

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:

My Teacher Is an Alien

Author:

Bruce Coville

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.

In Chapter 2, how does Susan feel about Mr. Smith and her class at school? Use details from the chapter to explain her feelings.

Example answer: I think Susan feels worried and confused because Mr. Smith does not act like a normal teacher. She notices things that other kids do not seem to care about, which makes her feel alone. I would feel nervous too if I thought an adult at school was hiding something strange. Susan is smart because she keeps paying attention instead of ignoring her feelings.

Chapter 15

In Chapter 15, what message do you think the author wants readers to understand about courage, friendship, or judging others? Use examples from the ending.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

In Chapter 8, Susan and Peter have to work together even though they are not close friends. What makes teamwork difficult for them, and what makes it necessary?

Example answer: Teamwork is difficult because Susan and Peter do not really trust each other at first. Peter has acted mean, so Susan has reasons to be careful around him. But they need each other because the problem with Mr. Smith is too big for one person to solve alone. This shows that people can work together when something important is at stake.

In Chapter 15, what message do you think the author wants readers to understand about courage, friendship, or judging others? Use examples from the ending.

Example answer: I think the author wants readers to understand that courage means doing the right thing even when you are scared. Susan does not give up, and she learns that help can come from people she did not expect. The ending also shows that you should not judge someone only by how they seem at first. Friendship and bravery help the characters face a problem that is bigger than themselves.

Chapter 1

In Chapter 1, what clues show that something is unusual about Mr. Smith, the new teacher? Which clue would make you the most suspicious, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

In Chapter 14, what is the most exciting or tense moment in the chapter? Explain what made you feel that way as a reader.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

In Chapter 13, predict how Susan and her friends might stop Mr. Smith. What strengths or ideas could help them succeed?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

In Chapter 2, how does Susan feel about Mr. Smith and her class at school? Use details from the chapter to explain her feelings.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

In Chapter 3, Susan notices more strange things about Mr. Smith. What does she discover, and how does it change what she thinks might be happening?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

In Chapter 12, Susan has to be brave even though she is scared. What choice does she make, and what does it show about her character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

In Chapter 11, what do the alien characters seem to think about humans? Do you think their opinion is fair? Why or why not?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

In Chapter 4, Peter acts like a bully, but he also becomes important to the story. How would you describe Peter at this point, and what do you think he might do next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

In Chapter 5, why is it hard for Susan to get other people to believe her? What would you do if you were in her place?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

In Chapter 10, Duncan becomes part of the conflict in an important way. What does Duncan add to the story, and how is he different from Susan and Peter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

In Chapter 9, what new information do Susan and Peter find out about Mr. Smith’s plan? How does this change the problem they must solve?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

In Chapter 6, what does Susan learn when she investigates Mr. Smith more closely? How does this discovery raise the danger in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

In Chapter 7, the word “alien” can mean someone from another planet, but it can also mean someone who seems strange or different. How does this double meaning fit the story so far?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

In Chapter 8, Susan and Peter have to work together even though they are not close friends. What makes teamwork difficult for them, and what makes it necessary?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
