

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

June 1, 2023

Dear Parents of Incoming Seventh Graders,

Engaging your child in reading is essential to building good comprehension skills. The best way to begin working on improving reading comprehension is to read, read and read again! This summer, in preparation for seventh grade ELA courses your child will be expected to read the novel "Hoot" written by Carl Hiaasen

Attached please see the summer reading work your child must complete as they are reading the novel. They must complete chapter summaries for every three chapters as shown on the title of each of the handouts.

This assignment will be due on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which is the first Friday of the new school year. We urge your child to complete the assignment since this will be their first required assignment for their 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA class. In addition, during the first two weeks of school, your child will take a comprehension test on the book. The assignment, along with their test score, will be their first ELA grades in the gradebook for the first grading period.

Thank You Very Much!

The Seventh Grade ELA Team

**READING GUIDE**

*Hoot*  
novel by Carl Hiaasen

**FAST FACTS**

- In 2006, *Hoot* was made into a movie starring Logon Lerman as Roy, Brie Larson as Beatrice, and Luke Wilson as Officer Delinko.
- The title of the book refers to the sound owls make. It also refers to characters who care about, or give a hoot about, the owls.

**Before You Read**

**Who wrote this book?** Carl Hiaasen was born in Plantation, Florida, in 1953. He began writing at age 6, when his father gave him a typewriter for Christmas. Most of Hiaasen’s writing has always been about his home state. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1974 with a degree in journalism. After college, he went to work for a newspaper in Cocoa, Florida, and, since 1985, he has written a weekly column for the *Miami Herald*. In the early 1980s, Hiaasen began writing novels. He has published twenty novels for adults and five for young adults. Today, he lives with his wife in Florida.

**How did the book *Hoot* come about?** In an interview, Carl Hiaasen said “*Hoot*, the first book I wrote for kids, was a page right out of my own childhood—the little owls and everything.” He explains that when he was growing up in Broward County, a piece of open acreage was purchased for construction of a condominium building. Like some of the characters in *Hoot*, Hiaasen was upset at the thought of burrowing owls losing their homes, and perhaps their lives, when bulldozers and backhoes came in to clear the land. His memories of that event were the basis for this novel.

**What Are Burrowing Owls?**

Burrowing owls are among the smallest members of the owl family. They measure between 7.5 and 9.8 inches in length and weigh just over 5 ounces. A rounded head, long legs, and a short tail are identifying characteristics. These owls live in open, treeless areas, such as deserts or grasslands. Their burrows are usually less than 3 feet deep. Interestingly, the owls line their burrows with livestock manure. This sounds awful, but the manure attracts beetles and other insects that provide food for nesting chicks. Populations of burrowing owls have declined by about one-third in places like Florida and California, where agriculture and building developments have wiped out their breeding grounds.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 1 - 3

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

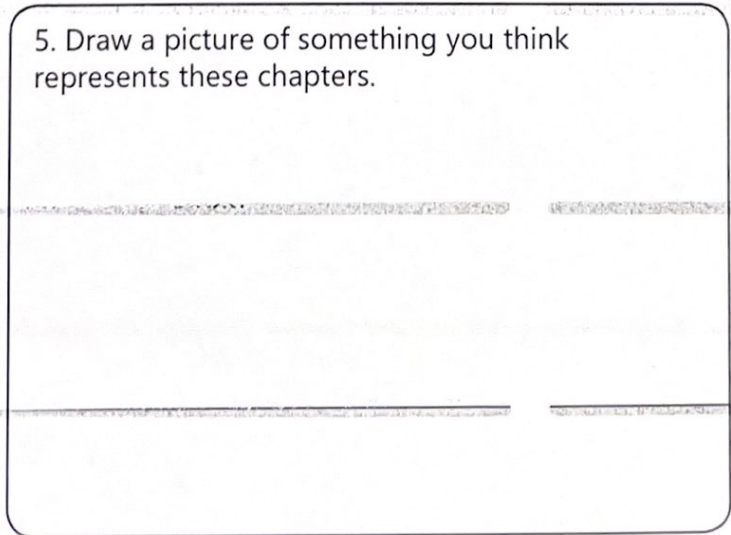
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 4 - 6

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 7 - 9

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. What happens in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

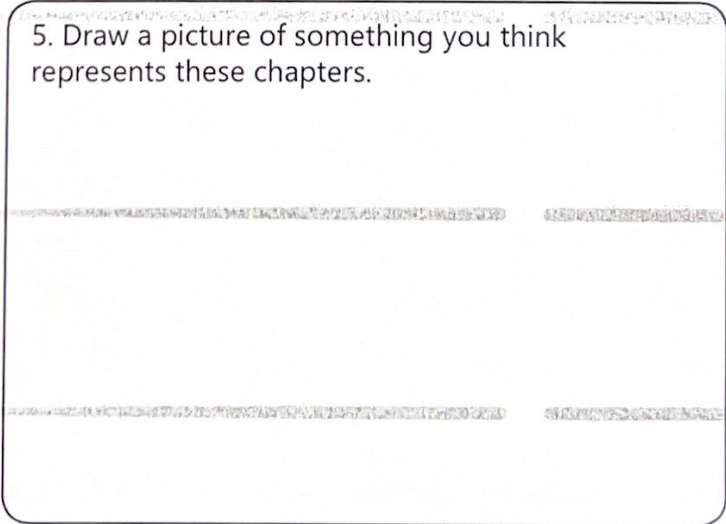
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

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5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 10 - 12

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

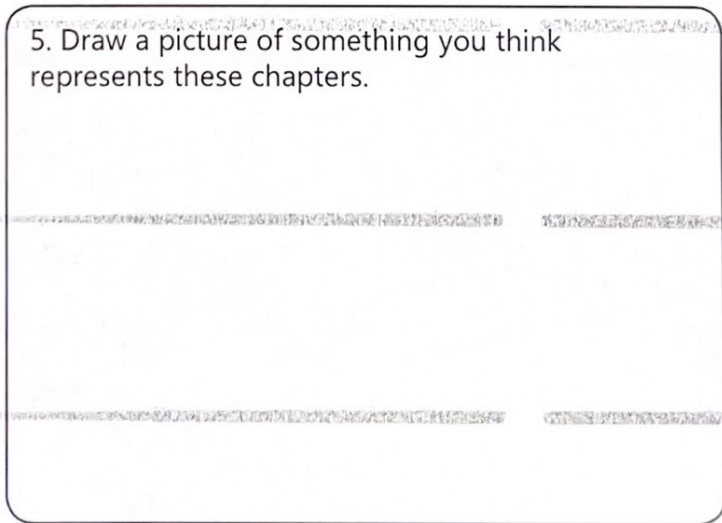
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 13 - 15

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

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2. What happens in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

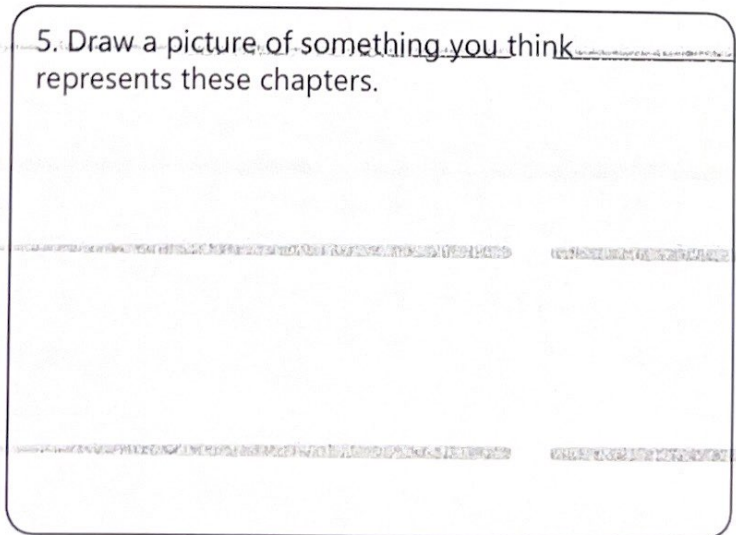
3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 16 - 18

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chapter Summary

## Chapters 19 - Epilogue

1. If you were to give a title to this section of the book, what would it be?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What happens in these chapters?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your favorite part of this section of the book?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What new words did you learn in these chapters?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Draw a picture of something you think represents these chapters.

