

**IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS**



**aventa**  
LEARNING  
by K<sup>12</sup>





# OUR MISSION:

K<sup>12</sup> / Aventa Learning Instructional Services Team provides students the opportunity to become academically successful by providing rigorous curricula and instruction in a technology-enabled environment with its School Partners.



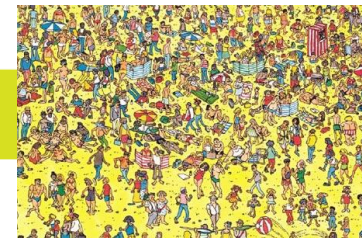
# THE SWEET HEREAFTER

- **The Summary:** A school bus crashes in a small town.
- **Point of View:** The story is told from the perspective of four individual narrators.
- **Themes:** What is the novel is telling the reader about community? About a person's background? About perspective? About tragedy?
- **Details:** There are a wealth of details in this novel to explore. You will select one detail to research, create a presentation, and complete a recording. See the next page for all the details...



# DETAILS TO EXPLORE...

- Ferris wheels
- Origin of the phrase “sweet hereafter”
- Demolition derby
- County fairs
- Upstate New York (near Plattsburg)
- Personal injury laws
- Problems faced by Vietnam vets
- Montego Bay, Jamaica
- Adoption of Native American children
- Recovering from the death of a child
- Small town relationships/life
- Paraplegia
- Legal depositions
- Perjury
- AIDS
- Apple computers
- Alcoholism
- Drug addition
- Dome houses
- Lasting effects of a stroke
- Rehabilitation
- Barbie dolls
- Angora rabbits



# THE RESEARCH

- Once you've selected your detail, it's time to begin your research.
- You must choose an angle to from which to share it from. Perhaps you will research its usefulness in the world, its history, its superstitions, its modern-day meaning, its negative effect on the world, or any other angle you can think of.
  - For example, I might choose Barbie Dolls as my topic. My mother hates Barbie Dolls, and I was never allowed to play with them, but I never really understood why. I decide to research the controversy of Barbie and why many feminists object to her. Knowing this information, I can then look back at the novel and analyze why Banks choose this particular toy as the focus of Nichole's last summer of childhood hanging out with her sister Jenny.
- The goal: Get specific!
- Be sure to keep track of your sources...you will need them to use create a Works Cited page.



# THE PRESENTATION

- Follow this outline for your slides:
  - **Slide 1:** Title Slide, including your name and your topic.
  - **Slide 2:** Introduction—Include a hook, a statement of your topic, and your thesis about the angle you chose to research.
  - **Slide 3:** A discussion of where the detail appears in the novel and the impact that the detail gives to the scene in which it appears.
  - **Slide 4:** One main supporting idea for your thesis; include 1-3 Details (facts, statistics, anecdotes, studies, evidence) from your research sources that develop your supporting ideas.
  - **Slide 5:** A second main supporting idea, including 1-3 details from research.
  - **Slide 6:** A third main supporting idea, including 1-3 details from research.
  - **Slides 7-8:** Reflect on the author's choice of the detail that you researched, and a discussion of how that detail relates to one of the themes of *The Sweet Hereafter*.
  - **Slide 9:** Conclusion—Include a wrap up of your ideas and a clincher.
  - **Slide 10:** Works Consulted—This is where you list all your sources using MLA format.



# KISS GUIDELINES . . . KEEP IT SUPER SIMPLE

- **Use PowerPoint:** If you don't have this, check out [www.openoffice.com](http://www.openoffice.com) to download an alternative (and free!) program.
- **Paraphrase/Summarize:** Be sure to put all information from your sources in your own words. If you need help, ask your teacher!
- **The "6" Rule:** Use bullets with no more than 6 words per bullet (avoid complete sentences).
- **Consistency:** Create a style/look for your entire presentation, with the same fonts, colors, and graphic styles.
- **Spell-Checking:** Run spell-check, then proofread.
- **Slide Notes:** Use the slide notes to add more details and write what you are going to say during your presentation. Don't know where this is? Look BELOW each slide to see the "Click to add notes" section.



# CREATING A WORKS CONSULTED PAGE

- What is the "Works Consulted" slide?
  - This lists all your sources in MLA format.
  - This is the same as a Works Cited page, but rather than citing directly in the report, you list at the end the sources you gathered information from, since you paraphrased/summarized in the report, rather than quoting directly.
  - If you don't remember how to create a Works Cited page, check out the Resources button, visit Purdue's OWL, or ask your teacher for help.
- Why is this slide important?
  - You want to give credit where it's due. You used research that other people have done...this is where you give them "props"!





# CREATING AN AUDIO RECORDING

- Use audio to present your material, focusing on the following:
  - Tone of voice: Be dramatic and expressive.
  - Enunciation: Be sure the listening can understand what you are saying.
  - Dynamics: Avoid speaking in monotone.
  - Rate: Don't speed through your poem like a chipmunk or bore your listener with a too-slow speech.
- Tips for creating a recording:
  - Use the recording program on your computer.
  - Download a free program, like Wavosaur ([www.wavosaur.com](http://www.wavosaur.com)).
  - No mic? No problem! Use your Smart Phone. For example, I recently discovered that my i-Phone has Voice Memos. After I create a recording, I can email it to myself. Then I can save the recording!



# DISCUSSION: IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

- Before submitting your final draft, you need to gather some feedback from your peers and your teacher.
- Post the PowerPoint file to the Discussion: It's All in the Details link.
- View at least two of the PowerPoint files posted by your peers and write brief peer reviews that follow the 4 P's of peer review (praise, probe, propose, be positive). Choose posts that have zero or one comment so that all students receive two reviews.
- Read the comments that peers provide for your presentation.



# PROJECT: IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

- Examine the reviews your peers provided.
- Based on the feedback, revise your presentation to make it stronger, more focused, more exciting. Carefully consider the images, script, and text on your slides.
- Listen to your recording (without looking at the slides) to evaluate your rate, enunciation, dynamics, and expression.
- Revise/edit the text of your script for active verbs, sophisticated vocabulary, and correct punctuation, capitalization, grammar, and spelling.
- To ensure success on this assignment, read the assignment rubric.
- Post your PowerPoint (with the Works Consulted page) as the last slide to the Project: It's All in the Details assignment link for instructor grading.
- Woo hoo! You've finished! 😊