

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

A Monster Calls

Author:

Patrick Ness

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

- 1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
- 2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
- 3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
- 4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

What have you learned so far about Conor's relationship with his mother? Choose a detail that shows why their relationship matters.

Example answer: I think Conor loves his mother and worries about her a lot. Her illness affects his life at home, and he pays attention to how she is doing. This shows me that her health is not just an adult problem to him. It matters because he wants her to be well and wants their life together to feel normal again.

Chapter 32

Give your latest reading a short title of your own. Explain how your title connects to Conor's experiences or the mood of the story.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What idea about truth is beginning to stand out to you? Explain how something Conor experiences makes you think about that idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Choose a word that seems important to understanding Conor or the monster. Explain its meaning in the story and use it in a sentence of your own.

Example answer: I chose the word 'monster' because it makes me expect something dangerous and frightening. In this story, the monster makes me wonder whether being scary always means being bad. I think the word helps create mystery because I do not know what to expect from this creature. My own sentence is: The monster's huge shadow covered the garden.

Do you think Conor would benefit from sharing more of his feelings with someone he trusts? Explain your opinion using what you have read so far.

Example answer: I think talking to someone he trusts could help Conor feel less alone. He is dealing with worry about his mother as well as frightening experiences. Sharing those feelings would not fix everything, but someone could listen and support him. I also understand why talking might be hard when he does not know how to explain what he feels.

Chapter 1

What is Conor dealing with at this point in the story? Explain which problem seems biggest to him and why.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

Which relationship would you like to understand better as you continue reading? Choose someone connected to Conor and explain what you hope to learn.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Do you think Conor would benefit from sharing more of his feelings with someone he trusts? Explain your opinion using what you have read so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How does Conor react to something strange or upsetting in your reading so far? What does his reaction tell you about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Based on what you have read, what might Conor do next? Use a detail from the story to explain your prediction.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

What does Conor seem to hope for at this point? Explain how hope affects something he says, thinks, or does.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

How has your view of the monster developed from its first appearance to your current reading? Explain what has shaped your view, even if it has not changed yet.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Which detail about Conor's home or the places around it helps you picture his world? Explain how that detail affects the mood.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What have you learned so far about Conor's relationship with his mother? Choose a detail that shows why their relationship matters.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

What advice would you give Conor right now? Explain why that advice fits what he is facing.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

How does the author make you want to keep reading? Discuss an unanswered question, a surprising detail, or a tense moment involving Conor.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

How does the monster seem different from a monster in another story you know? Use only what you have learned about it so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Which feeling does Conor seem to have trouble putting into words? Explain what makes you think so.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What seems fair or unfair in Conor's life so far? Explain your opinion using a specific detail.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Choose a word that seems important to understanding Conor or the monster. Explain its meaning in the story and use it in a sentence of your own.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

What question would you ask Conor about something he has said or done so far? Explain why you want to know the answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Choose a word from your reading that helps describe fear or worry. What do you think it means, and which nearby words helped you understand it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

If you have reached a scene at school, how does it compare with Conor's life at home? If not, what have you learned about his life at home that might affect his school day?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

What have you noticed about loneliness in Conor's life? Explain how being alone might be different from feeling alone.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What might the yew tree mean to Conor beyond being just a tree? Explain your idea using what you know so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Where do you notice a difference between what Conor says and what he seems to feel? Explain the clues you found.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

Which character's behavior is hardest for you to understand so far? Explain what you would need to learn to understand that person better.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

What would you predict about Conor's next conversation with someone close to him? Explain how an earlier conversation gives you a clue.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Who seems able to help Conor at this point? Explain what kind of help he might need from that person.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Which moment in your reading so far feels most real, even though this book includes a monster? Explain why.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

How does Conor respond when he cannot control what is happening? Describe what his response helps you understand.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What does the story suggest so far about being brave? Explain whether Conor's actions fit your idea of bravery.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

How are other people's choices affecting Conor? You might discuss his mother, his grandmother, or another character you have met.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What do you think Conor wishes other people understood about him right now? Support your idea with a detail.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Find a word or phrase that creates a strong picture in your mind. Explain what you picture and how it shapes your view of Conor's world.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
