



Riverside Presbyterian Day School

Summer Reading and Activities

Dear Fifth Grade Parents and Students,

Reading provides access to information, knowledge, pleasure and comfort. Because of the value Riverside Presbyterian Day School places on reading and its importance in all subject areas, I have implemented a summer reading **requirement** for upcoming fifth grade students.

Each student will be required to read *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls and complete activity sheets. Students must also read one selection from the “Wild About Reading” library booklist and complete two assignments explained on the assignment sheet for the second book selection. The assignments will be due the first day of school. All students are encouraged to participate in the library’s “Wild About Reading” program. Let’s see how many pages we can read as a fifth grade class!

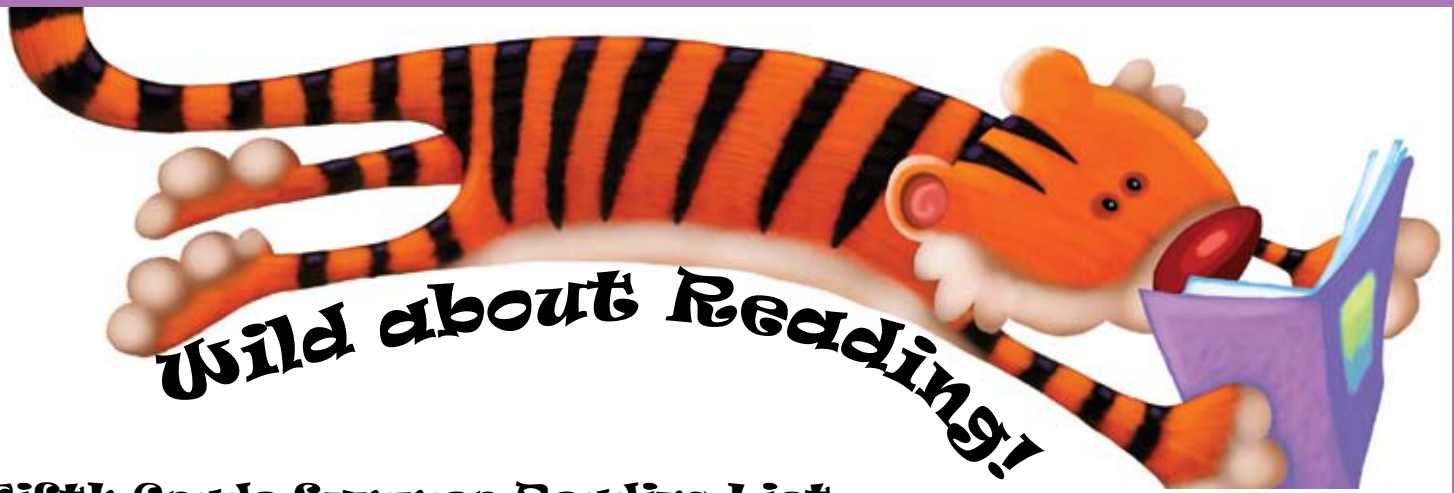
Parents, thank you for your continued support. One of our greatest challenges is making certain that reading is valued and enjoyed by our children. Please help your child get a jump-start on fifth grade with lots of reading this summer.

Congratulations fifth graders! All of your teachers are excited to share the experiences of fifth grade with you. What a special year lies ahead! Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wood

Ellen Wood



Fifth Grade Summer Reading List

Rules to Follow:

1. All books should be listed by title and number of pages on the reading list.
2. Additional titles may be listed on a separate sheet of paper.
3. Students should choose summer reading appropriate in length and level for their grade.
4. Please be sure to complete the assigned reading for Mrs. Wood. You may use the page amounts of those assigned books in your page totals.
5. Students who participate will receive an achievement certificate.
6. Students who read 800 pages will receive a safari gift bag.
7. Fifth graders who read 1200 or more pages will be invited to a special pizza party in Kissling Hall. This will be a reward for those students whose participation in this program has been outstanding.
8. Parents should sign the reading list.
9. Students should be sure that their first and last names are clearly written on their reading list.
10. Students should turn in reading lists to your teacher **ONLY** during the first week of school (not to the Media Center, Office, or Extended Day, please).



Fifth Grade Summer Reading List

Complete a book report form for each of the two books that you have read. You must use a different form for each book. Be sure to get a parent/guardian signature after completing your reports.

**Indicates a more challenging choice*

REAL LIFE AND HISTORICAL FICTION

**Avi - Blue Heron*

Maggie finds strength in a heron as she discovers a change in her father and his new family.

Avi – Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Clements, Andrew – Frindle

When the “class clown” decides to turn his fifth grade teacher’s love of the dictionary around on her, he invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Creech, Sharon – Granny Torrelli Makes Soup

With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

Creech, Sharon – Chasing Redbird

Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family’s farm in Kentucky.

**Creech, Sharon – The Wanderer*

Thirteen-year-old Sophie and her cousin Cody record their transatlantic crossing aboard the Wanderer, a forty-five foot sailboat, which, along with uncles and another cousin, is en route to visit their grandfather in England

**Curtis, Christopher Paul – Bud, Not Buddy*

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

Cushman, Karen – The Ballad of Lucy Whipple

In 1849, twelve-year-old California Morning Whipple, who renames herself Lucy, is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a rough California mining town.

**Cushman, Karen – Rodzina*

A twelve-year-old Polish American girl is boarded onto an orphan train in Chicago with fears about traveling to the West and a life of unpaid slavery.

**Farley, Walter - Black Stallion*

The first in the series of horse stories.

Gantos, Jack – *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription medications wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired.

Giff, Patricia Reilly – *Lily's Crossing*

During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.

Paulsen, Gary – *Harris and Me*

Sent to live with relatives on their farm because of his unhappy home life, an eleven-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin Harris and is given an introduction to a whole new world.

*Rawls, Wilson - *Summer of the Monkeys*

Jay spends his country summer trying to catch escaped monkeys to earn money.

Uchida, Yoshiko - *Jar of Dreams*

Growing up in California during the depression, Rinko feels left out because she is Japanese

MYSTERY

Bruchac, Joseph – *Skeleton Man*

After her parents disappear and she goes to live with her "great uncle", Molly must rely on her dreams about an old Mohawk story for her safety and even her life.

Bruchac, Joseph- *The Return of the Skeleton Man*

Sequel to Skeleton Man. When Molly attends a conference at Mohawk Mountain House Molly begins to fear that she's being watched by the same man who tried to kill her last year.

Clements, Andrew – *Room One: A Mystery or Two*

Ted Hammond, the only 6th grader in his small Nebraska town's one-room school house, searches for clues to the disappearance of a homeless family.

DeFelice, Cynthia – *The Missing Manatee*

While coping with his parent's separation, 11 year old Skeet spends most of his spring break in his skiff on a Florida river where he finds a manatee shot to death and begins looking for its killer.

Johns, Linda – *Hannah West in the Belltown Towers: a mystery*

Budding sleuth, Hannah West, the 12 year old adopted daughter of a single mom, decides to investigate when a thief targets the paintings of one of Seattle's hot new artists just before the HONCHO charity auction.

*Roberts, Willo Davis - *View from the Cherry Tree*

Rob has seen a murder, but no one believes him except the murderer.

*Springer, Nancy – *The Case of the Left-Handed Lady*

Pursued by her much older brother Sherlock Holmes, 14 year old Enola, disguised and using false names, attempts to solve the kidnapping of a baronet's 16 year old daughter in 19th century London.

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

*Alexander, Lloyd – *The High King Series (from The Chronicles of Prydain)*

The series includes the adventures of Taran, the Assistant Pig Keeper in Prydain, who sets out with various warriors to save his country from evil.

Bellairs, John - *House with a Clock in its Walls*

A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion with a clock in its walls that is ticking off the minutes until doomsday.

*Christopher, John - *City of Gold and Lead*

Boys who escaped the Tripods in the White Mountains are training for a very important athletic contest. Part of the Tripods Series.

*Cooper, Susan - *Silver on the Tree*

In a quest through space and time, Will and Bran battle to vanquish the Dark.

Dahl, Roald – *BFG*

Sophie and the BFG plan to rid the world of giants.

Juster, Norton - *Phantom Tollbooth*

Milo is bored until he drives through the phantom toll booth into the strange lands beyond.

Lasky, Kathryn – *The Capture*

Soren, a barn owl that is captured and taken to a special school for orphaned owls, is befriended by elf owl Gylfie and together the two set out to discover what is really going on at St. Aegolius Academy.

Levine, Gail – *Ella Enchanted*

In this Cinderella based story, Ella struggles against a childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her.

NON- FICTION

Dash, Joan – *A Dangerous Engine*

A biography of eighteenth-century printer, scientist, revolutionary, and diplomat, Benjamin Franklin.

*Freedman, Russell – *Out of Darkness*

A biography of the nineteenth-century Frenchman who, having been blinded himself at the age of three, went on to develop a system of raised dots on paper that enabled blind people to read and write

Gutman, Dan – *Baseball's Biggest Bloopers*

Stories of baseball players who made errors that people are still talking about.

*Montgomery, Sy – *The Tarantula Scientist*

Describes the research that Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas, including the largest spider on earth, the Goliath bird-eating tarantula.

*Murphy, Jim – *Blizzard! The Storm that Changed America*

Presents a history, based on personal accounts and newspaper articles, of the massive snow storm that hit the Northeast in 1888, focusing on the events in New York City.

Spinelli, Jerry – *Knots in My Yo-Yo String*

An autobiography of this author as a young boy, told in the delightful Spinelli style.



Wild about Websites!

Fifth Grade Summer Websites

Websites

<http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/Mathmagician/cathymath.html>

http://www.theteacherscafe.com/Grammar/Grammar_Games.php

www.Ilike2learn.com

www.quizlet.com

www.harcourtschool.com (password Jones)

Where the Red Fern Grows

Fill in the blanks with the correct characters, ideas, or incidents from the story.

There was nothing in the world that _____ wanted more than _____.

He needed them to go _____. The thought of not having what he needed made him

_____. One day while prowling through the fishermen's campsite, he found a _____

that advertised _____; so for almost two years, he _____ to save up _____

dollars to buy the _____. After many days of _____, both hunter and _____

were ready. _____ and _____ bawled and chased until they _____ Mr.

_____ in a large _____. Eventually, Billy and the hounds went on to win a _____

_____ and prize _____ for their efforts. Nothing good lasts forever. While battling

a vicious _____, _____ was fatally wounded and died. Soon afterwards, _____

_____ died too, for she had lost her _____. Where they are buried is a living

memorial. A _____ sprang up between the graves. The legend says that the _____

is planted by _____ and that it will never _____.

Where the Red Fern Grows

Match the letter of the character from the left column with the correct description of the character in the right column.

- A. Little Ann ___ He was a child overcome with a terrible disease, “puppy love.
- B. Old Dan ___ He had the meanest disposition of any boy I had ever known.
- C. Billy ___ He was the boy’s last hope. He always had a good idea.
- D. Grandpa ___ She was a worrier and did not want to let her son grow up.
- E. Mama ___ He strutted around with a belligerent and tough attitude.
- F. Papa ___ She was small and timid, and what she lacked in power she made up in brains.
- G. Rubin ___ He was a firm believer in fate. To him, everything that happened was the will of God.
- H. Rainie ___ He was a big husky boy who tripped and fell on an ax.

Worksheet for Wilson Rawls Author Profile

Name _____

Use the following website to answer the questions below:

<http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/rawls.html>

Answer questions in complete sentences.

After answering the questions, be sure to scroll down to see the picture of the bronze statue of Billy, Little Ann, and Old Dan that is found in front of the Idaho Falls Public Library.

1. How long did it take Wilson Rawls to write *Where the Red Fern Grows* ?

2. What happened to the book before it was first published? Why?

3. Name two of the four things that this website says this novel is about.
 - a.
 - b.

4. Why did Wilson Rawls drop out of school?

5. What grade was Wilson Rawls in when he dropped out of school?

6. What book did Wilson Rawls's mother bring home that changed his life?

7. As a teenager, what jobs did Wilson Rawls have?

8. In what other countries did Wilson Rawls work?

9. What is the name of another novel that Wilson Rawls wrote?

10. When and at what age did Wilson Rawls die?

CREATE

Assignment sheet for second book

1. Create your very own final test for the second book that you selected. It needs to have 15-20 questions. Be sure that your test covers the entire book. You may use multiple choice, true/false, or fill in the blank format. Make sure your questions are important to the story. They must be typed using font size 16. An answer key needs to be provided on a separate piece of paper. The title of your book needs to be at the top of the test and a place for the test taker's name underneath the title at the left margin. Please put your name at the end of the test.
2. Draw and color a scene from the book on a 9 in. by 9 in. piece of thin white poster board. Use the dull side of the poster board and be sure to fill the entire space. You may use crayons or colored pencils. When finished with your picture, using a black sharpie marker turn your picture into a puzzle and carefully cut the pieces. Label a quart size freezer Ziploc with the book title, author and your name. Put your puzzle in the Ziploc and bring it with you the first day of school.