

# Summer Reading Assignment

## Rising Fifth Graders

Dear Rising Fifth Graders,

This summer, you will read the novel *Bud, not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis. This book is one of our favorites, and we hope that you will love it, too!

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be on your own? Ten-year-old Bud Caldwell, the main character in *Bud, not Buddy*, is on his own after running away from an orphanage. Life for Bud isn't all fun, though. He has to deal with hornets, vampires, starvation, and muskrat stew!

Bud is on a journey to find his real dad. The world during the Great Depression can be a scary place, especially for a young African American boy. Who can Bud trust, and will he ever have a family of his own?

Bud carries a suitcase with him throughout the book. As you read, think about what the suitcase symbolizes and why the suitcase and the items it holds are so important to Bud.

## *Bud, not Buddy* Summer Reading Project

In *Bud, Not Buddy* the suitcase is a symbol of who Bud is. It represents all he has in the world, his past, present and hopefully future.

To demonstrate your understanding of the novel, you will create a suitcase. Paper grocery bags or brown construction paper will work well, but be creative in your design.



. Bud's suitcase is with him throughout the book. Decorate the outside of the suitcase with at least three images that represent his journey. For example, Bud could have collected bumper stickers from different cities he visited.

Bud kept his most treasured possessions in his suitcase. On the inside of your suitcase, illustrate or add images to show those prized possessions. Be sure to include at least 4 items. Underneath each possession, write 3-5 sentences explaining why that item was so special to Bud.

Your project will be assessed on neatness, creativity, and accuracy of items/images chosen to represent Bud's adventures and struggles.

Be prepared to share your suitcase with your classmates upon our return to school! Your project is due August 24, 2022.