

WONDER

A Novel Study Based on the Book by R.J. Palacio

In the sentence below, what kind of word is "wow"?

"Wow, what a firm grip!" said Mrs. Garcia.

- a) verb
- b) noun
- c) adjective
- d) interjection

August loves books and movies. Which book or movie is NOT mentioned in the first part of Wonder?

- a) Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone
- b) Diary of a Wimpy Kid
- c) The Hobbit
- d) Star Wars

Open Response:

Use information from the text and your own ideas to answer the questions.

1. What do we know about what kind of person Mr. Tushman is at this point in the story?

We know Mr. Tushman has a good sense of humor because he laughed when Auggie told him about Miss Butt. He is also kind because he knelt down to



Writing

FULL LESSON PLANS AND STUDENT TEMPLATES

Hotseat Writing - Part I (August)

Author of Questions: _____ Author of Answers: _____

Write a list of questions for each of the characters.

Mom

Dad

Via

Medical Report

Patient Name: _____

Gender: M _____

Reason for Visit: _____

Symptoms:

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

Physician's Orders:

Character Survey - Writing - Part 4 (Jack)

In Part 4 of *Wonder*, Jack, August and their classmates are working their way through their beliefs about what it means to be a friend to someone, as how important someone's attractiveness is when considering friendship. In this assignment, you are asked to put yourself in the "shoes" of different characters from the story, and respond to the following sentences as if you were those characters, not as you yourself might respond.

1. Everyone should have the right to attend school.

August: _____

Mrs. Albans (Julian's mom): _____

Summer: _____

2. Beauty is only skin deep.

Julian: _____

Jack: _____

August: _____

3. It is more important to be kind than to be truthful.

Jack: _____

Summer: _____

Mrs. Will (Jack's mom): _____

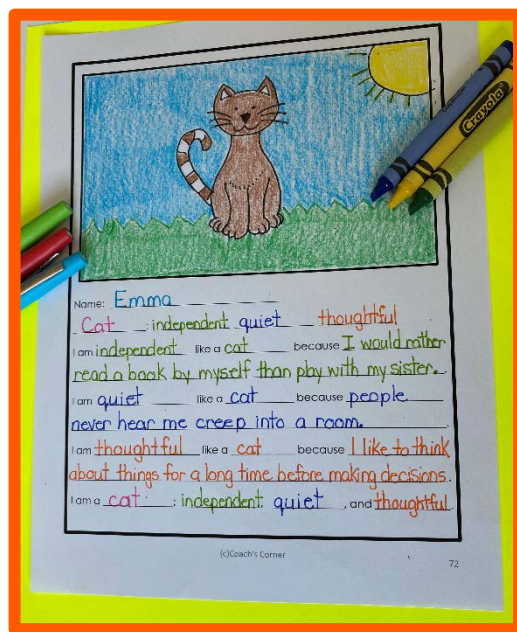
4. Fortune favors the bold.

August: _____

Jack: _____

Mr. Tushman: _____

- Advice Column
- Character Surveys
- Yearbook
- Speech
- Medical Report
- Hotseat Writing
- Punctuation Practice



Drama

BASED ON JEFFREY WILHELM'S ACTION STRATEGIES FOR DEEPENING COMPREHENSION



Frontloading Activities

Studies have shown that students understand more of the themes of a story if they have had the opportunity to build their own background knowledge beforehand, and

(Drama) - Part 2 (Via) Conversations

In Part 2 of *Wonder*, Auggie's sister, Via, is the narrator. We learn that her life has been deeply affected by Auggie's medical condition, and that she is powerful and high school because of her sister.

Stranger in Role - Drama - Part 3 (Summer)

Good Angel/Bad Angel (Drama) - Part 4 (Jack)

In Part 4 of *Wonder*, August's friend Jack has found himself in the difficult position of unknowingly alienating August in order to make his classmates believe he is not close to the new student, while also defending August to one of those "friends". When Julian encourages Jack to switch science partners rather than work with "that freak", Jack punches Julian.

It is at that moment just before Jack punches Julian (on page 154) that you could engage your students in a "Good Angel/Bad Angel" drama activity. I have found that this is one of my students' all-time favorite activities, as it acknowledges that everyone finds themselves in situations where they are tempted by their own desires to take action that is not necessarily morally desirable.

In Good Angel/Bad Angel, one student will take on the role of Jack, another becomes Jack's "good angel", whispering positive suggestions to him, while a third student is the "bad angel", encouraging Jack to do what would feel good to him, but not necessarily what is right, ignoring the long-term consequences of his actions.



In this situation the "angels" act as counselors for Jack, advising and helping him make a difficult decision. Students taking part in such an activity come to understand more deeply the situation Jack finds himself in, and can draw upon this experience when they themselves find themselves in similar situations. They may be able to appreciate that there are positive and negative consequences to the decisions they make, and to begin to weigh these consequences.

Hint: Your students might enjoy using props such as wands or "wings" from costumes for this activity!

Grocery Store Tableau - Part 5 (Justin)



In the chapter entitled "The Bus Stop" (p. 196), Justin walks Jack to the nearest bus stop. While they are waiting for the bus, Jack borrows a dollar to buy gum at the grocery store across the street. As Justin watches, some boys from Jack's school walk by, notice Jack inside, and then mock him when he leaves the store.

Hotseat! - Teacher Notes Part 6 (August)

"Hotseat" is an drama/comprehension activity in which a student or teacher takes on the role of one of the characters from a text, and answers questions from the other students.

In Part 6 of *Wonder*, Auggie is discovered by the school nurse, Miss Gerson, and he is taken to the hospital.

Our Town - Drama & Media Literacy- Teacher Notes (Part 7 - Miranda)

In Part 7 of *Wonder*, much of the focus centers around the play *Our Town* which is being performed by the local high school where Miss Gerson and Justin have the first notes, while Via

Hotseat the Author!! - Section 8 (August)

You have been invited to attend a publicity event in which the author of *Wonder*, R.J. Palacio will be available to answer questions about her book. In order to ensure you are prepared for this amazing opportunity, take some time to jot down a few questions and/or comments that you feel your readers would enjoy learning more about. Space has been provided for you to also record Ms. Palacio's responses to your questions and comments.

Question/Comment

Response

Question/Comment

Response

Question/Comment

Response

Question/Comment

Response

Comprehension

PARTS OF SPEECH

GRAMMAR

PUNCTUATION

Questions, Questions - Part 2 (Via)

Name: _____

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

Via says her parents are "peas in a pod". Which language device does this description?

- a) alliteration
- b) simile
- c) personification
- d) metaphor

Open Response: Use information from the text to answer the questions.

Via talks about her mother. What does she mean?

Questions, Questions - Part 3 (Summer)

Name: _____

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

Choose the best synonym for "normal" in the sentence: "enough being the new kid when you have a normal friend."

- a) handsome
- b) ordinary
- c) uncommon
- d) popular

Questions, Questions - Part 5 (Justin)

Name: _____

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct choice.

Identify the adverb in the sentence: "Justin ends his part of the book wondering if the things that happen to people are random."

Justin ends his part of the book wondering if the things that happen to people are random. Identify the antonym for random:

Name: _____

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct choice. Identify the adverb in this sentence: "but you're okay with it? she asks sweetly?"

- a) sweetly
- b) okay
- c) but
- d) asks

Justin ends his part of the book wondering if the things that happen to people are random. Identify the antonym for random:

- a) accidental
- b) orderly
- c) unintended
- d) rule

Open Response: Use information from the text and your own ideas to answer the question.

Why does Justin like Via's parents?

Justin likes Via's parents because they are happy with each other and interested in him. For example, they ask Justin questions about his music, but his own parents don't ever ask him about his life. Also, Via's family laugh a lot and tell each other "I love you", but Justin's parents don't. Justin relaxes around Via's family because they are nice to be around.

Explain why Justin decides that "the universe takes care of all its' birds".

Justin decides this because he thinks that even though Auggie was born with a terrible medical condition, he has a family who loves and supports him. He also has a great friend Jack, who stood up for him against Julian, and his sister's friend Miranda watches over him. Justin thinks that having all these people around Auggie who take care of Auggie make up for his medical problems.

Questions, Questions - Part 1 (August)

Name: Sam

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer for each question.

In the sentence below, what kind of word is "wow"?

"Wow, what a firm grip!" said Mrs. Garcia.

- a) verb
- b) noun
- c) adjective
- d) interjection

August loves books and movies. Which book or movie is NOT mentioned in the first part of *Wonder*?

- a) Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone
- b) Diary of a Wimpy Kid
- c) The Hobbit
- d) Star Wars

Open Response: Use information from the text and your own ideas to answer the questions.

1. What do we know about what kind of person Mr. Tushman is at this point in the story?

We know Mr. Tushman has a good sense of humor because he laughed when Auggie told him about Miss Butt. He is also kind because he knelt down to talk to Auggie, and he looked at his face without being shocked.

2. Is the fact that Mr. Roche has to separate Jack and Auggie in class a positive or negative event in the story?

Being separated from Jack is positive for Auggie, because it shows that he has a friend to have fun with. Earlier he was sad because no one wanted to sit near him. I remember feeling like Auggie when no one picked me for their soccer team.

Vocabulary

8 DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES
TO STRENGTHEN WORD
KNOWLEDGE

Word Sorts

Syllables

Memory Match

Bingo

Multiple Meanings

Crossword

Section 2 Vocabulary for Word Sort

1 Syllable	2 Syllables	3 Syllables	4 Syllables	5 Syllables
prude	sidelined	zombified	genuinely	catastrophe
gene	nauseous	incident	instinctively	flabbergasted
gauge	factors	perspective	accompany	meticulously
cosmos	sepia	apparition	inherited	

Bingo Vocabulary List

1 Syllable	2 Syllables	3 Syllables	4 Syllables	5 Syllables
sprint	interjects	mysteriously	geneticist	assumed
registered	unison	immaculate	monologue	
defensively	casually	BINGO	inserts	flake
ic	varsity	baroque	audacious	gravelly
anomaly	rejoiced	entitled	fragile	theorem

entitled
given the right to do something or feel a particular emotion

assumed
to take as true

anomaly
something different from the normal state of being

sentence
a punishment, usually given in a court room

Media Literacy

PSAs, POSTERS,
INTERNET
RESEARCH,
ADVERTISING

Fairgrounds Newscast (Media Literacy) Section 8 (August)

Name: _____

One of the last major events in Wonder is the movie night at the fairgrounds which Auggie's class attends as part of their field trip. Auggie is targeted by a group of students. Pretend you are a news anchor. Write a script for a news report about the movie night.

Facebook Page - Part 4

Name: _____

facebook [search bar] Find Friends Home Account

News report
How? We
be spoke
which p
prepare
other de

Use this c
Who wa
Where d
When di
What ha

Why did
How did
Roles:
Broadcas
Students

Yearbook Design - Part 7 (Miranda)

In Part 7 of *Wonder* we finally get to learn more about Via's friend Miranda, a character who has been mentioned regularly by Via, August & Justin. This assignment allows you the opportunity to design a yearbook entry for either Via or Miranda for the year in which *Wonder* takes place. Think about the thoughts, feelings and actions of these two characters, and compose an entry representative of these things.

You could include:

- Picture
- Best friend
- Favorite Moment
- Nickname
- Favorite saying/Quotation
- School Activities
- Goals for the Future
- Sports



Here's an example for another character from literature: **Harry Potter**



Name: Harry Potter

Best Friend: Ron Weasley

Favorite Moment: The day Neville killed the Horcruxes

School Activities: Captain of Quidditch Team

Favorite Saying: I don't go looking for trouble. Trouble usually finds me.

Hope for the Future: Hogwarts has been the first real home I've ever had, and the friends I've made here will be in my heart forever. My hope is that we'll continue to the best of friends for the rest of our lives.

(c)Coach's Corner

109

Greeting Cards - Media Literacy - Part 5 (Justin)

Name: Kaylee

Choose a greeting card. Copy or glue the card below. Then answer the following questions.



Who might buy this card? A friend or relative.

Who might this card be given to? New parents

Why did the card company make this card? The company wants to make money from selling the card.

What does this card tell us about our culture? The card tells us that we like to celebrate the arrival of a baby.

(c)Coach's Corner

91

WHERE POSSIBLE, APPROPRIATE ONLINE RESOURCES HAVE BEEN HYPERLINKED FOR CONVENIENCE.

Teacher Feedback



LOVE THIS RESOURCE. MANY OF THE ACTIVITIES WERE WELL THOUGHT OUT AND DEVELOPED. I ENDED UP USING ONE OF THE LITERACY IDEAS AND EXTENDING IT INTO DRAMA AND ART! IT ALSO TOOK A LOT OF PRESSURE OFF TEACHING A SPLIT! THE STUDENTS LOVE DOING THE ACTIVITIES SO MUCH THAT OUR 1 MONTH NOVEL STUDY IS NOW ON MONTH 2 AND THEY STILL LOVE IT! – ANONYMOUS BUYER

LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES TO GO WITH THE CLASS READ-ALoud. WE DIDN'T EVEN GET TO THEM ALL. I LOVE HOW YOU MANAGED TO INTEGRATE SO MANY ASPECTS INTO LITERACY SUCH AS ART AND DRAMA ACTIVITIES. - ANNETTE

THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST PRODUCTS I HAVE FOUND HERE AND I HAVE BEEN VERY HAPPY WITH MOST THAT I HAVE PURCHASED! LOTS OF GREAT IDEAS, COVERING MANY AREAS OF THE CURRICULUM! LOVE HOW IT IS ORGANIZED AND READY TO ROLL! – ME T.

THIS IS AN AMAZING PACKAGE. AN OVERLOAD OF RESOURCES. IT IS RECOMMENDED FOR A 5/6 CLASS BUT I AM USING IT WITH MY 4/5 COMBINED CLASS. IF YOU ARE USING THIS BOOK THEN PURCHASE THIS PACKAGE BECAUSE IT IS A LIFE SAVER.