

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:

Fantasy baseball

Author:

Alan Gratz

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.

Based on what you know so far, how do you predict Alex's baseball skills might help him? Explain your thinking.

Example answer: I predict Alex's baseball skills will give him a way to handle an unfamiliar place. Baseball has rules he can understand, even when Oz seems strange. I think playing could also help him connect with other people. His skills might give him confidence when he does not know what else to do.

How to Answer (continued)

Would you rather explore Oz with Alex or watch him play baseball there? Explain your choice using what you know about the story.

Example answer: I would rather explore Oz with Alex. I know Oz is very different from the world he knows, so I would want to see it for myself. I would enjoy comparing its surprising details with familiar things from home. Watching baseball would be fun, but exploring would let me ask more questions about this unusual place.

Where do you see a connection between baseball and facing a challenge in Alex's adventure so far? Explain your connection.

Example answer: I see a connection because both baseball and an unfamiliar adventure require paying attention. A player cannot always know what will happen next, and Alex cannot know everything about Oz. I think he needs to notice clues and decide how to respond. This makes me think that being ready to learn can matter as much as having a skill.

Chapter 1

What is one important thing you understand about Alex's situation so far? Explain which detail helped you understand it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Looking back over your reading so far, what idea about courage, friendship, or belonging is beginning to stand out? Explain how Alex's experience connects to that idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What does Alex seem to care about most so far?
Use a choice, thought, or action from the story to support your idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How would you describe Alex based on his words or actions up to this point? Support your description with an example.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

What stands out about Oz as a setting? Explain how one detail makes it different from the world Alex knows.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Choose a word that describes Alex at this point, then think of a word with a similar meaning. Which word fits him better, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Which moment so far gives you the strongest sense of surprise, worry, or excitement? Explain how the author creates that feeling.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Which choice Alex has made so far would you like to discuss with him? Explain what you would ask and why.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Find a word in your reading that helps describe the strange world around Alex. What do you think it means, and what clues helped you?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Imagine Alex could ask you one question about what to do next. What do you think he would ask, and how would you answer?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

Where do you see a connection between baseball and facing a challenge in Alex's adventure so far? Explain your connection.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Based on what you know so far, how do you predict Alex's baseball skills might help him? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

How does Dorothy compare with Alex, based on what you have learned about them so far? Describe a similarity or difference.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What can you tell about someone in Oz from the way that person treats Alex? Explain what the person's behavior shows.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

How does the mix of baseball and fantasy affect your enjoyment of the story? Explain with a detail from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Which detail from your latest reading seems most important to remember? Explain how it adds to your understanding of Alex's adventure.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

What has the story suggested about being a good teammate so far? Use a detail from Alex's experience to explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

In what way has Alex's understanding of Oz developed so far? Describe something he has learned or something he still needs to figure out.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Pick a sentence from your latest reading that helps you picture Alex's surroundings. Which words make the picture clear?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

If you could give Alex one piece of advice at this point, what would it be? Explain why he might need it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Choose a baseball word or another unfamiliar word from your reading. How does understanding that word help you picture what is happening?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

What might happen if Alex misunderstands someone in Oz? Make a prediction based on a person or situation you have read about.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Which problem seems most important to Alex right now? Explain what makes it difficult for him.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

What question about Oz or Alex's situation are you most eager to have answered? Explain why it matters to you.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Describe a feeling Alex has shown so far. What words or actions helped you recognize that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Would you rather explore Oz with Alex or watch him play baseball there? Explain your choice using what you know about the story.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
