

NINTH GRADE SUMMER READING

Read *The Yearling* by Marjorie Rawlings. Come prepared to discuss the following aspects of the story:

Setting: Time and place: When and where did the story take place?

Characters: Major people. Who are the key people in the story? What is their main contribution to the story?

Conflict: What are the major obstacles in the story? Does anyone or anything prevent or inhibit the main characters from doing what they need to do? Who or what is responsible for the most conflict in the story?

Theme: Why was the book written? Besides telling a story (the plot), what point is the author trying to make? One word answers are not sufficient. This should be a theme common to mankind that may also be the theme of other books.

IMPORTANT: Your first literature grade for the 2011-2012 school year will be for reading the assigned book (50%) and being prepared to discuss the above topics (50%).

Ninth graders who have already read *The Yearling* may choose to read one of the following books:

The Robe – Lloyd Douglas
Ben Hur – Lew Wallace
The Big Fisherman – Lloyd Douglas
The Black Rose – Thomas B. Costain
Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson

You may apply the discussion questions to the book you select.