The Pinballs
SCPA 5th Grade Summer Reading

Name: ____________________________

SUMMER READING RESPONSE PACKET
Dear Students,

As an incoming 5th grade student, you are required to read The Pinballs by: Betsy Byars and Number the Stars by: Lois Lowry. These books will be an integral part of the 5th grade curriculum for the 1st Quarter and therefore you will be held accountable for reading the books and completing the summer packet, which will be due by the first week of school in August. The completed packet will be needed as we will go through classroom discussion, writing, fine arts integration activities, and various assessments.

The Pinballs and Number the Stars chapter books can be found at your public library, any bookstore, or online book source. NOTE: Excuses such as “I couldn’t get the book,” will NOT be accepted as an excuse for not being prepared for the first week of your 5th grade year. Your first marked grades in Language Arts will be based on your reading and they will be recorded in PowerSchool.

You must complete each assignment in your best CURSIVE HANDWRITING with your name and date printed on each page. If you are not comfortable writing in cursive then please practice your cursive handwriting throughout the summer. You are required to write in cursive handwriting all year in your 5th Grade Language Arts class. Students are expected to be proficient in cursive by the end of 5th grade.

As you prepare to enter fifth grade, plan your summer reading activities ahead of time. I imagine your summer months are filled with several activities. You must therefore plan your summer reading schedule around your family’s vacations and other commitments. Make every effort to complete your assignments before the first week of school. You certainly do not want to procrastinate; leaving the entire assignment until the end of your vacation will cause you to start your fifth grade year at a major disadvantage.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your 5th grade teacher via email. I can’t wait to meet each and every one of you to elevate your reading and writing abilities. Let’s make it a great school year!
Chapter 1: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

resent_________________________________________________

concussion_____________________________________________

stabilize_______________________________________________

1. Write the names of the three main characters at the top of each list below. Fill in as many character traits about each child as you can. When you find a new word or traits, come back and add it to the list.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. “Carlie was as hard to crack as a coconut.”
   What does that mean?

   ____________________________________________________________
Chapter 2: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

suspicious _____________________________

forge _________________________________

Carlie refers to many different TV shows and characters that her life is similar to, but you may not be familiar with her references. What is the copyright date of this book? __________

Talk with your parents about the characters from the shows Carlie mentions, then try to write the names of characters from current TV shows that Carlie could have chosen if this book was today:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carlie’s TV Character</th>
<th>Character Traits</th>
<th>Current TV Character</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carlie also mentions the different TV shows that she loves to watch. Through discussion with your parent or family members, write the names of TV shows today that could be comparable to the shows Carlie mentioned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carlie’s Shows</th>
<th>Current Similar Shows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Sonny and Cher Show</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Andy Griffith Show</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Orlando and Dawn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Young and the Restless</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leave it to Beaver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 3: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

squint  _______________________________________________

twinge  _______________________________________________

1. Why do you think Carlie is so hostile with everyone in the Mason house? __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Chapter 4: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

basin  _______________________________________________

scraggly ______________________________________________

vaccine  ______________________________________________

Chapter 5: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

hesitate _______________________________________________

abrupt  _______________________________________________

commune  _____________________________________________

gnarled  ______________________________________________
Chapter 6:

1. Why do you think it makes Carlie feel terrible when people are nice and polite to her?

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

2. Carlie uses the metaphor of a pinball machine to describe how she feels about life. Do you think her explanation was effective? From what you’ve read so far, can you see how she would feel like that? Write a paragraph explaining what the title of the book means:

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

Chapter 7: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

hover___________________________

pester___________________________

appendectomy___________________________

incision___________________________
1. Re-read the letter Carlie wrote to her mother. Why do you think the author wanted us to see that Carlie wrote it without punctuation?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What correct punctuation marks are needed for the letter?

________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 8: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

summon ______________________________________________

Chapter 9: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

mantel _______________________________________________

halter ________________________________________________

Chapter 10: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

dread________________________________________________

1. Thomas J recalls his life with the Benson Twins. Can you imagine those things happening to you? How would you feel if you were living Thomas J’s life?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Chapter 11:
1. In this chapter, the reader sees the first time Carlie shows she cares about someone other than herself. What happened? How did Carlie try to cheer the others up?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 12:
1. Carlie and Harvey talk about “a matter of principle”. What does that mean?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 13: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

persuade ________________________________________________________________

doubtful ________________________________________________________________

1. Why do you think Harvey finally told Carlie what happened to his legs?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Chapter 14: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

criticize ________________________________________________________________________

furious __________________________________________________________________________

impatient __________________________________________________________________________

astonish __________________________________________________________________________

1. Why didn’t Carlie take the book from the library? Do you think her answer is truthful? Why or why not?
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

Chapter 15: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

fidget __________________________________________________________________________

juvenile __________________________________________________________________________

1. List five adjectives to describe how you think Harvey felt waiting for his father to show up for the visit.
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

2. Why does Carlie tell Harvey how great help she can be in a fight? What does she mean?
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
Chapter 16: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

*smudge* ________________________________

1. Good authors can take a small moment in a story and turn it into a “pivotal event” (where everything changes). Describe the “pivotal event” in chapter 16 and tell how you think it will change the characters.

___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________

Chapter 17: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

*earnestly* ________________________________

1. Thomas J seems to talk just like a grown-up. Why do you think that is?

___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________

Chapter 18: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

*feeble* ________________________________

*pout* ________________________________

*sulk* ________________________________
1. By the end of this chapter, the reader can start to see strong connections forming between the characters. Fill in the chart below to show which characters you see forming a strong bond. Add any other connections that you find.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character 1</th>
<th>Character 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Mason</td>
<td>Thomas J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. When Carlie says she never gives up on anyone she likes, the reader believes her. Why do you believe her?

___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________

Chapter 19: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.

lousy ________________________________________________

agonize _______________________________________________

decal ________________________________________________

Chapter 20:

1. Could you imagine not knowing when your birthday is? How do you think it would feel to have no idea when you were born?

___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
___________________________________________________
Chapter 22: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.
cahoots ______________________________________________

1. What is your prediction about Carlie’s plan? Do you think it will work? ____________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Chapter 23: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.
commotion ______________________________________________

1. Why did Harvey cry? ______________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

2. What was the “pivotal event” in this chapter? _______
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Chapter 24: 
1. Carlie says, “This is what it must feel like to be famous.” What does she mean? ____________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

Chapter 26: Write the best definition based on the context clues from the reading.
twitch ________________________________________________
admiration ________________________________________________
1. Carlie said that she’d like to go into her brain with an eraser and erase all the bad things that have happened to her. Imagine you could do the same. What are some things you **WANT** to erase from your brain? What are some things you **NOT** want to erase? Write a paragraph explaining your reasoning.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. The last sentence of the book is short, but it says a lot. Write a paragraph explaining how that short sentence sums up the entire book.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Read and Analyze the novel Number the Stars By: Lois Lowry.

Choose a character or individual from the book and write a two paragraph journal entry as this person. Please record the first paragraph in print and the second paragraph in cursive writing. Use information from the novel in your journal entry.

Manage your time carefully over the summer so that you can:
• read the novel Number the Stars
• plan your response
• write your response; and
• revise and edit your response

Be sure to include:
• an introduction
• information from the novel as support; and
• a conclusion that is related to the information presented

Write you response in the space provided:
Cursive Alphabet

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff
Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll
Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq
Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv
Ww Xx Yy Zz