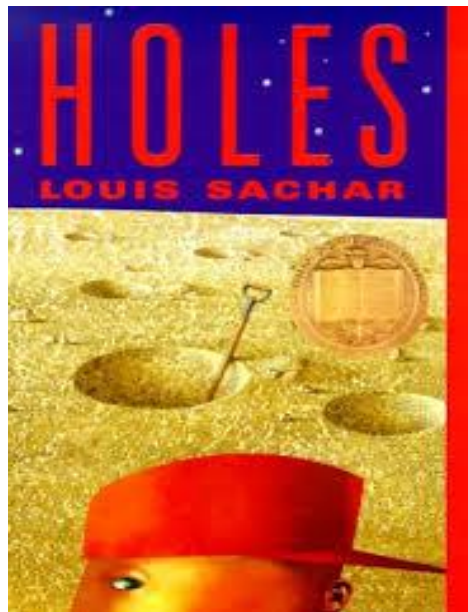


# Third Grading Period Reader Response Journal Directions



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** We will be reading *Holes* for our S.M.U.R.F. this grading period. For this grading period you will be reading the book *Holes* by Louis Sachar. Each week 5 mini journal responses, vocabulary and extended response questions will be due.

### **Reading Timeline**

<b>Week One:</b> January 27- January 31	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 1-7
<b>Week Two:</b> February 3 - February 7	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 8-17
<b>Week Three:</b> February 10- February 14	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 18-27
<b>Week Four:</b> February 24- February 28	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 28-35
<b>Week Five:</b> March 3 – March 7	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 36-43
<b>Week Six:</b> March 10 – March 14	<b>Reading:</b> Chapters 44-50

### **Assignments:**

Weekly: Vocabulary (5 points) x 6 = 30 points

Weekly: 5 Mini Journal responses (5 points) x 6 = 30 points

Weekly: Extended Response (5 points) x 6 = 30 points

### **Holes Reading Unit: 90 points total**

**Vocabulary:** There will be 5 vocabulary words a week that you will be incorporating into your journals.

### **Mini Journal Responses during weekly reading:**

Journal responses during reading are short answer responses (1-3 sentences). They must be thoughtful and written in complete sentences. These will be written in your journals and turned in on Friday of each week.

### **Extended Responses after weekly Reading:**

Extended responses after reading are meant to deepen your understanding of the chapters you have just read. Extended Responses are turned in separately from your journals and are due the Monday after the weekly chapter mini journals are due. These need to be at least 5 sentences.

**Week One:** January 27- January 31

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 1-7

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

<b>shriveled</b> — shrank and wrinkled	<b>coincidence</b> —events that accidentally happen at the same time but seem planned.
<b>perseverance</b> —the ability to stick with a task despite obstacles	<b>grimaced</b> —made a face showing disgust
<b>sanitary</b> — clean; free from germs	

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 1</b>	What do you learn in this chapter about the setting of the story? Based on its name, what would you imagine a place called Camp Green Lake to be like? What is it really like (use as many descriptions as you can)?
<b>Chapter 2</b>	Do you think it's true that digging holes can turn a bad person into a good one? What are some other unpleasant things you've heard about that are supposed to "build character"?
<b>Chapter 3</b>	Stanley's father, an inventor, says, "I learn from failure." What do you think this means? Have you ever learned from failure?
<b>Chapter 4</b>	"Stanley Yelnats" is a palindrome, spelled the same both forward and backward. Other palindromes include the words <i>mom</i> , <i>radar</i> , and <i>racecar</i> . Come up with some palindromes of your own, or make your name into a palindrome.
<b>Chapter 5</b>	What is Mr. Pendanski's nickname and why do the boys call him that?
<b>Chapter 6</b>	A sentence on page 24 uses our word "coincidence." Define the word coincidence, and then explain the coincidence being described on page 24.
<b>Chapter 7</b>	Look at the bottom of page 35. The author uses two questions there. Why? Does he really expect us to answer?

**Extended Response 1: After reading chapters 8-17 Due: Monday 2/3/14**

In writing, a **flashback** is an interruption of events telling things that happened in the past. In *Holes*, there are numerous flashbacks that tell something about Stanley's father or ancestors. What do you think of this device? Do you think it makes Stanley's story more interesting? Is it confusing? Explain your ideas about flashbacks in the novel.

**Week Two:** February 3 - February 7

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 8-17

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

**predatory**— in a manner of those that prey on others, killing and consuming  
**intensity**—extreme force, energy or feeling

**appropriate**— suitable or fitting  
**paranoid**—suspicious; very fearful  
**excess**—more than enough

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 8</b>	What does the word “predatory” mean here? (p. 42)
<b>Chapter 9</b>	Why is Caveman a good nickname for Stanley? Do you have a nickname? If so, how did you get it? Add more details to the Plot Chart.
<b>Chapter 10</b>	Why do the boys always line up for water in the same order? What’s the significance to this order?
<b>Chapter 11</b>	What does X-Ray ask Stanley to do? Why does Stanley agree to this? What would you have done?
<b>Chapter 12</b>	Mr. Pendanski tells Stanley: “You messed up your life, and it’s up to you to fix it.” Do you agree with this?
<b>Chapter 13</b>	What does Stanley gain when he agrees to help X-Ray? What does he lose?
<b>Chapter 14</b>	Were you surprised to discover that the Warden is a woman? What else do you learn about the Warden in this chapter?
<b>Chapter 15</b>	Do you think Zigzag and the other campers are correct in believing that the Warden is always watching them, or are they just being paranoid?
<b>Chapter 16</b>	Can you think of some reasons why Zero might not be familiar with any nursery rhymes or the show Sesame Street?
<b>Chapter 17</b>	What does Stanley learn about Zigzag in this chapter?

**Extended Response 2: After reading chapters 8-17 Due: Monday 2/10/14**

In Chapter 12, Mr. Pendanski talks with the boys in Group D about their future plans. Mr. Pendanski emphasizes that it is important to have goals. He points out that we only have one life and that we should make the most of it. Magnet mentions his interest in animals and the possibility of a career as an animal trainer. Have you ever thought about what you would like to do as an adult? Write one paragraph about what career you’d like to have when you are older.

**Week Three:** February 10- February 14

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 18-27

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

**writhed**— twitched as in pain  
**desolate**—deserted  
**astonishment**—amazement

**grotesque**— very strange or ugly  
**distracted**—unable to pay attention

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 18</b>	Page 82 states that Stanley's "heart had hardened as well as his muscles." What does this mean? What did Stanley say to Zero that was a sign of a "hard" heart?
<b>Chapter 19</b>	Why does Stanley tell Mr. Sir that he stole the sunflower seeds? What would you have done?
<b>Chapter 20</b>	Do you think the nail polish is really poisonous? Explain why or why not.
<b>Chapter 21</b>	Why do you think Zero finishes Stanley's hole for him? Add more details to the Plot Chart.
<b>Chapter 22</b>	Does Stanley seem like a good teacher? Have you ever tutored anyone? What did you learn from the experience?
<b>Chapter 23</b>	Does the portrait the author paints of Green Lake seem realistic? Can you point to any details that strike you as too good to be true?
<b>Chapter 24</b>	How does Mr. Sir get back at Stanley? Do you think it is Stanley's fault that Mr. Sir got scratched?
<b>Chapter 25</b>	Does it seem like Sam is a respected member of the Green Lake community? Why or why not?
<b>Chapter 26</b>	Based on the facts the author gives you, can you answer the question, "Whom did God punish?"
<b>Chapter 27</b>	Why don't the other boys approve of Stanley and Zero's arrangement? Do you think it is fair to both boys?

**Extended Response 3:** After reading chapters 18-27 Due: Tuesday 2/18/14

Imagine that you, like Zero, have only recently learned to read and write. Write a one paragraph letter to a family member or friend explaining what reading and writing mean to you. Explain how you used to get along without these skills and how your life has changed now that you have them. Be sure to follow proper paragraph and letter formatting.

**Week Four:** February 24- February 28

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 28-35

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

<b>abandoned</b> — unoccupied; deserted	<b>refuge</b> — shelter or protection from danger
<b>drought</b> —a long period of time where there isn't any rain	<b>mirage</b> —something seen that does not exist
<b>delirious</b> —not able to think or speak clearly especially because of a fever	<b>grimly</b> —seriously

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 28</b>	Who else has turquoise-studded boots like Kate Barlow's?
<b>Chapter 29</b>	What do you think is the significance of Stanley's vision of the giant thumb?
<b>Chapter 30</b>	Why doesn't Stanley fight back when Zigzag taunts him? What would you do in his position?
<b>Chapter 31</b>	Why doesn't Stanley go after Zero?
<b>Chapter 32</b>	Thinking about Zero, "what worried [Stanley] the most...was the fear that it wasn't too late." What does this mean?
<b>Chapter 33</b>	What is Stanley's plan now? Add more details to the Plot Chart.
<b>Chapter 34</b>	When Stanley sees Big Thumb, "[H]e kept walking toward it, although he didn't know why." Why do you think Stanley keeps going?
<b>Chapter 35</b>	Explain how Zero's face looks "like an old jack-o'-lantern." What literary device is this?

**Extended Response 4: After reading chapters 28-35 Due: Monday 3/03/14**

Stanley has always blamed someone else for his bad luck. Now Stanley feels very guilty about not searching for Zero. Why do you think he feels this way? What does this suggest about Stanley? Write a one paragraph response in proper paragraph format.

**Week Five:** March 3 – March 7

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 36-43

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

<b>interwoven</b> —woven together; intertwined	<b>snickered</b> —laughed quietly
<b>increments</b> —a series of regular gains	<b>raspy</b> —harsh, grating
<b>wrenching</b> — sharply twisting; straining	<b>summoned</b> —called on; drew up

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 36</b>	What does Stanley learn about himself as they climb the mountain? What does he learn about Zero?
<b>Chapter 37</b>	Why do you think Stanley suddenly calls Zero Hector?
<b>Chapter 38</b>	“[Stanley] thought only about each step, and not the impossible task that lay before him.” Have you ever attempted anything that seemed impossible? How did you approach it? What did you learn from the experience?
<b>Chapter 39</b>	Why do you think Zero chooses this moment to confess about the stolen shoes? Add more details to the Plot Chart.
<b>Chapter 40</b>	Why is Stanley surprised to find the sack of jars and the shovel so far down the mountain?
<b>Chapter 41</b>	Zero says, “If I had just kept those old smelly sneakers, then neither of us would be here right now.” Do you think he’s right? Is there anything positive about their situation?
<b>Chapter 42</b>	Stanley believes it was his destiny to be hit by those falling shoes. What’s the difference between coincidence and destiny? Do you believe in destiny?
<b>Chapter 43</b>	When he hears Zero’s stories, how does Stanley feel about his own family? How do these stories make you feel?

**Extended Response 5: After reading chapters 36-43 Due: Monday, 3/10/14**

In *Holes*, there are several situations which involve bullies. For instance, Stanley describes Derrick Dunne, the bully at his middle school. Derrick stole Stanley’s notebook and put it in the toilet. Stanley continues to be bullied at Camp Green Lake. Mr. Pendanski is a less obvious bully and puts down Zero. He calls him stupid and makes fun of Zero’s struggling attempts to learn to read. Most people encounter bullies in their lifetime. If you have not already, you probably will. How will you react? Will you be able to handle the situation? Write a one paragraph response about the best ways to deal with bullies.

**Week Six:** March 10 – March 14

**Chapters Read:** Chapters 44-50

**Vocabulary:** Use the 5 vocabulary words in your mini reader response journals. Please underline or highlight them.

<b>precarious</b> — not safe, strong or steady	<b>initiate</b> —begin; start
<b>commotion</b> —noisy excitement, confusion	<b>custody</b> —control; safekeeping
<b>illuminated</b> —lit up	<b>strenuous</b> —requiring a lot of energy

**Mini Reader Response Journal Prompts:** Write in complete sentences. Head each mini journal response with the chapter. These should be 1-3 sentences.

<b>Chapter 44</b>	How do you think Stanley and Zero feel when the Warden confronts them?
<b>Chapter 45</b>	What do you learn about the Warden in this chapter? How does it influence your feelings about her?
<b>Chapter 46</b>	Why do you think Zero gives Stanley the thumbs-up sign?
<b>Chapter 47</b>	The Warden’s name is Walker; who else in the story has the same last name? Why might this be important?
<b>Chapter 48</b>	Why won’t Stanley leave without Hector?
<b>Chapter 49</b>	The chapter ends with these words: “...and for the first time in over a hundred years, a drop of rain fell into the empty lake.” Does this seem important to you? Why do you suppose the author chose to end Part II here?
<b>Chapter 50</b>	How has Stanley changed in the course of the story? Do you think Stanley had a “hole” in his life before attending Camp Green Lake? Does he have one now? Finish Plot Chart.

**Extended Response 6:** After reading chapters 44-50 Due: Monday, 3/17/14

In *Holes*, you are presented with the fact that before coming to Camp Green Lake, Zero was homeless. In conversations with Stanley, he reveals that he was not always homeless. What does it really mean to be homeless? What are some possible reasons that Zero or real people in your community end up homeless? Write a one paragraph response.