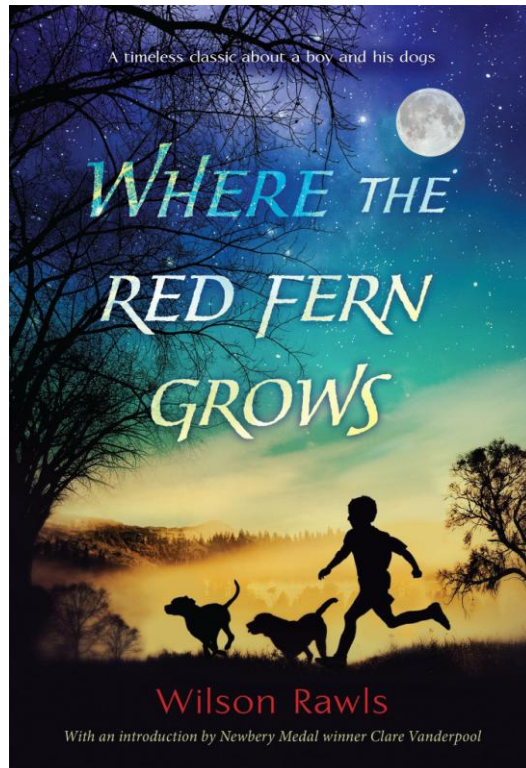


# Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

**ASSIGNMENT:** All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders are required to read Where the Red Fern Grows by **Wilson Rawls**. Upon returning to school in August, students will **take a test** that coincides with the book as proof that reading of the novel has occurred.



**Summary:** Billy is growing up poor in the Ozarks during the Great Depression of the 1930s. More than anything, he wants a pair of redbone coonhounds. As it is cost-prohibitive for his parents to buy them, Billy works and saves for two years to buy them himself, then walks barefoot through the woods to the nearest town to pick them up. He spends months training the pups to be the best hunting dogs in the hills. His dreams come true as he enjoys nights out hunting with his dogs, and their fame spreads far and wide. Billy and his dogs are so good that his grandfather enters them in a championship coon hunt in which Billy will compete against grown men.

Schultz, Barbara. "Where the Red Fern Grows." *Common Sense Media*, Common Sense, 21 April 2020, <https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/where-the-red-fern-grows>.