

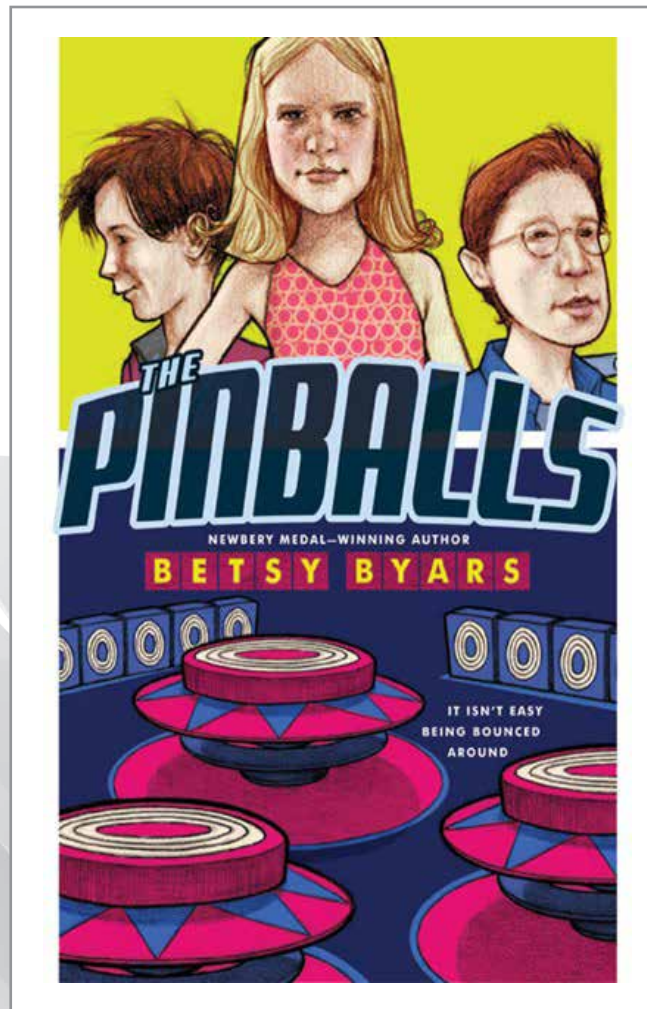


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 3-5

The Pinballs

Betsy Byars



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

The Pinballs

Betsy Byars

STUDENT PACKET

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 _____

Chapters 20–26 (Pages 103-136)

39. Why doesn't Thomas J know the day or year of his birth?
40. What birthday solution does Carlie have for Thomas J?
41. What do Carlie and Thomas J do to cheer up Harvey at the hospital?
42. What do Carlie and Thomas J decide to do for Harvey's birthday?
43. What do you think causes Harvey to cry?
44. Is the birthday gift to Harvey a success?
45. How does Mrs. Mason react to Carlie, Thomas J, and the puppy?
46. Why does Carlie want to erase her brains?
47. How have the children changed since being together and with the Masons?
48. What does Carlie decide about her and Thomas J being pinballs?
49. Have Mr. and Mrs. Mason changed since these three children have been in their care?
50. What do you predict for the future of these three children?

Name _____

Vocabulary Review

adoptive 5	concussion 6	stabilizes 6	suspicious 9
lunged 11	technique 17	vaccine 20	commune 24
gnarled 25	cathedral 25	clenched 25	rave 30
temptatious 34	juvenile 36	appendectomy 36	incisions 37

Directions: Write the vocabulary word that matches each definition or synonym. Use two of the vocabulary words in the same sentence.

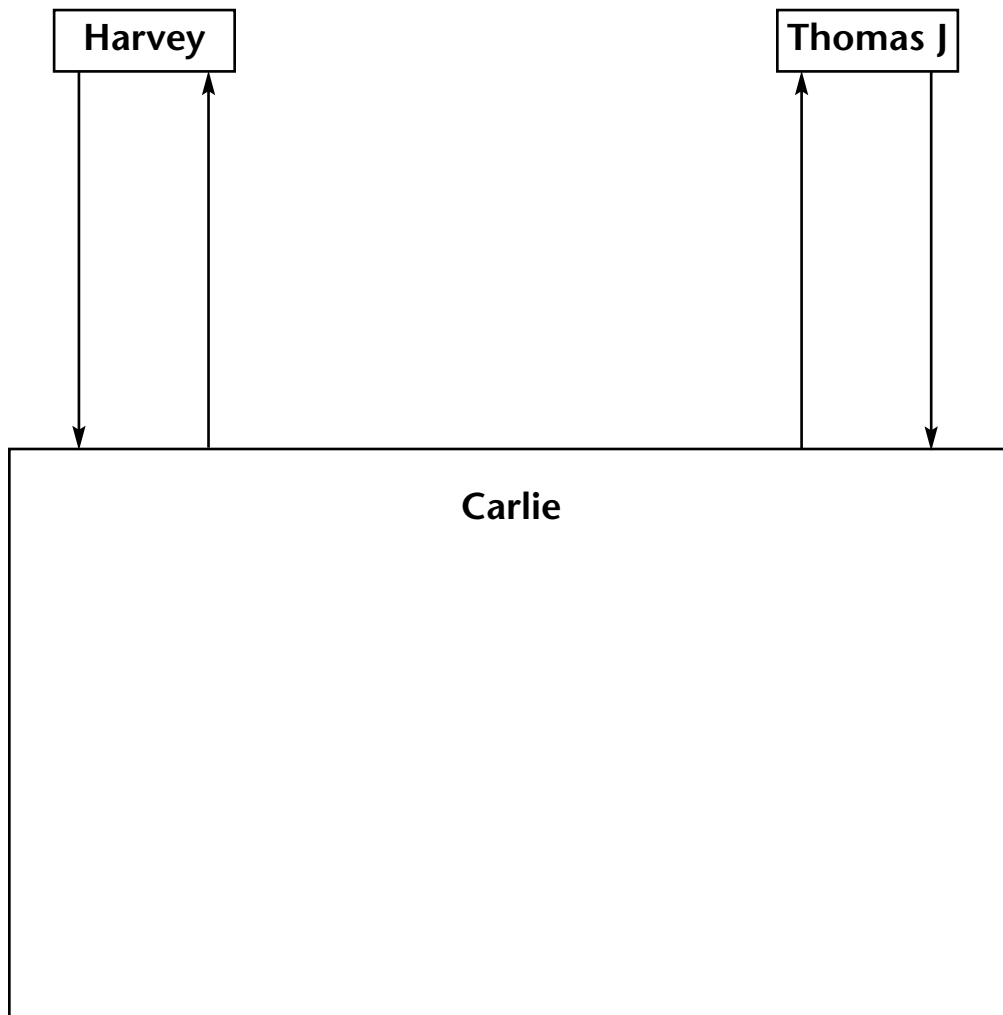
- _____ distrustful, doubtful
- _____ approach, manner
- _____ talk endlessly, orate
- _____ group living together, collective
- _____ an injury, collision, blow
- _____ pounced, charged, driven
- _____ settles, keep in steady state
- _____ grasped, clasped, gripped
- _____ young person, minor
- _____ twisted, contorted, crooked

Sentence:

Name _____

Written Response

Directions: Think of words and phrases that describe Carlie and put them under her name. Then think of words and phrases that tell how Carlie feels about the other characters and how each of them feels about her. Label the arrows with these words and phrases.



Directions: Use the notes you have written on the chart above and write a character sketch of Carlie. (A character sketch is a brief, vivid description of a person. It includes physical characteristics and personality characteristics.)