

Prepared by Suellen, Guilford Free Library

“Stumptown Kid” by Gorman and Findley

Book talk:

Charlie lived with his mom in Iowa in the 1950’s. He learns about friendship, heroism and racism when he meets a former Negro-league baseball player, Luther Peale. Luther ends up coaching Charlie’s team. Will this be the change they need to win against the premier team?

Questions?

Where did Charlie first meet Luther? (camp by the river)

What happened when he brought him home for dinner? (His mom’s friend Vern came and didn’t like it) Why?

What kind of baseball did Luther Play? ((National Negro League)

Why had he stopped? (Accidentally killed a player with his pitch and that players brother was after him to “kill” him – so he left town)

What tips did he give the Stumptown team? (How to hold the ball by the seams to pitch, etc.)

Who are the Wildcats? (the other team)

What bully was on the wildcats team? (Brad Lobo)

What was wrong with Vern? (Prejudice)

Where does Luther get a job? (The egg store – Landon’s)

Where does Luther get a room? (A rooming house)

What does Charlie take that belonged to his Dad – to help Luther? (A bayonette)

Was that a good idea?

Who let “Ruckus” out of jail? (Vern paid the bail)

Where did Charlie’s Mom work? (At Woolworths as a cashier)

Where was she going to work if she went back to school? (hairdresser)