

Summer Reading Assignments

Students entering grade 6, 7, 8

Read *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse and complete the questions below.

Please respond to the following questions to the best of your ability. Answer these questions for *Out of the Dust*. Please type (double space, Times New Roman, 12 pt.) or use your neatest cursive writing.

Name

Book Title/Author

1/2 Setting: *Out of the Dust* takes place during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl. Research that time period and write a paragraph (6-8 sentences) about what you learned.

- 3. Do the characters seem real and believable? Can you relate to their predicaments? Why? Why not? Use text evidence to support your answer.**
- 4. Do the characters remind you of someone you know? How? If not, why not? Tell how they are different from people you know.**
- 5. What do you think happened to the main character 10-20 years later, after the story ended?**
- 6. Do you like the ending of this book? Why or why not? How would you have preferred the book end?**
- 7. Select your favorite passage or sentence. Write it down. Explain why it was your favorite. Did it have meaning to you?**
- 8. Do you think the title fits the book? Why or why not?**
- 9. Make either a text to self, text to text, or a text to world connection. (pick one)**
 - Text to self: explain how some aspect of the book connects to you and your life
 - Text to text: explain how the book reminds you of another book, movie, poem or song
 - Text to world: explain how the book reminds you of world events, past or present
- 10. How does this book relate to our Catholic faith? You may select a certain scene or event. Explain.**

Bonus

Extra books I read this summer (NO REPORT NEEDED)

Parent Signature required

| Title | Parent Signature |
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Summer Reading Rubric

| | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
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| Content | All answers contain strong evidence that the book was read. All questions were answered using specific details and examples from story. | At least 8 answers contain strong evidence that the book was read. At least 8 questions were answered using specific details and examples from story. | At least 6 answers contain strong evidence that the book was read. At least 6 questions were answered using specific details and examples from story. Most answers could pertain to any story. | Fewer than 5 answers contain strong evidence that the book was read. Questions lack specific details and examples from story. Most answers could pertain to any story. |
| | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Sentence Fluency | All sentences read well. Varied structure. No fragments or run-ons. | Most sentences read well. Varied structure. One fragment or run-on. | Sentences have awkward wording, most do not read well. No varied structure. Several fragments or run-ons. | Wording makes answers difficult to understand. Not at grade level. |
| Word choice | No weak words. (go, get, do, put, thing, etc.) Vocabulary used is strong including strong verbs, grade appropriate. | 1-2 weak words. Mostly the word choice is grade appropriate | 3-5 weak words. The word choice is not reflective of grade. | Numerous weak words. Word choice is below expectations for grade. |
| Spelling | 0 errors | 1-2 errors | 3-4 errors | 5+ errors |
| Capitalization | 0 errors | 1-2 errors | 3-4 errors | 5+ errors |
| Grammar (apostrophes, commas, verb tense, punctuation) | 0 errors | 1-2 errors | 3-4 errors | 5+ errors |
| Appearance/Format | -Name/ date -Title of book/author -12 pt font -Times New Roman -double space -number each question -leave extra space between each question -neatly presented | 1-2 elements incorrect or missing | 3-4 elements incorrect or missing | 5+ elements incorrect or missing |