



English 7 Summer Reading Assignment

The incoming 7th grade class of First Baptist Academy will be required to read the novel, *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls. Students must purchase a copy of the book (**Yearling Book - ISBN#978-0440415800**), read it, and complete the following assignment. The **written assignment** and **the project** will be due and turned in on the first day of class, August 18th or August 19th, depending upon your schedule. We will use the book to begin our first unit of study on annotation and literary terms.

- 1. Writing Assignment: In a well-developed paragraph of 11 – 15 sentences, respond to the following prompt. Be sure that you are using correct spelling and grammar in your response. Make sure that you have a strong topic sentence and that your paragraph does not simply retell the plot of the story. Due on the dates below. This paragraph should be typed using Times New Roman 12 font and double spaced. Attached is a sample of what the MLA format should look like on this assignment. We will be typing all writing assignments in this format from grades 7 – 12.**

Jay Berry Lee in *Summer of the Monkeys* dreams of buying a rifle and a pony. How does Jay go about realizing his dream? What does his determination to achieve his goal say about his character? At what point in each novel would it have been easier to give up? How does setting a goal and working to achieve that goal help a person grow and mature?

- 2. Choose one of the following projects to complete for *Summer of the Monkeys*. This project is due on Wednesday, 8/18 or Thursday, 8/19, depending upon the schedule.**

1. Using a 5X8 index card, create a business card for Jay Berry that includes an appropriate company name or slogan, Jay Berry's complete name, his job title, his address, phone number, and email. Personalize the card with a small illustration that relates to the job. On the back, explain why you chose this particular job for Jay Berry, using facts and information about him that you learned from the book. Write your name on the back of the business card.

2. Write a letter to the author of the book, telling him what you liked about the book, what you didn't like, etc. Be very specific and cite specific incidents from the book. Your letter must use the correct format for a friendly letter.

3. Sequentially list five **major** events that take place in the book and describe the details of the event. Cut six footprints from construction paper. Put the title and author on the first footprint. The remaining footprints will have one of your events and its description written on them and should be numbered in the order the events occurred in the story. Decorate at least two footprints with an illustration of the event described. Put your footprints in order on a poster board and write your name on the back of the board.