



**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 3-5**

# **The Best (Worst) School Year Ever**

Barbara Robinson



**READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT**

# The Best (Worst) School Year Ever

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**NOTE:**

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

7. Why doesn't Mr. Crabtree tell the Herdmans that they are not allowed on the Fire Safety Team?
8. What reason do the students have for quitting the Fire Safety Team?
9. Why do only the Herdmans come to Fire Prevention Day?
10. How does the newspaper get the story wrong when writing about Fire Prevention Day?

### **Chapter 9, Pages 102-117**

1. What reason does Beth give for why the last day of school is a big deal?
2. What unusual thing did Boomer Malone once find inside his desk?
3. Why doesn't the school hold a pet parade anymore?
4. What is planned for the students to do on the last day of school?
5. To whom does Beth hope to give a compliment?
6. How does Boyd get his head out from the bike rack?
7. How do the students feel about reading their compliments aloud to the class?
8. Who draws Beth's name? What compliment is she given?
9. As Beth reads her compliments to the class, what is Alice's reaction?
10. What word does Imogene ask Beth to write on her arm? Why does she choose that particular word?
11. How has Beth's attitude toward Imogene change by the end of the story?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*The Best School Year Ever*  
 Activity #4 • Vocabulary  
 Chapters 2-3

basement (18)  
 commotion (20)  
 tangled (23)  
 yowling (25)  
 tramped (29)  
 expelled (32)  
 honor (35)

hysterical (18)  
 typical (22)  
 allergic (23)  
 lathered (26)  
 disaster (30)  
 civilize (34)

hollered (18)  
 circuit (23)  
 anonymous (25)  
 respirator (28)  
 benefit (31)  
 deeds (34)

postmaster (19)  
 skittered (23)  
 mysterious (25)  
 pose (28)  
 sympathies (31)  
 kindness (34)

**Directions:** To play bingo, choose any 16 words from the vocabulary list above. Put only one word in each space provided. It must fit the category that is labeled in that space. The teacher will check to make sure all spaces are correctly filled. One at a time, the teacher will call out the definition of the words. If the definition called defines one of your words, mark that space. The first student to get a straight bingo wins.

Four Syllables _____	Three Syllables _____	Noun _____	Suffix _____
Verb _____	Suffix _____	Four Syllables _____	Noun _____
Compound Word _____	Noun _____	Verb _____	Three Syllables _____
Noun _____	Verb _____	Three Syllables _____	Suffix _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Circle the letter for the BEST answer to each question.

1. Who says the teachers lock the doors to the teachers' room and eat pizza?
  - A. Charlie
  - B. Leroy Herdman
  - C. Louella
  
2. The Herdmans are banned from the Post Office because
  - A. they put a toad in the fountain
  - B. they steal a bunch of stamps and are caught
  - C. Ollie wants to know how much money he can collect for his brother Claude
  
3. After causing all of the commotion, the Herdmans' cat finally ends up in
  - A. the tree outside of the library
  - B. the tree outside of the fire department
  - C. the Pizza Parlor
  
4. Leroy ties \_\_\_\_\_ around the light cord in the teacher's closet.
  - A. his smelly sneakers
  - B. his dead snake
  - C. Smokey the Bear
  
5. Mrs. Wendleken resigns from the PTA because
  - A. Alice is too demanding and she does not have time to concentrate on both
  - B. the Herdmans are part of the talent show and she wants no part of it
  - C. there is a conflict with Alice being in the talent show
  
6. Gladys wants to help Eugene win the talent show because
  - A. she wants to steal all of the refreshments
  - B. Eugene is going to be on TV and Gladys wants to become a star
  - C. she feels guilty about cutting his hair in the shape of a dog