

Sullivan Middle School

Summer Reading—One School, One Book

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Happy summer! Sullivan's ELA teachers have selected a wonderful book for this summer's "One School, One Book" reading program. In this book, the main character, Ghost, has had hard times in his life and struggles to make the right choices. As he makes friends in unusual places, Ghost begins to learn valuable lessons about being the best person he can be. Enjoy meeting Ghost and see if you relate to him or to other characters who are learning as they grow and mature.

Summer Reading FAQ

Is the summer reading required?

Yes, the summer reading assignment will lead to many discussions and activities in all classes throughout the year. Plus, summer reading helps keep your mind fresh for the upcoming school year.

When do the assignments need to be turned in?

All assignments are due on the first day of school, Thursday, August 17.

Where can I get a copy of the book?

Each Sullivan student (including rising sixth graders) receives a copy of the book from the school, free of charge.

What if I lose my reading assignments?

Extra copies of the reading assignments will be available at the SMS front office. You may also download extra copies from the school website: <http://sms.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/>

You have three activities to complete for this summer reading assignment – please select ONE activity from each section.

The Sullivan Falcon Family strives to demonstrate the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile Qualities of:
Caring – Inquirers – Open-Minded – Risk Takers – Balanced – Reflective – Thinkers – Knowledgeable – Principled –
COMMUNICATORS

SECTION A: (Choose one)

Choice one:

Coach tells Ghost that he wants to show him, “You can’t run away from who you are, but what you can do is run toward who you want to be.” How does Castle try to run from who he is? What kind of person does he want to be? How has finding his team helped him start to become that person? Try applying Coach’s advice to your own life: What kind of person do you want to be? What could help you become that person? (Length: 3-5 paragraphs for grade level students; 5-7 paragraphs for advanced level students)

Choice two:

Read the article, *Honesty Pays*, and answer the attached questions. The article and questions are at the end of this document.

SECTION B: (Choose one)

Choice one:

Read the book, *Ghost*, and write a friendly letter to your ELA teacher using the following format:

- Your address at the top of your paper on the right hand side
- Your greeting on the left hand side of your paper
- First paragraph: a short introduction telling facts about yourself and when you completed the book.
- Second paragraph: write a description of two of the main characters, the setting, and a summary of the book.
- Third paragraph: write your personal rating of the book on a scale of 1-5, with five being the highest. Make sure to give reasons for your rating.

You may use this link to write your letter: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/letter-generator-30005.html> or you may write your letter on a regular sheet of lined paper.

Choice two:

Who wins? - Continue the story to give readers more closure on the events at the end of the story. (Length: 3-5 paragraphs for grade level students; 5-7 paragraphs for advanced level students)

SECTION C: (Choose one)

Choice one:

Jason Reynolds, the author of *Ghost*, uses world records as a framing motif in the novel. Research world records (at least 10) and create a poster about some of the most interesting world records that you find. If you were going to try to break a world record, which one would you attempt? Identify your choice on your poster.

Choice two:

One of *Ghost*’s heroes is Jamaican runner and Olympic gold medalist, Usain Bolt. Research Bolt’s biography or the biography of another great runner and present your findings to the class either with a traditional written report (3-5 paragraphs) or a multimedia presentation. A list of famous runners in history can be found here: <http://www.biography.com/people/groups/track-and-field-athletes>. A contemporary list of runners can be found here: <http://rw.runnersworld.com/the50/>.

Honesty Pays

Girl returns wallet and finds a big reward.

By Anne Longfellow
American Press

Columbia, Indiana – Alice Sampson, age 10, has learned that honesty does pay. Two weeks ago Alice was shopping with her mother when she noticed a wallet sticking out from under a clothing rack. When Sampson opened the wallet, she found more than \$2,000 inside.

“I couldn’t believe it! I had never seen that much money before!” said Sampson. Sampson reported that she thought about keeping the wallet, but just for a second. “I knew I would return it because keeping it wouldn’t be right. What if someone needed that money for medicine or a doctor or something?”

After talking with her mother, Sampson turned the wallet in to the store office. Less than two hours later, Mr. Alvin Humphries came back to the store frantically looking for the wallet he had lost.

Humphries was surprised that his wallet had been turned in untouched. “It was unbelievable! I am grateful that someone honest found my wallet!” he said.



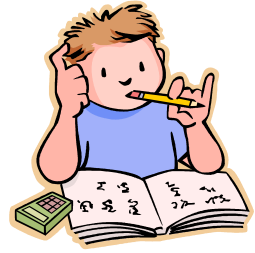
Alice Sampson’s decision to turn in a wallet she found has brought her newfound fame and fortune. Upon returning to school, she was greeted with a hero’s welcome.

Humphries wanted to thank Alice Sampson. He gave her a \$100 cash reward for returning the wallet. Additionally, Humphries set up a fund to pay for Sampson’s future education. “If Alice decides to go to college, she won’t have to worry where the money is going to come from,” said Humphries. Alice Sampson and her family are very thankful that Humphries is such a generous man. “He didn’t have to give me anything. I turned in his wallet because it was the right thing to do. I wouldn’t have been able to sleep at night if I had taken his wallet,” said Sampson

Honesty Pays (Section A – Choice 2)

Directions: Use the information from the newspaper article to answer the questions. You do not need to write the questions.

1. Who wrote the newspaper article?
2. What is the name of the newspaper?
3. Is “Honesty Pays” a good name for the article? Explain your answer.
4. Who is the article mainly about?
5. Where do the events in the article take place?
6. On what date was this article printed?
7. What did Alice do with the wallet?
8. When did the events in the article take place?
9. Why would Mr. Humphries be considered a generous man?
10. Do you agree with Alice Sampson’s actions? Explain your answer.
11. What Learner Profile Qualities (LPQs) did Alice show? List all that she demonstrated and explain your answer.



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