



James Island Christian School

2026 Summer Reading Assignment

James Island Christian School

Rising 6th Grade Honors and CP

The specific guidelines for Rising 6th Grade follow:

Rising Sixth Graders

***Where the Red Fern Grows* : ISBN: 9780440412670**

Students will read **one** required book, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, by Wilson Rawls. A **test** will be given on this book during the first week of school. The test will include objective and subjective questions pertaining to details of the story and the writing of a one paragraph character analysis of Billy, Old Dan, or Little Ann. Select one of these characters for analysis. This character analysis includes these elements: physical appearance, personality description, character traits possessed by the character/s. (Observe these elements as you read the book this summer. In addition, it is highly recommended you take notes on these elements as you observe them since this will aid you with review preparation for your one paragraph character analysis of Billy, Old Dan, or Little Ann.

Students should complete the following creative writing project to accompany this book. This activity will be turned in on the first full day of school.

Write diary entries for three important days in the life of the **main character, Billy**. Try to show the feelings of this person in the details that you include in diary entries. Choose significant points in Billy's life. (Diary entries may be written in black or blue ink on notebook paper or typed with double spacing using **font size 12; font style: Times New Roman**. Length of each entry: (1 paragraph which consists of 8 sentences, including a topic sentence, 6 detailed

supporting sentences, and a conclusion sentence) Finally, use your imagination and creativity to create a diary cover, (cover should have a front and back) and bind the diary pages inside your cover. The attractive cover should include the title, author, and a picture depicting the main character/s of the novel. The cover picture may be handmade or computer generated.

Grading criteria: Sentence structure, grammatical accuracy, **neatness**, and creativity.

Academic Integrity: Academic research demonstrates that summer reading helps prevent the summer slide, significant achievement gaps, among all student demographics. Consequently, unless a student has official accommodations on file with JICS, he is expected to read independently and without the help of audio recordings, movies, or any other reading aids.

I acknowledge that I have read independently without the use of audio recordings, movies, or other printed reading aids like Sparknotes. Furthermore I have not used ChatGPT in my written preparations. (Sign and return with your assignment on the first full day of school.)

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____