***Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls in Reader’s Response Journals**

Read the assigned chapters first.

Directions for recording your journal responses:

1. Use a separate sheet of paper.
2. Write the Chapters at the top of each page with the date and your name.
3. Use at least four COMPLETE sentences for each prompt.
4. Your writing will be evaluated on the following criteria:
* How clearly you organize your writing and express what you’re trying to say.
* How accurately and completely you answer the questions being asked.
* How well you support your responses with examples or details from the text.
* How correctly you use grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and paragraphing.
* How neatly your handwriting is presented.

EXAMPLE:

**Chapter 1**: Why does the man change his mind and step into the dogfight? What else could he have done?

*The man steps into the dog fight because he saw that the dog being attacked was a hound dog just like the one he had when he was a boy. He also noticed that the dog was out of place and outnumbered by the other city dogs. He could have walked away, but the dog would have been killed. He also could have called Animal Control and let them take care of it.*

Date due: 2/10/16:

**Chapters 2 and 3**: Billy works very hard to earn money for the dogs. Describe a time when you wanted something very badly, and tell what you did to get it.

**Chapters 4 and 5**: Why does Billy decide to fight Freckle Face and the others? What would you have done in his place?

Date due: 2/17/16:

**Chapters 6 and 7**: Do you agree with Billy’s father that there’s sportsmanlike hunting and unsportsmanlike hunting?

**Chapter 8**: Do you think Papa is a good parent? Would you like to have him for your father?

Date due: 2/24/16:

**Chapter 9**: Billy apologizes to the fallen tree and says he had to cut it down. What does he mean? Did he have any other choice?

**Chapters 10 and 11**: Billy feels desperate when it looks as if he can’t save Little Ann, and he prays for help. What sorts of promises do you suppose he makes? Have you ever felt like this?

Date due: 3/2/16

**Chapter 12**: Why does Billy take Rainie up on the bet? Would you?

**Chapter 13**: Is Rubin’s death Billy’s fault? Do Billy’s parents react as yours would?

Date due: 3/9/16

**Chapter 14**: Do you agree with Billy that his grandfather is the best grandpa in the world? What are his good qualities?

**Chapters 15 and 16**: The judge is very impressed when Little Ann manages to tree the wily raccoon. How do you think she found him? What is the smartest thing you have ever seen a dog do?

Date due: 3/16/16

**Chapters 17 and 18**: Do you think Billy should have given the prize money to his parents—and that they should have taken it? What else could he have done with it?

**Chapter 19**: Why don’t Mama’s and Papa’s attempts to comfort Billy have much effect? What would you say to him?

Date due 3/30/16

**Chapter 20**: How does the legend of the red fern help Billy? Have you ever been comforted by a particular story, poem, song, or saying?

**Why do you think** the aging narrator remembers his childhood so clearly? Why does he tell us this story about it?