

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

Summer Reading Rubric

	8	6	4	2
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