

WELCOME TO MS. DEANA'S 10TH
GRADE
CP ENGLISH / LITERATURE

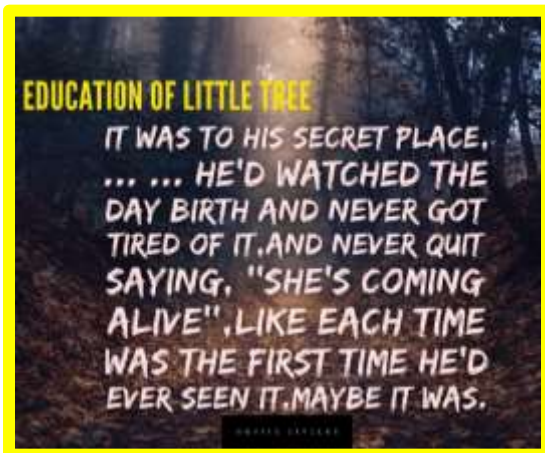
Summer Reading Assignment

*"If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you."
- Fred DeVito*

The Education of Little Tree
– Forrest Carter

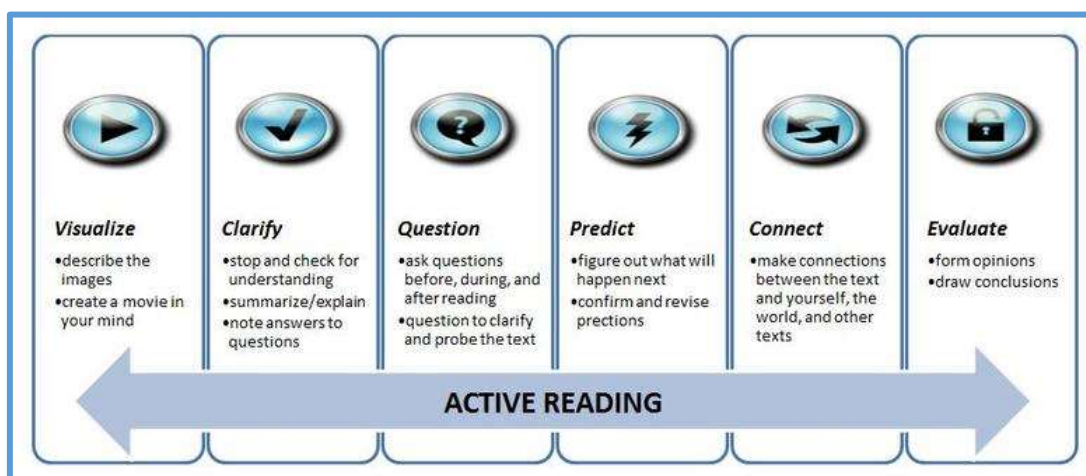


As you read this book, pay special attention to the lessons Little Tree learns from Grandma and Grandpa. Be an active reader!! Highlight quotes that you find have a personal impact or are thought provoking. Take notes in the margins of your book. Circle text that you think may be important. As you read, **THINK!!** In your mind, compare the story to your own life or the life of someone you know. Question what you read. If you do not know the definition of a word, write the word on the front inside cover of the book... and **LOOK IT UP!!**



What do I need to do over the summer?

- 1.) READ the book!!
- 2.) Familiarize yourself with the Cherokee Indian Culture and the Trail of Tears. Many interesting documentaries can be found for free on YouTube.
- 3.) I encourage you to watch the movie after you read the book!! It pulls everything together.
- 4.) Answer the reading guide questions as you read. This reading guide is very long. However, the questions can be answered quickly if you read the book as they ask mostly factual information. You do not have to answer these questions in complete sentences. Do not copy from the internet or each other. You will only be cheating yourself!
- 5.) Prepare yourself for a reading comprehension test that will take place the week day of school.



The Education of Little Tree

By: Forrest Carter

Chapter 1: Little Tree

1. How old is Little Tree when our story begins? _____
2. What is the somber setting for Chapter One? _____
3. What does Little Tree not understand about the bus driver and the others riding the bus?
4. What is Grandpa's name? _____
5. Who is Maud? _____
6. Why does Grandma sing to Little Tree on his first night at their house? / What does this song DO for Little Tree?

Chapter 2: The Way

1. What is "The Way"?
2. What are some of the ideas Grandpa teaches Little Tree in this Chapter?
3. What does Granma make for Little Tree? _____
4. Where does Granpa take Little Tree? _____
5. What do they bring home? _____

Chapter 3: Shadows on a Cabin Wall

1. What does the family do on Saturday and Sunday nights?
2. How does Granma find her reading material?
3. What is "the law"? _____
4. What are Granpa's feelings for "the law" and his great disappointment with George Washington?

5. What was Little Tree's assignment each week from Granma?
6. Who is one of Granma's favorite author's? _____
7. Who do Granpa and Little Tree get a ride from? Why does Granpa agree to it?

Chapter 4: Fox and Hounds

1. What does Granpa take Little Tree to do? _____
2. What are the two reasons Granpa keeps his hounds?
3. Why do the animals of the forest respect Granpa?
4. Who is Ole' Slick? _____
5. Who are Ol' Maud and Ringer? _____

Chapter 5: "I Kin Ye, Bonnie Bee"

1. What does the lady in the car want? Why does she get so mad?
2. What does the lady call Little Tree and Granpa? What do they misunderstand?
3. What does Granpa tell Little Tree about being spoken to?
4. Why has Granp "never been to Chatanooga and never going neither?"
5. What does "kin" mean? _____
6. Who is Bonnie Bee? _____
7. Who is Coon Jack? _____

Chapter 6: To Know the Past

1. What do Granma and Granpa tell Little Tree about the past?
2. What historical event (involving the Cherokee) do Granma and Grandpa tell Little Tree?

3. The Cherokee would not ride in the wagons provided for them on their journey. What does it mean when Granpa says, “The land was stolen from him, his home; but the Cherokee would not let the wagons steal his soul”?
4. What is “The Nations”? _____
5. Who were Ethan and Red Wing? How did they meet?
6. What is the marriage stick?

Chapter 7: Pine Billy

1. What did Granma do with the roots and herbs she collected?
2. How did Granpa and Little Tree prepare the fields to plant?
3. Who is Ol Sam? What made it difficult for him to help plow the field?
4. Who arrives for a visit? Describe this person.
5. What “Scheme” has Pine Billy devised? What is its purpose?
6. What other way has he devised to make money if this plan doesn’t work out?
7. How does Pine Billy entertain the family?

Chapter 8: The Secret Place

1. Where is Little Tree’s secret place? _____
2. Where does Granma believe Granpa’s secret place is?
3. According to Granma what are the “two minds”? Explain each.
4. What story did Granma tell Little Tree about Brown Hawk? Why is it significant?
5. What lessons does Little Tree learn in this chapter? Who/What are his teachers?

Chapter 9: Granpa's Trade

- 1. What is a "public works" job? Why was Granpa opposed to them?**
- 2. What are "barrel sniffers"? _____**
- 3. What was Granpa's mark for his whiskey? What did it mean? Draw it in the space below.**
- 4. Describe the incident with the lawmen. How did Little Tree and Granpa escape?**

Chapter 10: Trading with a Christian

- 1. Which hound died? What does LT learn about the experience?**
- 2. Describe LT's experience with "the Christian". What does he say he's learned? What has he really learned?**

Chapter 11: At the Crossroads Store

- 1. What is ironic about LT's new vocabulary word – abhor? (Granpa's view is involved.)**
- 2. What was "laying by"?**
- 3. What was Old Man Barnett's trade? What does this mean?**
- 4. What are wares? How did Granpa and LT know if it was safe to deliver their wares?**
- 5. Explain the situation with Mr. Jenkins and the sticks of "old" candy?**
- 6. What is a sharecropper?**
- 7. What did LT give the little sharecropper girl? Where did he get it? Why wouldn't her father let her accept the gift?**

Chapter 12: A Dangerous Adventure

- 1. Describe Little Tree's experiences in/with nature in the first part of this chapter? How does he feel? What is he learning?**
- 2. What happens to Granpa? How is he saved?**
- 3. What does Little Tree learn from this experience?**

Chapter 13: The Farm in the Clearing

- 1. What is a flashback? Why is this chapter an example?**
- 2. When did the story of the farmer occur? What was Granpa's role in the story?**
- 3. Who were the Regulators? What were their purpose?**
- 4. What happens to the family in the story?**

Chapter 14: A Night on the Mountain

- 1. What is the meaning behind the word "Indian giver" according to Granpa? What is the meaning behind the word "How!" according to Granpa?**
- 2. Why did Mr. Slick and Mr. Chunk visit Granpa?**
- 3. Why does Granma change the way she prepares the fish for Mr. Chunk and Mr. Fish? What is the outcome?**

Chapter 15: Willow John

- 1. What is "The Nations?"**
- 2. Describe the family's appearance on Sundays? How is it different than on other days?**
- 3. Describe Willow John.**
- 4. What happened between LT and Willow John at church?**

Chapter 16: Church-going

1. What is a hypocrite and what are examples of hypocrisy in this chapter?
2. What are Granpa's (and LT's) feelings on organized religion?

Chapter 17: Mr. Wine

1. Describe Mr. Wine.
2. What was the "big black box that said Kodak"? What specific things did Mr. Wine do with it?
3. What did Mr. Wine give Little Tree? Why was it so special?
4. Why did Mr. Wine light a candle?

Chapter 18: Down from the Mountain

1. Where do Little Tree and Granpa go after the man and woman visit? Why do they go there? What do they find out? What do they want to receive?
2. Why won't the lawyer, Mr. Taylor, help Little Tree and Granpa?
3. What is the Dog Star? How is it like the candle Mr. Wine burnt?
4. Compare the bus ride to the orphanage to the one in Chapter One.

Chapter 19: The Dog Star

1. Describe how Little Tree's arrival at the orphanage is so incredibly different than his arrival at Grandpa and Grandma's when he was five.
2. How is it that Little Tree is classified as a "bastard?"
3. Describe Wilburn.

4. Why, do you think, Wilburn wet his cot?
5. Explain why it was so important to Little Tree that he not cry out during his beating at the hands of the Reverend.
6. Explain the difference between the body mind and the spirit mind. Do you think such is thing is possible?
7. Why do you think Wilburn was so skeptical/pessimistic about Christmas?
8. Who does Little Tree see on Christmas Day?
9. What happens to Little Tree?

Chapter 20: Home Again

1. Why does Little Tree take off his shoes?
2. Describe Little Tree's homecoming.
3. Explain the importance of Little Tree resting in his secret place.
4. Explain how Little Tree was allowed to come home? Who was responsible?
5. What happens when Little Tree sees Willow John?

Chapter 21: The Passing Song

1. Explain what happened to Willow John.
2. Explain Grandpa's death.
3. What happens to Granma? Why do you think she died?
3. Who helps Little Tree with Granma's death?
4. What does Little Tree do after Granma dies?
5. Who/what is the last remnant of his time with Granma and Grandpa that Little Tree is able to hold onto until the VERY end of the book?