

## Read and Understand

(Chapter – Seeing August)

1. Why did Via say to Grans that she wished she could live with her forever? Can you think of three reasons?
2. Do you think Grans loved Via more than August? Try to give two reasons.
3. August describes Via's crying meltdown on the morning of Halloween. Can you explain it, giving three reasons?
4. Why do you think the author waits until later in the book to tell the reader why Via was having the crying breakdown earlier? Why was she so upset?

## Orbiting August

In this activity, you will outline August's personal and social network. Draw August as the centre of a solar system with as many characters as you can orbiting around him. The people he is closest to should be closer to him (Mom, Dad, Via etc), and the people he doesn't have much to do with should be further away.

Create your own personal and social network, with your family, friends and people you know orbiting around you. You might even include people in the media or on TV. People you're closest to should be closer to you. People who influence you the most should be larger planets.

## Lunch at School

Earlier in the book, we hear lots of detail of August and Summer's conversations during lunch, but in this section Via describes her lunches with Eleanor and "the smart kids" much more loosely – e.g. she mentions Justin, but we don't get to hear any of what goes on at the table.

Write an unwritten / lost extract from *Wonder*, where Via and her new friends are talking during lunch. Remember these are "the smart kids", there are lots of them, they're teenagers (about 13 years old) and Via has a crush on Justin. Your writing should take all this into account.

## Reflect and Respond

(Chapters – Seeing August, October 31)

1. Compare Via's reaction to others staring at August to August's own reaction.
2. In paragraph 4 of "Seeing August", Via describes seeing August the way others see him. She hates herself for it. How do you feel about her reaction?
3. Describe Via's mix of emotions when Mom became 'August's Mom' again (end of "October 31").
4. Via describes Mom's reaction to the costume at the end of the page. How is this reaction like Via's reaction to August's needs? (page 80)



Reflective Reading

Text: Wonder (Pgs 63 – 86)

- A Tour of the Galaxy
- Before August
- Seeing August
- August Through the Peephole
- High School
- Major Tom
- After School
- The Padawan Bites the Dust
- An Apparition at the Door
- Breakfast
- Genetics 101
- The Punnett Square
- Out with the Old
- October 31
- Trick or Treat
- Time to Think

## Explore Some More

(Chapters – August Through the Peephole)

1. Why doesn't Via speak to him about hearing aids?
2. Why was August easier to 'read' before the surgeries?
3. Why is Via frustrated with August? Give evidence from the text that backs up your opinion.
4. Via compares August with Grans. Explain this.
5. What does Via think of her family's treatment of her brother? Can you find two examples in the text to illustrate this?

## Explore Some More

(Chapters – August Through the Peephole)

1. Via describes August's face. Make notes on August's eyes and mouth using a mind map.
2. What do you think about of Mrs Garcia's reaction from earlier in the book after reading Via's description of August's face?
3. There are no illustrations of August in the book? Why not?
4. Why do think the author gives such a detailed description of August's face? Why did he wait till this point in the book to describe his face?

## Good Parents or Bad Parents

In "Seeing August", Via goes to visit Grans for four weeks. Write a series of diary entries from Via's diary to show how she feels special when at Gran's compared to her life at home with August. What did they do together?

Challenge task:

You could say that Via's parents neglected her to look after August. Write an argument for and against this, using evidence from the text to back up your argument. Remember for an argument you don't need to believe what you're writing, just justify it to someone else.

## Vocabulary

In previous sections we've thought about the American versions of British words that are used in the book.

E.g. vacation = holiday, pavement = sidewalk.

Using these kinds of words, create **either**:

1. A bingo game – make boards using at least 12 of the U.K. words. The caller reads out the American version and you cover the U.K. equivalent.
2. Loop cards – make a set of U.K./U.S.A vocabulary loop cards (at least 10).  
E.g. I have... mum, who has... gas?  
I have...petrol, who has...candy?  
I have...sweets, who has... mom?