

How to print this booklet

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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:

Holes

Author:

Louis Sachar

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.

Chapter 7: How is digging Stanley's first hole harder than he expected? What does this chapter show about Stanley's character?

Example answer: Stanley's first hole is much harder than he expected because the ground is hard, the shovel feels heavy, and the heat makes everything worse. He gets blisters and feels pain, but he keeps working until the hole is finished. This shows that Stanley is tougher than he thinks. Even though he is scared and tired, he does not give up.

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 30: Zero runs away after being insulted and mistreated. What feelings or events do you think pushed him to this point?

Example answer: I think Zero runs away because he has been treated like he does not matter for a long time. Mr. Pendanski's cruel words probably make him feel angry and hopeless. Zero also sees that the adults are not really trying to help him. Running away is dangerous, but I can understand why he feels like he cannot stay anymore.

Chapter 50: Looking back at the whole book, what message do you think Louis Sachar wants readers to understand about fate, friendship, or justice?

Example answer: I think Louis Sachar wants readers to see that friendship can help people change their lives. Stanley and Zero both suffer unfairly, but they become stronger when they help each other. The ending also shows that wrong actions from the past can still affect people later. To me, the book says that justice may take a long time, but kindness and courage matter.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: How does the author describe Camp Green Lake, and what mood does this setting create for the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 50

Chapter 50: Looking back at the whole book, what message do you think Louis Sachar wants readers to understand about fate, friendship, or justice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 49

Chapter 49: Many problems are solved in this chapter. Which solution feels the most satisfying to you, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: Why do you think the boys at Camp Green Lake are made to dig holes every day? What might the adults believe digging will do?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: What do you learn about Stanley Yelnats and his family in this chapter? How does the family curse affect the way Stanley sees his life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 48

Chapter 48: Stanley refuses to leave without Zero. What does this choice show about his friendship and sense of justice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 47

Chapter 47: The suitcase has Stanley’s name on it. How does this detail change the power between Stanley, Zero, and the Warden?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: How does Mr. Sir treat Stanley when he arrives at camp? What does this show you about life at Camp Green Lake?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: Stanley meets the boys in Tent D.
Which boy stands out to you the most so far, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 46

Chapter 46: Stanley and Zero stay still through the night. What inner strengths do they need to survive this scene?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 45

Chapter 45: The yellow-spotted lizards crawl on Stanley and Zero. Why is this one of the most suspenseful moments in the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: What really happened with the shoes that got Stanley in trouble? How does this event make you feel about Stanley’s punishment?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7: How is digging Stanley’s first hole harder than he expected? What does this chapter show about Stanley’s character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 44

Chapter 44: Stanley and Zero dig up a suitcase. What do you predict is inside, and why might it matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 43

Chapter 43: As Stanley and Zero sneak back, what clues remind readers that the camp still holds secrets?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Chapter 8: What makes the yellow-spotted lizards so dangerous? Why do you think the author gives them their own chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Chapter 9: Stanley writes a letter home. Why does he leave out the hardest parts of camp, and what does this tell you about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 42

Chapter 42: Stanley and Zero make a plan to return to camp. Do you think their plan is wise, dangerous, or both? Explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 41

Chapter 41: Zero explains how he got Clyde Livingston's shoes. How does this change your understanding of Stanley's arrest?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Chapter 10: Stanley finds something in his hole. Why is he disappointed by the adults' reaction to it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Chapter 11: X-Ray asks Stanley to give him anything interesting he finds. What does this request show about power and friendship in the group?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 40

Chapter 40: The boys find onions and water on the mountain. Why does this discovery feel like more than just good luck?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

Chapter 39: Stanley sings a song to Zero and notices important family connections. How does this chapter connect the past and present?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Chapter 12: Mr. Pendanski talks to the boys about their futures. Do you think he is truly helping them? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Chapter 13: Stanley finds a gold tube with letters on it. What do you predict this object might mean later in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

Chapter 38: Stanley carries Zero up the mountain. What does this action reveal about Stanley's growth as a person?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

Chapter 37: The boys struggle with thirst and exhaustion. What words or details help you understand how serious their situation is?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Chapter 14: How does the Warden react when X-Ray shows her the gold tube? What does her reaction tell you about what the adults really want?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Chapter 15: The boys are ordered to dig in a special area. How does this change what you understand about the purpose of the holes?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

Chapter 36: Stanley and Zero head toward the mountain. How do they depend on each other during this difficult journey?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

Chapter 35: Zero has survived by drinking “Sploosh.” What does this moment show about his strength and luck?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Chapter 16: Stanley keeps trying to sound cheerful in his letters. Why might pretending things are okay be both kind and difficult?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Chapter 17: Zigzag hits Stanley with a shovel, but the adults do not seem very concerned. What does this show about safety and fairness at the camp?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

Chapter 34: Stanley finds Zero under the old boat. What does this discovery make you wonder about the history of Camp Green Lake?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

Chapter 33: Stanley finds signs of danger in the desert. How does the author build suspense in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Chapter 18: Zero asks Stanley to teach him to read. Why might Stanley say no at first, and what does this moment show about both boys?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Chapter 19: Stanley takes the blame for the stolen sunflower seeds. Was this a brave choice, a foolish choice, or both? Explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

Chapter 32: Stanley decides to leave camp to look for Zero. What risks is he taking, and why might he think it is worth it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

Chapter 31: How do the Warden and the counselors respond to Zero running away? What does their response reveal about them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

Chapter 20: How does the Warden use fear to control people in this chapter? Give an example from what she does or says.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

Chapter 21: Stanley remembers the story of his great-grandfather and God's Thumb. Why might this memory become important?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

Chapter 30: Zero runs away after being insulted and mistreated. What feelings or events do you think pushed him to this point?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Chapter 29: Stanley sees a mountain that looks like a thumb. What connections can you make between this sight and earlier stories in the book?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Chapter 22: Stanley and Zero make a deal to help each other. What does each boy gain from the deal besides the obvious help?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Chapter 23: How is Green Lake in the past different from Camp Green Lake in the present? What details help you picture it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

Chapter 28: Katherine Barlow becomes an outlaw. How do her painful experiences help explain, but not excuse, her choices?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

Chapter 27: How do Stanley and Zero’s reading lessons change their relationship? Use details from the chapter.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Chapter 24: Mr. Sir refuses to give Stanley water. How does this unfair treatment affect Stanley, and how might it affect the other boys watching?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

Chapter 25: Describe the relationship between Miss Katherine and Sam. Why is their friendship important to the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Chapter 26: The town turns against Sam and Katherine. What does this chapter show about prejudice and injustice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
