

[5th grade SUMMER READING]: Deadlines, Comprehension Questions, and Pertinent Information

[Book 1]: The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

- **Deadline:** Friday, August 16

(Comprehension Questions): These assignments are **REQUIRED** and are part of your student's overall grade. They will take an **assessment** for each book on the date listed above. There will be no extensions provided. These questions are not necessarily designed to cover the entire novel but are meant to be a guide. Your responses will help with the assessment.

- The question must be restated in the answer to qualify as complete.
 - **Example #1:** What caused Byron's mouth to get stuck to the mirror?
 - Answer: _____ caused Byron's mouth to get stuck to the mirror.
 - **Example #2:** How did the teacher introduce Kenny to his class?
 - Answer: The teacher introduced Kenny to his class by ...
- Responses should be **at least** 2-3 sentences in length.
- Responses should be **typed**.

1. What caused Byron's mouth to get stuck to the mirror?
2. How did the teacher introduce Kenny to his class? How did this reflect the time period in which this book takes place?
3. Why did Byron tell Kenny & Joey the garbage can story?
4. What did Mrs. Watson plan to do after she caught Byron playing with matches?
5. What did Byron do to his hair? Why do you think that he did this?
6. What did Mr. Watson purchase for the Brown Bomber?
7. Why are the Watsons sending Byron to Grandma Sands? Where does Grandma Sands live?
8. Why did Mrs. Watson plan the trip so carefully?
9. What was Mr. Watson's secret plan for the trip?
10. Why did Grandma Sands say that she might keep Kenny too?
11. How does Byron's behavior in Birmingham contrast with his behavior in Flint?
12. What did Grandma Sands tell the children about Collier's Landing?
13. Describe what happened at Collier's Landing. What mistake did Kenny make?
14. Describe what happened at the church.
15. Why was Joey not at the church?
16. Compare/contrast the Northern/Southern states during this time period.
17. How did the bombing affect Byron?

[Book 2]: War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

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1. Why do you think that the story was written from the horse's point of view?
2. What war was taking place? What were the two different sides?
3. What is "No Man's Land?"
4. Why does Albert's father treat Joey so badly?
5. Why was it so easy for people to talk to Joey? Why was Joey so comforting to people?
6. Why did the armies stop using cavalry charges?
7. Why can't Albert join the army at this time?
8. Why was Albert allowed to keep Joey?
9. What was the promise made by Trooper Warren and Captain Stewart?
10. Why did Albert name the horse Joey?

[Book 3]: Biography

- **Deadline:** Friday, August 16

{Newspaper Template}: Completing the newspaper is **REQUIRED** and part of your student's overall grade. The newspaper template will be due on the date listed above. There will be no extensions provided.

- The book you read should be at least 96 pages.
- It should be a noteworthy historical figure (e.g. scientist, political leader, or philosopher, etc.) (**NOT** someone from pop culture).
- Students should take notes about this person as they read the novel. It would be beneficial to include things such as his/her accomplishments, what he/she is known for, and demographic information (where he/she is from, when he/she was born, when he/she died, siblings, etc.)
- The newspaper template should be filled out **COMPLETELY**. If part of the assignment is missing, it will be considered incomplete.
- A template is provided in the packet and is available on the Literacy teachers' web pages.

[Possible Recommendations]:

1. Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship by Russell Freedman
2. Becoming Madeleine: A Biography of the Author of A Wrinkle in Time by Her Granddaughters by Charlotte Jones Voiklis and Léna Roy
3. Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
4. El Deafo by Cece Bell
5. Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir by Margarita Engle
6. George Washington Carver: Agricultural Innovator by Helga Schier
7. Henry Ford for Kids: His Life and Ideas, with 21 Activities by Ronald A. Reis
8. I am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick
9. Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai
10. Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina Young Readers Edition by Misty Copeland
11. The Life of George Washington Carver: Inventor and Scientist by Barbara Kramer
12. March: Book One by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin
13. Maya Lin: Thinking with Her Hands by Susan Goldman Rubin
14. No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Mountains by Jordan Romero and Linda LeBlanc
15. The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery by Steve Sheinkin
16. Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different: A Biography by Karen Blumenthal
17. Strong Inside (Young Readers Edition): The True Story of How Perry Wallace Broke College Basketball's Color Line by Andrew Maraniss
18. Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World by Sy Montgomery
19. Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March by Lynda Blackmon Lowery
20. Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team by Steve Sheinkin