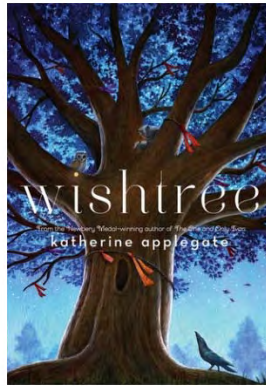


## Summer Reading Assignment for students entering **Grade 5**:

### Part 1

- You will be required to read the novel *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate, as well as a second novel of your choice.



- Get your copy of *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate at the library, a local bookseller, or an online store.
  - Read it and answer the questions listed below in your own handwriting or if you prefer, you may type the questions and answers.
  - These assignments should be completed and handed in on the first day of school. When you complete the assignment, remember to look your work to make sure you answered each question. *Happy Reading!*
  - PACTS matters. Use proper grammar:
    - Punctuation
    - Agreement
    - Capitalization
    - Tense
    - Spelling
1. If the character Red has the ability to communicate with others, why do you think she chooses to stay silent for so long? What does it say about her “personality”? Explain.

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2. All of the animal inhabitants of the tree are very different. In the wild, these animals would never “be friends”. What is it about Red that allows these animals to live together in peace?

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3. Describe the boy who carves a word in the tree. What word is carved? What do you think it represents? (Think about these questions: What does the author tell you about him and what assumptions can you make about his character? Why do you think he would carve that word into the tree? How does this act affect Red, Bongo, Samar, and her family? What effect does the carving have on Francesca? What are the feelings of the police who come to visit?)

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4. Red compares the neighborhood to a garden, “wild and tangled and colorful” (p.54). Why does the tree compare the people in the area to a garden? Why is the neighborhood not welcoming to Samar’s family?

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5. Why does Red finally break her silence? Who does she talk to? Do you think she made the right decision?

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6. What makes Francesca change her mind about cutting down the tree? How did you feel when the connection between Francesca and Red was finally revealed?

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9. Red asks the question, "How does friendship happen?" (p. 82). What is Bongo's answer? Why do you think Red and Bongo are friends? What makes them special to each other? Why is it hard for Samar and Stephen to become friends? What qualities do you look for in a friend?

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**In addition** to reading and answering the questions relating to the novel above, you are **also** responsible for reading a **SECOND NOVEL** of **YOUR CHOICE**. You will need to answer the questions listed in Part 2 that relate to this novel.

**Part 2 WHEN CONSIDERING YOUR CHOICE, PLEASE DO NOT**

**READ:** *Number the Stars, Regarding the Fountain, Maniac Magee, Al Capone Does My Shirts, The One and Only Ivan, The Janitor's Boy, Bridge to Terabithia, From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, and The Wild Robot.* These books may be explored during the school year.

1. Describe at least three important events and explain why each is important to the book.

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