

Coral Springs Charter School
Reading Assignment for **10th Grade**
Language Arts **Honors** Students

All 10th grade language arts honors students are required to read the school-wide summer novel as well as the following novel and assignment. If your student has selected high school honors for language arts in the tenth grade, or could possibly be placed in that level, the following book **will be assessed upon the student's entry into his/her language arts class.**

Their Eyes Were Watching God, by Zora Neale Hurston, which can be purchased at most bookstores, is the selection for 10th grade honors.

The following assignment for Their Eyes Were Watching God is due upon returning to school. Should the student not have language arts until the second block in January, then the assignment will be due the first day of class in January.

The novel, Their Eyes Were Watching God, is the story of Janie Crawford's search for love, told in the form of a frame narrative. In the first few pages of the novel, Janie returns to her hometown of Eatonville, Florida, after nearly two years absence. Her neighbors are curious to know where she has been and what has happened to her. Janie tells her story to her friend, Phoeby Watson. The story, which actually spans nearly 40 years of Janie's life, is "framed" by an evening visit between two friends.

Directions for assignment: Type three 2-3 page essay responses to two (2) out of three (3) of the following essay topics. Be prepared to discuss the third choice even though you do not have to write an essay on it. Essays must be typed in 12 point font and double-spaced.

1. Throughout Janie's life, she searches for true, unconditional love. In her search, she experiences different kinds of love. Write an essay describing the types of love she experiences. Which type of love has the most impact on her life? In the end, has Janie experienced true love, and if so, has it changed her?
2. Write an essay comparing and contrasting the basic characters of Janie's three husbands: Long Killicks, Joe Starks, and Vergible "Tea Cake" Woods. What initially pulls her to each of the three men? How do they differ from one another? Why does each marriage come to and end? What does Janie learn from each experience?
3. Their Eyes Were Watching God is concerned with issues of speech and how speech is both a mechanism of control and a vehicle of liberation. Yet, Janie remains silent during key moments in her life. Discuss the role of silence in the book and how that role changes throughout the novel.