

Dear Future 7th Grader,

You will read **two books** and complete **two projects** that must be submitted on the first day of school.

Your first book will be Christian Heroes – Then and Now – Charles Mulli: We are Family, by Janet and Geoff Benge.

Choose **one** of the following projects for this book:

I. Make a new book jacket for the book.

- Front cover: Draw and color an illustration for the book.
- Inside front flap: Write descriptions of the main characters.
- Inside back flap: Write a description of the setting and a short summary of the book.
- Back cover: Write 10 quotes from the book that are important to understanding the story.

II. Write a letter to the author that shows your reaction to the book.

- Include all elements of a friendly letter (date, greeting, body, closing, & signature).
- Include: 1. Your opinion of the book and reasons for your opinion 2. The character in the book you are most like and why 3. Your favorite part of the book 4. At least 2 questions you have about the book

III. Create a picture story for your book.

- Rewrite the book for a Kindergarten or 1st grade audience. Use short sentences and age-appropriate words so that they can read it easily. Make sure to include all major parts of the story.
- Illustrate each page to go along with the story.

Your second book will be Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls.

Complete **one** of the following projects for this book:

I. Write a scene that could have happened in the book, but didn't (min. 3 paragraphs). After you have written the scene, explain how it would have changed the outcome of the book (min. 2 paragraphs). In your writing include all 5 dress-ups and use 3 sentence-openers. Make sure you pay attention to good English grammar and conventions. Attempt to mimic the style of writing already modeled in the book.

II. Paint a painting inspired by the story. Imagine being asked to be the illustrator for the new book/movie titled the same as your summer reading book. Paint a painting or create a poster that grabs the attention of people and depicts the themes of the book. Be creative. Use a form of art most effective to achieve your goal.

III. Create a diorama of one of the scenes in your summer reading book. Be detailed and specific. Include all the clues/details the author gives in the book. Also, include the main characters usually present in the scene/location. Use a shoebox as your starting point. Write a caption of the scene and glue it on the outside of the shoebox upon completion.

See: <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Diorama>

Carefully demonstrate your knowledge of the story. Be neat. Show effort. Support your ideas with details (events, people, places) from the text.

**You will submit a total of two projects and be ready to present them to the class and discuss them on the first day of school.**

Happy Summer Reading!