**Comprehension Questions**

Why did Mai and Kay only talk to each other at school?

How did Mai and Kay feel about themselves? What made them feel this way?

Why did Mai and Kay decide to accept James’s challenge?

What advice did Mai and Kay’s dad give them?

Select sentences in the story that show Mai and Kay are afraid to race.

What is the main idea of the story?

How are Mai and Kay different at the end of the story then at the beginning?

What was the most exciting part of the story? Why did you think it was exciting?

If you could tell someone one thing about this story, what would it be? Why is that important?

How does Mai and Kay feel about their nickname at the end of the story? What is another nickname you can give?

Mai and Kay? Explain.

What is the lesson you should learn from this story?

**Activities**

Write a suggestion to a character in the book to help them resolve the bullying situation.

Write a reflective essay recounting their own experience as a bully, victim, or bystander and their feelings during that experience.

**Grade Level Questions:**

**Grade 2**

***Here are some questions suitable for second graders that focus on how characters respond to major events and challenges in a story. These questions encourage young readers to think critically about character development and emotional responses in stories:***

1. What happens to the main character in the story? How do they feel about it?

         Example: After the storm hits, how does the character react?

2. Can you describe a big problem the character faces? What do they do to solve it?

       Example: When the character loses their favorite toy, how do they try to find it?

3. How do the other characters help or hurt the main character when something challenging     happens

     Example: What do the character’s friends do when they see them feeling sad?

4. Think about a time when the character had to be brave. What did they do?

      Example: How did the character show courage when they had to speak in front of the class?

5. How does the character change after going through a tough experience?

      Example: What does the character learn after they face their fear?

6. What choice does the character make during a challenging moment? Were they happy with their choice

      Example: When the character had to choose between helping a friend or playing a game, what did they decide?

7. How do the character’s feelings change throughout the story when facing challenges?

     Example: At the beginning of the story, how does the character feel? How do they feel at the end?

8. What lesson do you think the character learns from the major events in the story?

     Example: After the adventure, what does the character understand about friendship?

**Grade Level Questions:**

**Grade 3**

***Here are some questions suitable for third graders to help them determine the central message, lesson, or moral in literary texts and explain how it is conveyed.  These questions encourage students to think critically about the text and articulate their understanding of its deeper meanings:***

1. What is the main lesson you learned from the story?

    Follow-up: Can you tell me what parts of the story helped you understand this lesson?

2. What do you think is the central message of the book?

    Follow-up: Are there any characters or events that show this message clearly?

3. How do the characters in the story change by the end?

    Follow-up: What does their change tell us about the moral of the story?

4. Can you find a part of the story where the author shows the main idea?

    Follow-up: Why do you think the author chose to include that part?

5. What kind of feelings did the story give you?

    Follow-up: How do those feelings help explain the lesson or moral of the story?

6. If you could tell a friend what the story is really about, what would you say?

    Follow-up: \* What part of the story made you think that?

7. Did the story remind you of anything in real life?

    Follow-up: \* How does this connection help you understand the story’s message better?

8. What was the biggest problem the characters faced?

    Follow-up: \* How did they solve it, and what does this teach us?

9. What do you think the author wants us to remember after reading this story?

    Follow-up: \* How did the author show that through the characters or events?

***Here are some questions suitable for third graders that focus on describing characters in a story and explaining how their actions contribute to the sequence of events. These questions encourage students to think critically about character development and the progression of the story:***

1. ***\*\*Character Description\*\****: Who is the main character in the story? Can you describe what they look like and what kind of person they are?

2. ***\*\*Character Actions\*\****: What important action does the main character take that changes what happens in the story? How does this action affect the other characters?

3. ***\*\*Supporting Characters\*\****: Who are some of the other characters in the story? How do their actions help or hurt the main character in achieving their goals?

4. ***\*\*Sequence of Events\*\****: Can you think of a moment in the story when a character made a choice? How did that choice change what happened next?

5. ***\*\*Feelings and Motivation\*\****: How do the feelings of the main character influence their actions? Can you give an example from the story?

6. ***\*\*Consequences of Actions\*\****: Describe a time when a character did something that had a big impact on the story. What happened as a result of their actions?

7. ***\*\*Character Growth\*\****: How does the main character change from the beginning to the end of the story? What actions lead to this change?

8. ***\*\*Character Relationships\*\****: How do the actions of one character affect their relationships with others in the story? Can you provide an example?