

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:

Candle Island

Author:

Lauren Wolk

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.

Choose one important choice a character made in this chapter. What might have led the character to make that choice?

Example answer: I would choose a decision that affected more than just one person. I think the character made that choice because they were trying to protect someone, solve a problem, or do what felt right at the time. To make my answer strong, I would include a specific detail from the chapter that shows what the character was thinking or feeling. I would also explain whether I agreed with the choice and why.

Chapter 40

After finishing this chapter, how does it help you understand the larger story or the ending of the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

What do you think the story needs to resolve soon, and why does that feel important now?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Compare two characters in this chapter. How are they alike or different in their actions, feelings, or goals?

Example answer: The two characters I would compare both seem connected to the same problem, but they may handle it in different ways. One might act quickly, while the other might be more careful or unsure. I would look at what each character says and does to explain their goals. This kind of comparison helps me understand why characters sometimes disagree even when they care about similar things.

How did the ending of this chapter make you feel, and what did the author do to create that feeling?

Example answer: The ending made me feel curious and a little tense because it seemed like something important was about to happen. The author created that feeling by stopping at a moment when not everything was explained yet. I noticed that the last scene left me with questions, which made me want to keep reading. A strong chapter ending can make the story feel more exciting.

Chapter 1

What new information did this chapter give you about the main character, and what do you still wonder about them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

What moment in this chapter changed how you understood a character, conflict, or theme?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

What pattern did you notice in this chapter, such as a repeated idea, behavior, image, or problem?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Which details helped you picture the setting in this chapter, and how did those details affect the mood?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

What problem or conflict began, continued, or became clearer in this chapter, and why does it matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

Choose a vocabulary word from this chapter that another reader might not know. How would you explain it using context clues?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

What did this chapter suggest about friendship, family, trust, bravery, or another big idea?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Choose one important choice a character made in this chapter. What might have led the character to make that choice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What did this chapter show about a relationship between two characters? Explain using evidence from the chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

What advice would you give to one character after the events of this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

How did the ending of this chapter make you feel, and what did the author do to create that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Pick a word or phrase from this chapter that seemed important or interesting. What do you think it means, and why did the author use it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What is one thing a character wants in this chapter? How can you tell?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

Which part of this chapter would you reread to understand the story better, and what would you look for?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What kind of conflict was strongest in this chapter: a character against another character, against nature, against society, or against themselves? Explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How did the author create suspense, curiosity, or tension in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Which moment in the chapter revealed something about a character’s personality? Explain what it showed.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

What evidence from this chapter shows that the stakes are getting higher, lower, or more complicated?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

How did a character’s opinion, plan, or attitude change during this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What prediction can you make after this chapter, and what clues support your prediction?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

If you could ask one character a question after reading this chapter, what would you ask and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Did any object, place, or event in this chapter seem to have a deeper meaning? Explain your idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

What mystery, secret, or unknown question feels most important after this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

How does this chapter connect to something that happened earlier in the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What small detail from this chapter might become important later? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

How did the author control the pace of this chapter? Did the action feel fast, slow, or a mix of both?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

If you were in one character’s position during this chapter, what would you have done differently and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Describe a moment when a character felt a strong emotion. How did the author show that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What lesson or theme might be starting to appear in this chapter? Use an example from the text.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What seemed fair or unfair in this chapter? Explain your opinion with details from the text.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

How did the dialogue in this chapter help you understand the characters or the conflict better?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Which sentence, image, or scene stood out to you most in this chapter, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

How did the setting affect what happened or what the characters decided in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

What did you learn about the story’s world, rules, history, or community in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

How did a character show courage, kindness, honesty, or another important quality in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Compare two characters in this chapter. How are they alike or different in their actions, feelings, or goals?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

What surprised you in this chapter, and how did it change your thinking about the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What mistake, misunderstanding, or difficult decision happened in this chapter? What were the results?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
