

La Salle Academy  
Summer 2020 Reading and Math  
Incoming 6th Graders

**Summer Math:**

\*June 22nd-August 21st

-Simple Solutions: Lessons #100-130

-Complete 3-4 lessons per week from your Simple Solutions workbook.

-**I will check lessons #100-130 when we return in the Fall** (I do encourage you to utilize the remainder of the Simple Solutions lessons and other Math workbooks you have for extra practice).

-Please continue to practice math skills on First in Math.

-Your First in Math subscription does not expire until July 31st.

-*VIF=Very Important Facts* is a great resource for practicing fact recall.

\*The recommendation is to practice math 30-45 minutes each day.

**Summer Reading:**

\*June 22nd-August 21st

Read at least 1 of 3 recommended books:

-The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

-Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

-Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis.

-Complete the attached questions that accompany the book you read.

-Please continue to utilize the Lexia website to practice reading skills.

-Your Lexia subscription does not expire until July 31st.

-Continue reading for enjoyment like I saw so many of you do in school 😊

\*The recommendation is to practice reading 30-45 minutes each day.

Suggestions to maintain other skills:

-Keep a journal to maintain writing skills; write in it once or twice a week

-Pray each day (Our Father, Hail Mary, Act of Contrition etc.)

-Explore websites for science and social studies (NASA for kids or iCivics)

\*I check my email often in case you have any questions: [akers@lsabear.com](mailto:akers@lsabear.com)

## The Tale of Despereaux

1. List three mice rules that Despereaux breaks in the beginning of the story. What punishment does he receive from the Mouse Council?
2. Why isn't Miggery Sow afraid as she stands in the dungeon with Gregory's meal?
3. What does Botticelli tell Roscuro will happen if he goes up into the light? Was his prediction accurate? Explain your answer.
4. Describe Despereaux's dream about the Knight. How does the dream help Despereaux on his quest?
5. Despereaux encounters the Cook on two occasions. How is the cook's attitude toward Despereaux different during their second meeting? What do you think is the reason for the change in her attitude?
6. Describe the relationship between Miggery Sow and the Princess Pea. What do they have in common? What are their differences?
7. Which characters help Despereaux overcome the challenges he faces on his quest to save the Princess Pea? How does each character help him? Imagine Despereaux meets you on his way to the dungeon. Using your knowledge of the dungeon, what advice would you give Despereaux to help him succeed?
8. Miggery Sow tells several characters that she is going to be a princess. Which characters does she say this to? Compare and contrast their reactions to Miggery's statement. What does each character's reaction tell us about him or her? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
9. Roscuro tells Miggery Sow that aspirations are "those things that make a serving girl want to be a princess." Choose three characters from the story and describe their aspirations. Which character's aspirations do you admire most? Least?
10. Did you like the way the story ended? Why or why not? Use examples from the text in your answer. Now imagine the Kingdom one year after the story has ended. Do you think anything has changed?

## Number The Stars

1. What are some changes in Annemarie's home and city caused by the war? Which change would bother you the most if it happened here?

2. What was one of the most suspenseful parts of the story? What did you like or dislike about it?

3. What did you think about the soldier who touched Kirsti's hair and said she reminded him of his own daughter and the soldier who tore Lise's baby picture, threw it on the floor, and ground his boot heel into it?

4. Who has the harder time: Mama who was slapped by a Nazi and broke her ankle or Papa who waits, worries, and follows his normal routine of buying the newspaper and going to the office?

5. When people come for Great Aunt Birte's family gathering, Annemarie believes that she and Mama become equals. It was on page 79. How could this be true?

6. Annemarie tells her uncle that she wasn't brave because she was frightened while she was delivering the basket with the hidden package. Do you agree with her? Why or why not?

7. What did Uncle Henrik mean when he said, "It is much easier to be brave if you do not know everything?"

8. Why did Mrs. Rosen tell the girls not to give the soldiers any reason to remember them?

9. Did any part of the story make you angry? Sad? Why?

10. Do you think Annemarie will see Ellen again? Why or why not?

11. What kind of friendship do Annemarie and Ellen have?

## Bud, Not Buddy

1. After being beaten up and forced to sleep in a shed in his new foster home, ten-year-old Bud decides to go "on the lam." He runs away from the foster home and from the orphanage where he'd lived before going to the home. During the depression, many children were forced to travel by themselves. Think about Bud's experiences in the library, the bread line, and the Hooverville. Do you think he was luckier than most children on their own? Why or why not?
2. Times were hard for lots of people during the Great Depression—not just Bud. Talk your own families to find out about how your grandparents and great-grandparents were affected by the depression. Share their stories with your classmates.
3. Herman E. Calloway always made sure that one member of his band was white. Why was it important for him to have a white band member? What could a white man do in the 1930s that a black man wasn't allowed to do?
4. The Great Depression took place before people had televisions. Movies and live entertainment, like jazz bands, were especially important in helping people forget their own hardships. Do a search for and listen to some jazz music. You might want to listen to Betty Carter, the musical inspiration for Miss Thomas, or Billie Holiday, another legendary jazz singer. How does this music compare to today's popular music?
5. After Bud's momma dies and he is moved from the orphanage into foster homes, he stops crying when things make him sad. He says he doesn't have any more tears. But when he sits in a good restaurant with Herman Calloway's band laughing and talking, he can't stop crying. Why do you think Bud cries that night?
6. Bud's story takes place during the 1930s, when orphanages are still common and lots of children and families have lost everything due to the Great Depression. How do you think life would be different for Bud if he was growing up today?
7. Herman E. Calloway, the band leader who turned out to be Bud's grandfather, is a character who seems to change throughout the story, or at least what we know about him changes. How would you describe Mr. Calloway during most of the story? How would you describe him at the end?