

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.



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Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Mysteries According to Humphrey

Author:

Betty G. Birney

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
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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 have read so far, what do you predict Humphrey will discover about Mrs Brisbane's absence? Explain what makes your prediction reasonable.

Example answer: I predict Humphrey will discover that Mrs Brisbane has an ordinary reason for being away, even though it feels mysterious to him. The school has a supply teacher, so someone must know that she cannot teach right now. That makes me think the situation may be less frightening than Humphrey imagines. I would still need more clues before deciding.

Chapter 15

If you could help Humphrey investigate at this point in your reading, what question would you ask, and whom would you ask? Explain why the answer could be useful.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

What do you like or dislike about following a school mystery through Humphrey's eyes instead of a student's eyes? Explain how his viewpoint affects the story for you.

Example answer: I like following the mystery through Humphrey's eyes because a hamster sees school differently from a student. He cares about Mrs Brisbane, but he cannot simply ask an adult where she is. That makes a question that might be easy for a person much harder for him. I think his viewpoint makes the mystery both funny and worrying.

Which of Humphrey's feelings so far can you understand best? Connect his experience to a time when you felt something similar.

Example answer: I understand Humphrey's worry when Mrs Brisbane is not at school. Once, my regular teacher was absent, and I felt nervous because I did not know what the day would be like. Having a different teacher changed our familiar routine. That helps me understand why Humphrey wants answers instead of just ignoring the change.

Chapter 1

What mystery or unanswered question is Humphrey thinking about so far? Describe a detail from your reading that might help him find an answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Choose a moment from your reading so far that felt funny, surprising, or suspenseful. How did Betty G. Birney's writing create that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What idea about a character or the mystery have you changed or begun to question while reading? Explain which detail made you rethink it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Which of Humphrey's actions so far shows what kind of hamster he is? Explain what that action tells you about his personality.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Based on what you have read so far, what do you predict Humphrey will discover about Mrs Brisbane's absence? Explain what makes your prediction reasonable.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

What does your reading so far suggest about caring for others? Explain how Humphrey's words, thoughts, or actions support your idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Which of Humphrey's feelings so far can you understand best? Connect his experience to a time when you felt something similar.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What have you learned so far about why Mrs Brisbane matters to Humphrey or her students? Use a detail from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Think about the classroom scenes you have read so far. What do they suggest about the difference between having fun and learning? Explain whether those two things can happen together.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Looking at Humphrey's thinking so far, what is something he knows for sure, and what is something he only suspects? Explain why that difference matters when solving a mystery.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Choose someone besides Humphrey who appears in your reading so far. How does that character respond to something puzzling or unexpected, and what does the response reveal?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

What do you like or dislike about following a school mystery through Humphrey's eyes instead of a student's eyes? Explain how his viewpoint affects the story for you.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Choose an interesting or unfamiliar word from the chapter you just read. What do you think it means, and how does it help you picture Humphrey's world?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How does the school setting help make Humphrey's mystery interesting so far? Describe something about a classroom or school day that could make finding answers easier or harder.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
