. Where does the group find refuge?
2. Of the four tribes on the island, which tribe do you relate to the most and why?

Ch. 17- Fighting with Fire

1. What does Whitnee talk Gabriel into doing on the beach?
2. Reflection: If you met someone from another world and they asked you to describe yourself, what would you say?

3. Prediction: Why do you think Gabriel was expecting Whitnee, but not her friends? How could having friends on this journey change the outcome?

Ch. 18- Temper Tantrums

1. Describe the layout of the White Island.
2. Based on Gabriel's description of Ezekiel, what do you think of this man? What might his underlying motive be?
3. Opinion: Does Caleb have a right to be protective of Whitnee at this point?
4. Why do you think Whitnee might need to be careful about what she reveals about herself to the council?

Ch. 19- The Windy City

1. What trait about the Aerodorian village surprises all the Travelers?
2. What is Gabriel insistent on as they arrive at the Western Guesthouse to rest and eat?
3. What are some interesting things that Whitnee learns about Pyradorians and Gabriel from Hannah?
4. Reflection: How would you feel about visiting Aerodora? What do you like so far and what do you find weird?

Ch. 20- The Conclave

1. Why do you think there is tension and some mistrust between Gabriel and Sarah? What secrets do you think they are hiding?
2. What does Whitnee's name mean? Why is this so surprising?
3. How do Ezekiel and Sarah respond when Whitnee talks about her family?
4. We have yet to meet the Guardian, but from all of Gabriel's comments we can see that this person holds a lot of power. Why might it be so important for nothing to be discussed without the Guardian present?

Ch. 21- Haunted by the Living Dead

1. Why does Kevin get so upset and leave the room as Whitnee and friends discuss the meeting with the council?
2. Reflection: Whitnee, Morgan and Caleb have a heart to heart. Morgan calls out both Whitnee and Caleb for their behaviors. Do you have friends or family members who will lovingly point out things you need to work on? Explain how that's a good thing.
3. Whitnee has seen a few glimpses of lighthearted, relaxed Gabriel. Why do you think Gabriel puts up a formal, take-charge demeanor when he's around most people?

4. Opinion: How do you think Gabriel feels about Whitnee at this point in the story?

Ch. 22- Two Princes, One Tea Party

1. How are Whitnee and Caleb different when it comes to their dads?
2. When Whitnee suggests that being absent from Claire might make Caleb's heart miss and want Claire more, how does Caleb respond? How could this complicate how Whitnee feels toward Gabriel?
3. Where does Hannah suggest taking Whitnee, Morgan, and Caleb after dinner?
4. Do you think Gabriel really had business to work on instead of going to the dance club with the others? If so, what could it be?

Ch. 23- Dance of the Wind

1. What new character does Morgan instantly take a liking to? What tribe is he from?
2. Who shows up unexpectedly?
3. What do you think caused Whitnee to unknowingly start channeling life force when she was dancing?

Ch. 24- Pyra-Maniac

1. What does Gabriel conclude caused the burning heat between him and Whitnee?
2. Who in the group expresses a fear of storms?
3. What new life force does Gabriel want Whitnee to experiment with?
4. Prediction: Whitnee's ability to access all four life forces is incredibly unique. What could this mean and what problems do you think this could create for her in the future?

Ch. 25- The Storm in All of Us

1. What does Gabriel think could be causing Whitnee's sudden fatigue?
2. Why is Amelia so on edge and having trouble sleeping?
3. We get some of Amelia's backstory here. How is Whitnee able to relate and how does this seem to change their relationship?
4. Prediction: What do you think will happen in the next book, *Windfall*? Will the characters make it back to Camp Fusion?

Windfall: Phantom Island Book 2 Study Questions

The White Island

Ch. 1- The Pilgrim Prophecy

1. What is everyone rushing to get ready for as they all wake up?
2. What is your first impression of the Guardian? Do you think she is a force for good or evil?
3. What if Whitnee is the Pilgrim? How do you think that will affect the group and their time on the White Island? Do you think they will be able to return to the Mainland?

Ch. 2- Feel the Winds of Change Blow

1. What does Eli insist of Whitnee? How do Morgan and Caleb react?
2. What do you think happened “last time” that has the council members worked up?
3. Reflection: Have you ever had an experience that was so overwhelming, you had trouble focusing and thinking like Whitnee did at the end of this chapter? How did you feel? Who helped you through it?

Ch. 3- Legal Guardian

1. Gabriel says he doesn't trust everyone on the council. At this point, which character are you the most suspicious of? Why?
2. Given the timeline of being a Guardian, who does Whitnee figure out is the next Guardian in line? How does that change things and make this story more complicated?
3. What does Abrianna warn Whitnee of? Explain.
4. After Whitnee's talk with Gabriel and then with Abrianna, who do you think Whitnee can trust?

Ch. 4- Meet Boomer

1. Whitnee is incredibly confused and is struggling with her identity. How does Caleb help her? What does he remind her of?
2. Whitnee is able to communicate with Boomer when the others can't. How does Boomer address Whitnee?
3. What is interesting about the connection between Gabriel and Eden? Who does it remind you of?
4. Give your impressions of Levi, Tamir, and Eden now that they have joined the group.

Ch. 5- Travel Delays

1. Now that Whitnee has used both life forces of Wind and Water, what does Gabriel think needs to happen? What does Whitnee request in turn for her friends?
2. Why do you think Levi is so interested in Ezekiel knowing about Whitnee's special abilities?

Ch. 6- Camp Geodora

1. Describe how Geodora is different from Aerodora.
2. Why is Whitnee uneasy about Thomas?
3. What does transferring a life force look like?
4. Why is Joseph so astonished by Whitnee's use of the Geo life force?

Ch. 7- Coconut Launch

1. Describe the rules of Coconut Launch.
2. What does Caleb do that catches Whitnee off guard? How does she feel about it?
3. What is really motivating Gabriel to act so hurt as he walks with Whitnee back to the cabin? How is it different than what Whitnee thinks is making him upset? How has Abrianna played a role in this confusion?

Ch. 8- Fiery Feelings

1. In an attempt to stop kissing Gabriel, what does Whitnee do?
2. What is the main emotion that Whitnee brings out in Gabriel? Why is that so scary for him? Why might that cause problems in his leadership role?
3. Prediction: Do you think Whitnee and Gabriel will ever kiss again? Explain.

Ch. 9- Healing the Hard-Headed

1. What has happened to Caleb?
2. Reflection: Faith is a powerful thing. Morgan has so much faith in Whitnee and her healing abilities. Describe someone in your life that gives you the faith and confidence to push forward through difficult times.
3. Seeing is believing. How does Thomas change after seeing Whitnee heal Caleb?
4. Prediction: What do you think happened to Amelia and Kevin?

Ch. 10- The Nightmare Begins

1. What is Abrianna's reaction to the current situation? What do you think Gabriel's consequences might be from Abrianna when he returns?
2. Do you think Whitnee is really seeing her dad or having another vision like at Camp Fusion?

Ch. 11- Earth-Shattering Realization

1. In this opening sequence, the setting is playing a big role in helping Whitnee stay calm. Do you think it is the Earth life force communicating with Whitnee or something more?
2. How could Whitnee's attacker have created an image of her dad in the woods? What question does this bring up that can't be explained?
3. What suspicions do you still have about the kidnapping of Amelia and Kevin?

Ch. 12- Separation Issues

1. Reflection: Have you ever had to make a decision that you knew wouldn't be widely accepted by others, but you knew was the right thing to do?
2. Do you think Whitnee, Morgan, and Caleb made the right decision in sending Amelia and Kevin to the Palladium? Explain.

Ch. 13- Training Day

1. Which life force does Whitnee find to be the most difficult to learn during training?
2. What is a character trait of Abrianna's? Give text evidence to back up your answer.
3. Why do you think Gabriel is leaving the group? What do you think he is up to?

Ch. 14- All Aboard

1. What conclusion do Caleb and Whitnee come to about their relationship?
2. Do you think Whitnee should listen to the warning from her dad in her dream? Explain.

Ch. 15- Time to Rock the Boat

1. What new piece of information does Whitnee learn about Gabriel? Why does this upset her so much?
2. Simeon tells Whitnee, "Every beginning has its end." Do you think Whitnee has the power to choose her ending? Or is the Island in control of her destiny?

Ch. 16- Good-Byes

1. What does Whitnee learn about why Gabriel was detained from coming back sooner? How does that tug at her emotions?
2. How does Gabriel react to Whitnee's decision to go home? What does this tell us about his character, and how he feels about Whitnee?
3. Do you think there is more to the story of the previous Pilgrim? Do you think Whitnee's dad could somehow be involved?

4. Reflection; Goodbyes are a hard part of life. Describe a time you had to say goodbye to someone special to you.

Ch. 17- The Silver Dome

1. Under the care and protection of Abrianna and Eli, how has Amelia changed? What is she saying she wants to do?
2. What do you think Sarah wants to share with Whitnee about her heritage? Do you think Whitnee is the Pilgrim?

Ch. 18- The Combination of Life Forces

1. How does Abrianna prove to Whitnee that she really does know her father?
2. Do you think Abrianna is behind the rebel forces on the island?
3. What does Abrianna want from Whitnee? Do you think she will use this for good or evil?
4. Despite some doubts Whitnee has throughout the story about Gabriel, what does his last action tell us about his true character?

The Mainland Beyond

Ch. 19- History Lesson

1. How is Ben related to the White Island?
2. What was the most interesting thing you learned about the history of the White Island?
3. Reflection: Ben said, "It may take time to see the point, honey. But think about it. You know the truth now." Have you ever had a situation in life where the passing of time helped make things clearer?

Ch. 20- Return to Camp Fusion, Take Two

1. What lesson did Amelia learn from her time on the White Island?
2. Morgan really believes one day they will make it back to the White Island. What do you think?

Ch. 21- Making Things Right

1. Reflection: "'It always comes down to our choices, doesn't it?' said Caleb thoughtfully. 'People don't realize how much power that is.'" Think of a choice you have made that has had a big impact on your life.
2. Prediction; Do you think Whitnee's dad is still alive?

TEKS at work in projects and questions:

7.6A/8.6A- describe personal connections to a variety of sources, including self-selected texts

7.6C/8.6C- use text evidence to support an appropriate response

7.7A/8.7A- infer multiple themes within and across texts using text evidence

7.7B/8.7B- analyze how characters' qualities influence events and resolution of the conflict

7.7C/8.7C- analyze plot elements, including the use of foreshadow-ing and suspense, to advance the plot

7.7D/8.7D- analyze how the setting influences character and plot development

7.9F/8.9F- analyze how the author's use of language contributes to mood, voice, and tone

7.11B/8.11B- compose informational texts, including multi-paragraph essays that convey information about a topic, using a clear controlling idea or thesis statement and genre characteristics and craft