



# Grayson Russell

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**Grayson Russell** (born May 1, 1998) is an American film and television actor. He is best known for his roles in *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby* and the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* film series.<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

## Life and career

Russell was born in [Clanton, Alabama](#), the son of Crystal and Jerry Russell, who have a Christian music ministry.<sup>[1]</sup> He attended public high school in Clanton at [Chilton County High School](#), home of the Tigers, and graduated from there in 2016.<sup>[4]</sup>

His acting career began at the age of six, when he appeared as Cowboy Grayson, in a series of television commercials for a local car dealership.<sup>[1]</sup> Other commercials include appearances in a regional McDonald's spot, and a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee commercial.<sup>[5]</sup> Russell's film career began with an open casting call for a role in *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*.

His mother, Crystal Russell, has stated that Grayson auditioned to gain some experience with the process, and the family was surprised to learn that he would be playing *Texas Ranger Bobby*, the son of racecar driver Ricky Bobby (played by [Will Ferrell](#)).<sup>[6]</sup>

*The Rainbow Tribe*, Russell's second movie was based on a true story, and was filmed in California in 2007. The independent film won Best Picture at the 2008 The Feel Good Film Festival<sup>[7]</sup> founded by [Kristen Ridgway Flores](#) in [Los Angeles](#), but was released direct-to-video in 2011.<sup>[8]</sup>

In 2009, Russell appeared in a single episode of Disney's sitcom *I'm in the Band*.<sup>[6]</sup> In 2010, Russell appeared in the film adaptation of author [Jeff Kinney's](#) *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. Russell played Fregley, an awkward and unpopular classmate of [Greg Heffley](#).<sup>[4]</sup> He reprised the role in the sequels, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* (2011)<sup>[5]</sup> and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days* (2012).

Grayson Russell	
<b>Born</b>	May 1, 1998 <div>Clanton, Alabama,<div>U.S.</div></div>
<b>Occupation</b>	Actor
<b>Years active</b>	2005–present

In 2011, Russell also appeared in the *Alien Candy* episode of *R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour*. Russell plays an autistic baseball savant named Rafer, in the 2013 feature film *Season of Miracles*, a role for which fans and critics have acknowledged his broader acting range.

## Filmography

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### Film appearances

Year	Film	Role
2006	<i>Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby</i>	Texas Ranger Bobby
2010	<i>The Rainbow Tribe</i>	Calvin
	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i>	Fregley
2011	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules</i>	
2012	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days</i>	
2013	<i>Season of Miracles</i>	Rafer
2016	<i>Mother's Day</i>	Tommy

### Film voice

Year	Film	Role
2011	<i>Marley &amp; Me: The Puppy Years</i> <sup>[9]</sup>	Marley's voice

### TV appearances

Year	Show	Role	Notes
2009	<i>I'm in the Band</i>	Martin	1 episode
2011	<i>R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour</i>	Walt	1 episode

## References

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## External links

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- Grayson Russell (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm2124254/>) at IMDb
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