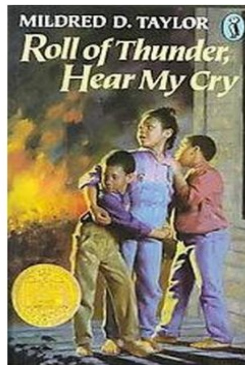


Summer Reading

Students will be reading the Newbery Medal Award winning book,
Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, by Mildred D. Taylor.

A black family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand. Focusing on the struggles and triumphs of the Logans, a poor African-American family, *ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY*, explores themes of pride, and accountability in Depression-era Mississippi. The Logans live on land they own, and to the bank, the family considers put in danger when nine-year-old Cassie's parents help organize a boycott against the local market. That legacy is inspired by stories Mildred D. Taylor heard growing up and by her own family history, which like that of the Logans, includes ancestors who were slaves. Though she stresses that the story is not autobiographical, Taylor has also said the book is an acknowledgement of the difficult lives, and many sacrifices, of the generations before hers--generations that ultimately paved the way for the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s and 1970s. Winner of the 1977 Newbery Award.



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Assignment:

After reading the novel, students will type a one to two page, double-spaced, 12 pt. font (Times New Roman) summary of the novel. The summary should focus on characters, plot, setting, and theme. This report is due the first week of school.