

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Will's Race for Home

Author:

Jewell Parker Rhodes

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

- 1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
- 2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
- 3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
- 4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

What does this chapter show about fairness or unfairness? How does it connect to Will's journey?

Example answer: This chapter makes me think about fairness because Will and his family are trying to build a better future, but getting that chance is not simple. I think the author wants readers to notice that some people have to work harder just to feel safe and respected. It connects to Will's journey because his race for a home is also a race for fairness and belonging.

Chapter 32

Looking back over the whole story, how has Will changed, and what message about home, hope, or fairness will you remember most?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What part of this chapter best shows the main theme of the book? Explain the message you think the author is sharing.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

What does this chapter reveal about being brave? How is courage shown in a small or quiet way?

Example answer: I think this chapter shows that bravery is not always about acting fearless. Will can be brave by keeping going even when he feels nervous or unsure. That kind of courage matters because it shows he is trying to help his family and not give up on their dream.

Looking back over the whole story, how has Will changed, and what message about home, hope, or fairness will you remember most?

Example answer: By the end, I think Will has grown because he understands that home is more than land or a building. Home means family, safety, hope, and a place where people can belong. The message I will remember is that everyone deserves a fair chance to make a good life.

Chapter 1

What do you learn about Will's life, personality, or hopes in this chapter? Use details from the chapter to explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

How has the meaning of 'home' grown or changed in the story so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

What does Will learn about trust in this chapter?
Think about who he listens to, depends on, or questions.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Which details about Will's family help you understand why having a real home matters to them so much?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

How does the setting of the story affect what Will notices, worries about, or hopes for in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Which small detail in this chapter might be important later? Explain why you noticed it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

What prediction can you make about Will's next step? What clues from the chapter helped you make that prediction?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What problem feels most important in this chapter, and why do you think it matters to Will?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

In what ways does Will show determination so far, even when things are difficult or uncertain?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

How does family or community help a character in this chapter? Why might that support be important?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What emotion did you feel most while reading this chapter, and what part of the writing made you feel that way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Pick one sentence or description that helped you picture the scene. What did it make you see, hear, or feel?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What does Will's idea of home seem to mean in this chapter? Is it only a place, or is it something more?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Compare Will at this point in the story to Will at the beginning. What is one way he seems the same, and one way he seems different?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

How does the author build suspense in this chapter? Point to a detail that made you want to keep reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How do the adults around Will influence his choices, feelings, or understanding of the world so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

What choice does Will or another character make in this chapter, and what might that choice show about the character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

What does this chapter reveal about being brave? How is courage shown in a small or quiet way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

If you could speak to Will at the end of this chapter, what advice or encouragement would you give him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Which moment in this chapter felt most important to you? Explain why it stood out.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

How is hope shown in this chapter? Give an example of something a character says, does, or thinks.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What lesson might Will be learning right now? Use evidence from the chapter to support your idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

How do the dangers or obstacles in this chapter make the story feel more serious?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

What questions do you still have about Will, his family, or the race for a home after reading this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Describe how Will handles fear or worry in this chapter. What would you have done in a similar situation?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

What new information in this chapter changes what you understand about Will's goals or challenges?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What connection can you make between Will's search for home and something you have read, learned, or experienced?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

What does this chapter show about fairness or unfairness? How does it connect to Will's journey?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Choose a strong word from this chapter. What do you think it means, and how does it help the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

How does Will react when things do not go exactly the way he expects? What does that tell you about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
