Reading For Comprehension Series
By Lee Ann Berg

Wonder
By R. J. Palacio
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Wonder
Reading For Comprehension Series Bundle
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Teacher’s Guide

Please note: The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.)

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And the answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. The answers have sometimes been made in shortened phrases which make the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.
Part One   August   P. 1
Ordinary

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)  None

Comprehension Questions

1. **How was August ordinary?** August ate ice cream, rode a bike, played ball, and had an XBox.

2. **How was August extraordinary?** He was born with a disfigured face, one different enough to make people stare and kids to point and, in general, be rude.

3. **Who was Via?** Via was August’s sister who needed to protect August from others who were disrespectful of him. This proved to August that she thought he was not ordinary.

Why I Didn’t Go to School

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)
petrified (6) so frightened to be unable to move or think

Comprehension Questions

1. **Why did people think August hadn’t gone to school until 5th grade?** People thought he looked too disfigured and different.

2. **What did August say was the real reason he didn’t go to school before 5th grade?** He had had 27 surgeries since he had been born. He was also small for his age, and he had other medical problems.
How I Came to Life

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

cleft palate ( _) split at the roof of the mouth
anomalies (13) something that deviates from what is standard, normal or expected
hysterical (10+) uncontrolled extreme emotion

Comprehension Questions

1. After August had been delivered, what did the doctor who delivered him do? Amid all the nurses who were screaming, he fainted.

2. What did Mom see the very first time she saw August? She said that she didn’t see his tiny mushed-up face, but all she could see were his pretty eyes.

Christopher’s House

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #) None

Comprehension Questions

1. This chapter wasn’t about going to Christopher’s house, but what was it really about? August heard his parents talking about him going to regular school now that he was in the 5th grade.

2. Who thought that maybe going to regular school would be too much for August? Dad said that August didn’t have to go to school if August thought he wasn’t ready.

3. What did August think about who should win the argument about school? He wanted Dad to win the fight, but he knew that his mom was right.
Driving

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate 

*hind-sight* (__) retrospection; perception after the fact

*groggily* (__) tiredly; sleepily; woozily

Comprehension Questions

1. **What did Dad liken August going to regular school as?** He said sending August to middle school was like sending a lamb to the slaughter.

2. **How did August feel when he learned that his parents had been preparing for middle school for him for several months?** He felt like he had been lied to. He felt left out and angry.

3. **Why was August upset when he found out about a test he had taken at home?** Mom didn’t tell him it was a test to see if he could get into middle school. He told his mother she had lied to him.

4. **How did Dad bring a little levity into the situation of going to school?** He made August laugh about Mr. Tushman’s name. Dad could always be counted on to bring laughter to any situation.

Paging Mr. Tushman

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate 

None

Comprehension Questions

1. **When August was introduced to Mr. Tushman, of what did Mom have to remind August?** Mom said August should speak up. He was mumbling and keeping his head down.

2. **What surprise did August have sprung on him?** Mr. Tushman asked if August was ready to take a tour.
Student’s Guide
Part One  August  P. 1

Ordinary

Vocabulary  None

Comprehension Questions
1. How was August ordinary?
2. How was August extraordinary?
3. Who was Via?

Why I Didn’t Go to School

Vocabulary
petrified

Comprehension Questions
1. Why did people think August hadn’t gone to school until 5th grade?
2. What did August say was the real reason he didn’t go to school before 5th grade?

How I Came to Life

Vocabulary
cleft palate
anomalies
hysterical

Comprehension Questions
1. After August had been delivered what did the doctor who delivered him do?
2. What did Mom see the very first time she saw August?
Christopher’s House

Vocabulary  None

Comprehension Questions
1. This chapter wasn’t about going to Christopher’s house, but what was it really about?
2. Who thought that maybe going to regular school would be too much for August?
3. What did August think about who should win the argument about school?

Driving

Vocabulary
hind-sight

Comprehension Questions
1. What did Dad liken August going to regular school as?
2. How did August feel when he learned that his parents had been preparing for middle school for him for several months?
3. Why was August upset when he found out about a test he had taken at home?
4. How did Dad bring a little levity into the situation of going to school?

Paging Mr. Tushman

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)  None

Comprehension Questions
1. When August was introduced to Mr. Tushman, of what did Mom have to remind August?
2. What surprise did August have sprung on him?
Nice Mrs. Garcia

Vocabulary  None

Comprehension Questions
1. What did Mrs. Garcia do that no one else would notice but August?
2. What did Mrs. Garcia say when she shook hands with August?
3. Why did August like Mrs. Garcia?

Jack Will, Julian, and Charlotte

Vocabulary
exaggerating

Comprehension Questions
1. Who was the picture of a pumpkin on Mr. Tushman’s wall a picture of?
2. Why had August grown his bangs so long?
3. What did the two boys do when they shook hands with August?
4. Who knew what August was feeling and was scared about it?

The Grand Tour

Vocabulary
smirk

Comprehension Questions
1. How did Julian act when August was taking the tour of the school?
2. When August didn’t seem to have much to say, what did Jack Will ask him?
Student’s Workbook
Part One     August     P. 1
Ordinary through Nice Mrs. Garcia

Vocabulary
petrified ........................................................................
anomalies ........................................................................
hysterical ........................................................................

Comprehension Questions
1. How was August ordinary? (Ordinary)

2. How was August extraordinary? (Ordinary)

3. What did August say was the real reason he didn’t go to school before 5th grade?
(Why I Didn’t Go to School)

4. After August had been delivered what did the doctor who delivered him do?
(How I Came to Life)

5. What did August think about who should win the argument about school?
(Christopher’s House)

6. What did Dad liken August going to regular school as? (Driving)

7. What surprise did August have sprung on him? (Paging Mr. Tushman)

8. Why did August like Mrs. Garcia? (Nice Mrs. Garcia)
Jack Will, Julian, and Charlotte through Locks

Vocabulary

exaggerating
sarcastically
obnoxious

Comprehension Questions

1. Why had August grown his bangs so long? (Jack Will, Julian, and Charlotte)
2. When August didn’t seem to have much to say, what did Jack Will ask him? (The Grand Tour)
3. What rude questions did Julian ask August? (The Performance Space)
4. What was August’s signal to Mom to let her know he had had enough? (The Deal)
5. What lie did August tell his mother? (Home)
6. What did August notice a group of girls doing at the school entrance? (First-Day Jitters)
7. Who was the only kid who would sit with August that the first day at school? (Locks)
8. Why did Henry sit next to August? (Locks)
**Around the Room through Padawan**

**Vocabulary**

precept

relieved

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Who complimented the teacher on pursuing her dream? (Around the Room)
   
   __________________________________________________________

2. How did August know that Julian was being disrespectful to August when August was introducing himself to the class?
   
   __________________________________________________________

3. What did Mr. Browne say a precept was? (Choose Kind)
   
   __________________________________________________________

4. What was Mr. Browne’s September precept? (Choose Kind)
   
   __________________________________________________________

5. What was the matter with the way August ate? (Lunch)
   
   __________________________________________________________

6. What did Summer say about the lunch table that August and Summer were sitting at?
   (The Summer Table)
   
   __________________________________________________________

7. How did August categorize Summer and himself? (One to Ten)
   
   __________________________________________________________

8. When Mom pulled out the book she had been reading to August at night, why was he relieved? (Padawan)
   
   __________________________________________________________
Workbook Answer Key

Please note: The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.)

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Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

petrified (6) so frightened to be unable to move or think

anomalies (13) something that deviates from what is standard, normal or expected

hysterical (10+) uncontrolled extreme emotion

Comprehension Questions

1. How was August ordinary? (Ordinary) August ate ice cream, rode a bike, played ball, and had an XBox.

2. How was August extraordinary? (Ordinary) He was born with a disfigured face, one different enough to make people stare and kids to point and, in general, be rude.

3. What did August say was the real reason he didn’t go to school before 5th grade? (Why I Didn’t Go to School) He had had 27 surgeries since he was born. He was also small for his age, and he had other medical problems.

4. After August had been delivered what did the doctor who delivered him do? (How I Came to Life) Amid all the nurses who were screaming, he fainted.

5. What did August think about who should win the argument about school? (Christopher’s House) He wanted Dad to win the fight, but he knew his mom was right.

6. What did Dad liken August going to regular school as? (Driving) He said sending August to middle school was like sending a lamb to the slaughter.

7. What surprise did August have sprung on him? (Paging Mr. Tushman) Mr. Tushman asked if August was ready to take a tour.

8. Why did August like Mrs. Garcia? (Nice Mrs. Garcia) He liked that she wasn’t wearing a shiny (fake) smile.
Jack Will, Julian, and Charlotte through Locks

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

- **exaggerating** (7) representing a thing as being larger, greater, better or worse than it is
- **sarcastically** (9+) mockingly; to mock or convey contempt
- **obnoxious** (10) loathsome; hateful; detestable; unbearable; abhorrent

Comprehension Questions

1. Why had August grown his bangs so long? It was to help block out the things he didn’t want to see, and probably it helped to block the view of his face from people.

2. When August didn’t seem to have much to say, what did Jack Will ask him? Jack asked August if he could talk.

3. What rude questions did Julian ask August? He asked August why his hair was so long, what was the deal with his face, and had he been in a fire.

4. What was August’s signal to Mom to let her know he had had enough? He reminded her that they had to pick of Via soon.

5. What lie did August tell his mother? He really wanted to go to school.

6. What did August notice a group of girls doing at the school entrance? They looked his way, whispered with hands cupped over their mouths, but they looked away when they saw August looking at them.

7. Who was the only kid who would sit with August that the first day at school? It was Jack Will, one of the tour guides.

8. Why did Henry sit next to August? The teacher told him to since he was sitting at a desk with another student.
Around the Room through Padawan

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #)

precept (__) teaching; principle; rule; guideline

relieved (6) reassured; thankful; comforted

Comprehension Questions

1. Who complimented the teacher on pursuing her dream? Julian was trying for____
   brownie points with her.

2. How did August know that Julian was being disrespectful to August when
   August was introducing himself to the class? Julian made a comment about Darth____
   Sidious from Star Wars, whose face got burned, and he became totally deformed.

3. What did Mr. Browne say a precept was? He said a precept was a rule about really____
   important things.

4. What was Mr. Browne’s September precept? The students were to write about the____
   precept “When given choice between being right or being kind, choose kind.”

5. What was the matter with the way August ate? He had to chew food in the front of____
   his mouth. He looked like a tortoise when he ate.

6. What did Summer say about the lunch table that August and Summer were
   sitting at? It could be a lunch table exclusively for “summer only.” Her name was____
   Summer. And of course, August was his name.

7. How did August categorize Summer and himself? They were Beauty and the Beast.

8. When Mom pulled out the book she had been reading to August at night, why
   was he relieved? He was afraid she would want to rehash the school day. He wasn’t____
   ready to talk about it.
Key Questions
Key Questions
Wonder

Name ________________________________

1. How was August ordinary? (Ordinary) _________________________________

______________________________

______________________________

2. How was August extraordinary? (Ordinary) _________________________________

______________________________

______________________________

3. What did August overhear Jack saying because Jack didn’t know August was the Bleeding Scream and was standing near enough to hear? (The Bleeding Scream) _________

______________________________

______________________________

4. To what did Via liken her family? (A Tour of the Galaxy) _________________________________

______________________________

______________________________

5. What was the Plague? (The Plague) _________________________________

______________________________

______________________________

6. Who did Jack think, August or Jack, had the most to lose not being friends? (Ex-Friends) _________________________________

______________________________
Key Questions Answer Key
Key Questions Answer Key

*Wonder*

Name __________________________

1. How was August ordinary? (Ordinary)

**August ate ice cream, rode a bike, played ball, and had an XBox.**

2. How was August extraordinary? (Ordinary)

**He was born with a disfigured face, one different enough to make people stare and kids to point and, in general, be rude.**

3. What did August overhear Jack saying because Jack didn’t know August was the Bleeding Scream and was standing near enough to hear? (The Bleeding Scream)

**He said he was only being nice to August because Mr. Tushman asked him to.**

4. To what did Via liken her family? (A Tour of the Galaxy)

**She thought her family was like the solar system. August was the Sun, and her parents and Via were the planets orbiting the Sun.**

5. What was the Plague? (The Plague)

**Anyone who accidentally touched August had only 30 seconds to wash or sanitize their hands, or they would catch the Plague.**

6. Who did Jack think, August or Jack, had the most to lose not being friends? (Ex-Friends)

**August was the loser. He didn’t have a lot of friends and couldn’t get more.**
Vocabulary Worksheet

Name______________________________

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

2. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

3. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

4. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

5. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

6. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

7. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

8. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

9. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________

10. _____________Meaning:________________________________________________________
Comprehension Worksheet

Name______________________________

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. ____________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________________________

5. ____________________________________________________________
Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name______________________________

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. _____________________________ Meaning: __________________________________________

2. _____________________________ Meaning: __________________________________________

3. _____________________________ Meaning: __________________________________________

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. _______________________________________________________

2. _______________________________________________________

3. _______________________________________________________