

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:

Bud, Not Buddy

Author:

Christopher Paul Curtis

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 does Bud's suitcase reveal about what matters to him? Choose an item or a detail about how he treats the suitcase, and explain its importance.

Example answer: I think Bud's suitcase is like a small piece of home that he can carry. The flyers his mother left connect him to her and give him a possible clue about his father. I can see why these papers matter more to him than they might to someone else. Keeping them safe helps him hold on to both his memories and his hopes.

Chapter 19

Why might the difference between “Bud” and “Buddy” matter so much to Bud? Use your reading so far to explain what his name suggests about identity or respect.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

What do Bud’s words or thoughts reveal about how he wants other people to see him? Support your answer with a detail from your reading so far.

Example answer: I think Bud wants people to see him as someone who deserves respect, not just as a helpless little boy. His insistence on being called Bud instead of Buddy shows that he wants control over how people address him. I notice that even a name matters when other parts of his life are out of his control. This makes his correction seem important rather than rude to me.

Where have you noticed humor in Bud’s telling of a difficult experience? Explain how the humor affects your understanding of his feelings.

Example answer: I notice humor in the long title of Bud Caldwell’s Rules and Things for Having a Funner Life and Making a Better Liar Out of Yourself. It sounds like a funny guidebook, even though needing rules for dealing with people suggests that life has been hard for him. I think the humor helps Bud feel prepared instead of powerless. It makes me smile, but it also makes me wonder how many disappointments taught him those rules.

Chapter 1

What is the most important problem Bud faces at this point in your reading? Explain what makes it difficult and what he can do about it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

How does hearing the story from Bud's point of view affect your reaction to an event you have read? Explain what you understand about him that another character might miss.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What has the story suggested so far about the difference between having a place to stay and feeling at home? Connect your thinking to Bud’s situation.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

What do Bud’s words or thoughts reveal about how he wants other people to see him? Support your answer with a detail from your reading so far.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Based on the clues you have read, what do you predict Bud will try next? Explain why that choice would make sense to him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

How does Bud’s connection to his mother affect his thinking so far? Use a memory, possession, or thought about her to support your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Which small detail from your reading today seems especially worth remembering? Explain what it helps you understand or what it makes you wonder.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

How does life during the Great Depression shape Bud’s choices so far? Use a detail about money, food, shelter, or work to explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Choose an interesting word or expression from Bud’s narration in your reading today. What does it mean in context, and how does it help you hear his personality?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Describe a moment so far when Bud is treated fairly or unfairly. What makes you judge the treatment that way, and what would a fair response look like?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Find a word or phrase in your reading today that connects to safety, danger, or belonging. Explain its meaning in the passage and why it matters to Bud.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Which of Bud’s decisions so far do you most agree or disagree with? Explain your view while considering what he knows at the time.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What is something Bud knows for certain about his family, and what is something he only believes or hopes? Explain the difference using what you have read.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Where have you noticed humor in Bud’s telling of a difficult experience? Explain how the humor affects your understanding of his feelings.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

How does Bud decide whether another person can be trusted? Describe a sign he notices, and explain whether you think it is a reliable sign.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How do Bud Caldwell's Rules and Things help you understand his experiences? Discuss a rule you have encountered, or explain why he might feel he needs rules.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

What does Bud’s suitcase reveal about what matters to him? Choose an item or a detail about how he treats the suitcase, and explain its importance.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Which unanswered question about Bud’s past interests you most right now? Explain what made you curious and what kind of clue might help answer it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
