



2017

Stone Fox

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Book Review

Title: Stone Fox

Author: John Reynolds Gardiner

Illustrator: Marcia Sewall

Reviewer: Stephany Nalley

Publisher: HarperCollins

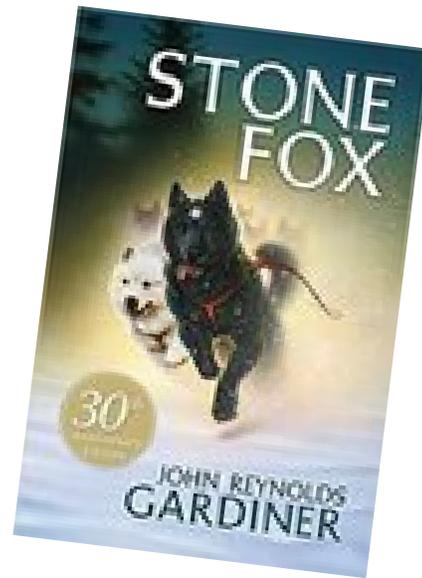
Year: 1980

ISBN: 9780064401326

Pages: 96

Interest Level: Primary

Rating: Dependable



Review

Based on a Rocky Mountain legend, Stone Fox tells the story of Little Willy, a young boy who lives with his grandfather in Wyoming. When Grandfather becomes ill, Little Willy must take care of his Grandfather and the farm. When he finds out that the farm is in danger of being foreclosed, Little Willy tries to save the farm and his Grandfather by competing in the National Dogsled Race. The prize money is exactly what he needs to pay off the bills to save both the farm and his Grandfather. Little Willy faces challenges along the way, but he and his dog, Searchlight, race against Stone Fox, the Native American man who is known for never losing a race.

This story is hard to put down as you want to quickly find out who will win the race and earn the prize money. Little Willy's love for his Grandfather is heartwarming and the way he takes on the many responsibilities is admirable. A highly recommended read for primary learners or those who would like to read about great courage. The message of the story teaches young readers to take responsibility and believe in yourself. Stone Fox might not be suitable to sensitive children as the ending of the story is a little sudden and heartbreaking. Although the ending is difficult to accept, the story shows the depth of the young boy's beautiful heart and the love he has for his Grandfather.