



**DO NOT  
ENTER! 3**

**WELCOME TO THE  
BIG KIDS' WORLD!**



**TEACHING GUIDE**

**Self-Reflection Questions**

Educators can have students write answers to the questions, discuss the questions, or engage with some combination of both methods. The use of the questions is up to the discretion of the teacher and/or parent.

**AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup>** (page 7)

In this section, Charlie is preparing for his first high school experience.

- A. A **FEW DAYS BEFORE** school begins, how do you start to feel?
- B. Charlie is transitioning from **jr high to high school**. Would you (**or did you**) get nervous if you changed schools?
- C. What, or who, makes you **THE MOST NERVOUS** when you go to school?



D. Charlie gets so nervous that he has a **PANIC ATTACK**. What can you do to help **CALM YOURSELF** when you are confronted with a «**SCARY**» situation?

E. Charlie makes a **NEW FRIEND** named **RAMI**, who is from India. What is an appropriate way to ask a person with a «**FOREIGN**» accent where he or she is from?

## **AUGUST 21st** (page 51)

In this section, Charlie gets up too early and then participates in intramural games with his team.

- How does it feel to have to get up early after **A WHOLE SUMMER** of sleeping in?
- After Charlie loses a **potato sack race** to Justine, he is very embarrassed to have been beaten by a girl. Why do you think that embarrasses him?
- Charlie has to work hard to remember **GEOGRAPHY AND SPELLING**. When you need to learn something, what techniques do you use?

## **AUGUST 26th** (page 76)

- Charlie has made **a bunch of new friends**; have you ever made friends at a school activity? If so, what was the activity?
- Charlie knows something about Melia's ex-boyfriend; **SHOULD HE TELL MELIA OR NOT?** Explain your answer.
- Charlie does the dishes to **AVOID TALKING TO HIS SISTER**. Under what conditions do you willingly do **CHORES** about the house?



## AUGUST 27TH (page 83)

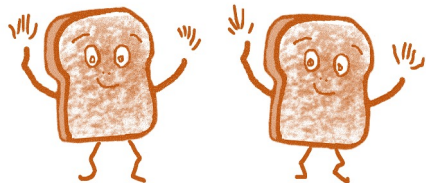
In this section, Charlie survives his first day of high school.

- Charlie sees **HIS CRUSH**, Justine, on the first day of school. How do you react to seeing someone **YOU HAVE FEELINGS FOR**?
- When you have a class with your friends, how does that make you feel?
- William makes quite the move on **Charlie's sister**. Is it okay to "**CRUSH**" on a friend's sibling?

## SEPTEMBER 6TH (page 91)

In this section, Charlie's mom "has a moment" while dealing with dinnertime chaos.

- Charlie has to drink a smoothie **EVERY MORNING**. Do your parents make you do **something healthy** every day? If so, what is it?
- Charlie's mom seems to "**HAVE A MOMENT**" when she makes a big mess on purpose during some dinner time chaos. Have you ever seen an adult when he or she had to, as the saying goes, "**LAUGH TO KEEP FROM CRYING**"?
- Charlie's family creates their own "**DAY**." If your family had **A CRAZY DAY**, what would it be?





## SEPTEMBER 23RD (page 108)

In this section, Charlie befriends an old adversary. Charlie also learns that his friend, Max, has been **less than loyal**.

- A. Charlie goes to the bathroom before lunch, but when he enters the cafeteria afterwards, there are too many. Charlie panicks because he can't find his friends. **Has this ever happened to you?** If so, how did it make you feel, and what did you do?
- B. Derek had bullied Charlie in jr. high, but now Charlie befriends Derek (**sort of**). Have you ever made friends with someone **YOU USED TO NOT LIKE?**
- C. Have you ever found out that a friend was saying **MEAN THINGS ABOUT YOU** behind your back? Or, have you ever said mean things about a friend? If you answered "**YES**" to either or **both of these**; how did you feel about the situation(s)?



## OCTOBER 1ST (page 137)

In this section, Charlie schemes to have his parents pay for **A CLASS TRIP TO BOSTON**, Massachusetts.

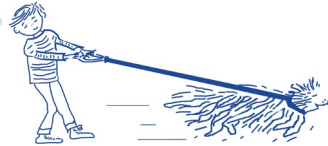
- A. Charlie makes a **list of chores** he is willing to do; What chores would you offer to do around the house to get something **YOU REALLY WANTED?**
- B. Charlie realizes that **walking Shivers** is the key to getting **MOM'S APPROVAL** for the trip. What is the **ONE CHORE** that your mom or dad would want you to do the most?



## OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup> (page 144)

In this section, Charlie confronts his friend, Max.

- Max thinks Charlie is a **LITTLE OVER DRAMATIC**. What would be a good way for Max to address this issue with Charlie?
- William is being **VERY FRIENDLY** to Charlie. Do you think this friendly behavior has anything to do with William's **FEELINGS FOR AMELIA**?
- Charlie's mom has some thoughts about why Charlie should **help around the house**. What effect do her words seem to have on Charlie's behavior?



## OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> (page 149)

In this section, Charlie's scheming gets him into unethical territory.

- Charlie wants to forge a letter from his teacher to his parents, but then backs out. Do you think Charlie made the right decision? Why?
- Charlie sometimes has **TROUBLE CONTROLLING** his emotions; how do you act when you are upset or grumpy?
- Charlie got what he wanted, but now has to walk Shivers. Do you think **THE DEAL** he made was worth it?



## OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup> (page 159)

In this section, Charlie's new friends are invited over for dinner.

- Charlie's dad fakes a **French accent** for Markus. What does your father, or another family member, do that **EMBARRASSES YOU IN FRONT OF FRIENDS**?
- Rami's laughter is distinctive but charming. What is a **similar trait** that one of your friends has?
- Throughout the dinner, Charlie seems tense. Afterward he gets into **AN ARGUMENT** with Melia. Can you think of a time where you had a **"MELTDOWN"** after a tense day?



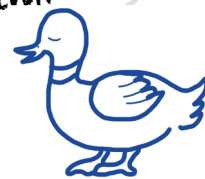
## NOVEMBER 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD. (page 180)



In this section, Charlie endures a bleak November and has a talk with his dad.

- Sometimes Charlie **complains over small things**. Why is this so common with teenagers?
- In many parts of the United States, **November is a dark and dreary month**. What are some ways to deal with the November **"BLAHs"**?
- What do you think about the **"how-to-deal-with-girls"** advice that Charlie's dad gives him?

## NOVEMBER 14TH AND 15TH (page 190)



In this section, Charlie plays **"hard to get"** with Justine and then deals with the consequences.

- Why do you think Charlie has so much trouble **expressing his feelings** for Justine?
- Charlie treats Justine rudely, and **later apologizes**. Did he do the right thing by apologizing? **Do you apologize when you're in the wrong?**
- What is a good way to let **YOUR CRUSH** know that you have a **ROMANTIC INTEREST** in him or her?

## NOVEMBER 25TH (page 195)

In this section, Charlie discovers that William's mom looks a lot different.

- What are your thoughts about **WILLIAM'S RELATIONSHIP** with his parents?
- William's mom had **A FACELIFT**. How does William feel about this? Why?





## NOVEMBER 26TH (page 200)

In this section, Charlie compares William's mother with his own mom.

- Why do you think Charlie **wants to cuddle** with his mom after having stayed at William's house?
- If William's mother paid **MORE ATTENTION TO HER SON**, do you think William and Charlie would be so **BOTHERED BY THE FACELIFT**?
- Charlie often seems to forget **his troubles** when food is made available. Do you have a "**COMFORT FOOD**" that you like to eat when you are **EXPERIENCING STRESS**?



## DECEMBER 1st (page 205)

In this section, Charlie is excited to get out into the snow.

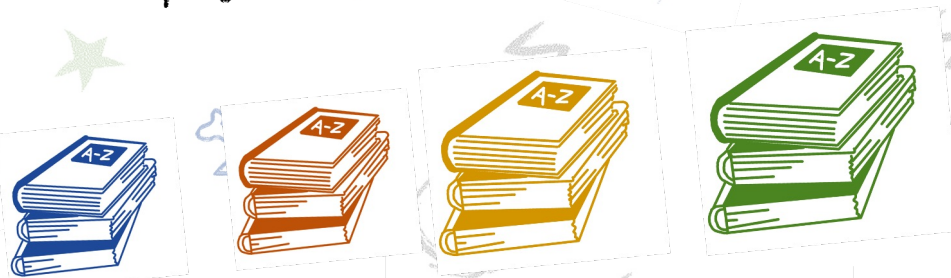
- How do you feel when there is a sudden **WEATHER CHANGE**; such as the first snow or the first nice **SPRING DAY**?
- Charlie is hard on his clothes. What things do you **OVERUSE** and have to replace a lot?
- What **social risks** Charlie faces if he tries to express to Justine **HOW MUCH** he likes her?



## DECEMBER 8TH, 15TH, AND 21ST (page 208)

In this section, Charlie grapples with end-of-term school stress.

- Does Charlie's list of **STRESSFUL THINGS** sound like yours? How do you handle additional stress when it is time for tests?
- What accounts for **Charlie's success** in geography?
- How do you feel after your last final exam/project?



## DECEMBER 22ND - JANUARY 1ST (page 216)

In this section, Charlie enjoys the holidays with family and decompresses after an eventful first semester.

- When you have **A DAY OFF** and **NO responsibilities**, what is your favorite thing to do?
- What's your **FAVORITE BOARD GAME** to play with family and friends?
- Charlie makes a list of **NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**. What are **THREE RESOLUTIONS** that you might make for a new year?



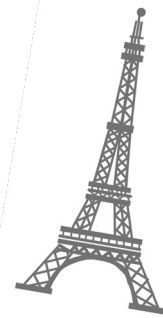


## GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITY



Using **Google Maps** and/or **Google Images**, look up the following places, then hand-draw a small map of both **WEST AFRICA** and **INDIA**. Create a **rhyme** or **memory trick** to help you remember that the **TAJ MAHAL** is in India and that **DAKAR** is the capital of Senegal.

- A. India
- B. Senegal
- C. Dakar
- D. The Pink Lake
- E. The Taj Mahal



## LITERATURE ACTIVITY

The English novelist, **Charlotte Brontë** (1816-1855) published a book titled **Jane Eyre** in 1847. The novel is, partially, about a **young girl** who attends a **HARSH BOARDING SCHOOL**. The excerpt below is about Jane's arrival at the boarding school and may be the most famous "**first day of school**" scene in English literature. Please read the excerpt below and then answer the prompts that follows:



The lady I had left might be about twenty-nine; the one who went with me appeared **some years younger**: the first impressed me by her voice, look, and hair. Miss Miller was more ordinary; **ruddy in complexion**, though of a careworn countenance; hurried in gait and action, like one who had always a **multiplicity of tasks on hand**: she looked, indeed, what I afterwards found she really was, an under-teacher. Led by her, I passed from compartment to compartment, from passage to passage, of a large and **irregular building**; till, emerging from the total and somewhat dreary silence pervading that portion of the house we had traversed, we came upon the **hum of many voices**, and presently entered a wide, long room, with great deal tables, two at each end, on each of which burnt a pair of candles, and seated all round on benches, a congregation of girls of every age, from nine or ten to twenty. Seen by the **dim light of the dips**, their number to me appeared countless, though not in reality exceeding eighty; they were **uniformly dressed** in brown stuff frocks of **quaint fashion**, and long holland pinafores. It was the hour of study; they were engaged in conning over their tomorrow's task, and the hum I had heard was the **combined result** of their whispered repetitions.

Miss Miller signed to me to sit on a bench near the door, then **walking up to the top of the long room** she cried out —

"Monitors, collect the lesson-books and put them away!"

Four tall girls arose from different tables, and going round, **gathered the books** and removed them. Miss Miller again gave the word of command —


"Monitors, fetch the supper-trays!"

The tall girls went out and returned presently, **each bearing a tray**, with portions of something, I knew not what, arranged thereon, and a pitcher of water and mug in the middle of each tray. The portions were handed round; those who liked took a **draught of the water**, the mug being common to all. When it came to my turn, I drank, for **I was thirsty**, but did not touch the food, **excitement and fatigue** rendering me incapable of eating: I now saw, however, that it was a thin oaten cake shared into fragments.

The meal over, prayers were read by Miss Miller, and the **classes filed off**, two and two, upstairs. Overpowered by this time with weariness, I scarcely noticed what sort of a place the bedroom was, except that, **like the schoolroom**, I saw it was very long. Tonight I was to be Miss Miller's bed-fellow; she helped me to undress: when laid down I glanced at the **long rows of beds**, each of which was quickly filled with two occupants; in ten minutes **the single light** was extinguished, and amidst silence and complete darkness I fell asleep.

- A. Please use a computer or a dictionary to look up any words that you are not familiar with. Then read the passage again with a new understanding. For example, when you know that the word "**COUNTENANCE**" means "**FACIAL EXPRESSION**" then a part of the passage will make more sense.
- B. In 2-3 paragraphs, compare Charlie's first day of school with Jane Eyre's first day. What are **AT LEAST TWO SIMILARITIES** between the experiences that Charlie and Jane had?

## LITERATURE ACTIVITY PART II

 **William Shakespeare** (1564-1616) wrote the play **Romeo and Juliet**, about two teenagers who fall in love despite being from **RIVAL FAMILIES**. The play was first performed in **1595**. Read the excerpt below, where Romeo speaks eloquently about **HIS FEELINGS FOR JULIET**, then answer the prompt.





**ROMEO** (seeing Juliet on her balcony) But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and **Juliet is the sun**. Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon, Who is already sick and pale with grief, That thou her maid art far more fair than she. **It is my lady**, O, it is my love! O, that she knew she were! She speaks, yet she says nothing: what of that? Her eye discourses; I will answer it. **I am too bold**, 'tis not to me she speaks: Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven, Having some business, do entreat her eyes To twinkle in their spheres till they return. What if her eyes were there, **they in her head?** **The brightness of her cheek** would shame those stars, As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven Would through the airy region stream so bright That birds would sing and think it were not night. See how she leans her cheek upon her hand! O, that I were a glove upon that hand, That I might touch that cheek!

**Creative writing prompt:** For fun, pretend that Charlie is as eloquent as Romeo. How would Charlie-speaking-like-Romeo express his feelings for Justine? How would she react? Illustrate your words in a way similar to how the text in ***Do Not Enter 3!***

***Welcome to the Big Kids' World*** appears.

