

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:

Out of the Dust

Author:

Karen Hesse

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.

Chapter 3: The book shows how serious a drought can be. What do you think drought means, and what clues from the story help you understand it?

Example answer: I think drought means a long time with little or no rain. In the story, the crops do not grow well, and dust blows everywhere because the ground is so dry. The family worries about making a living, which shows that drought hurts both the land and the people.

Chapter 16

Chapter 16: What lesson about healing, hope, or forgiveness do you think the ending of the book teaches? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Chapter 15: What is your opinion of Louise becoming part of Billie Jo's life? What could make this change hard or helpful for Billie Jo?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 8: Billie Jo tries to play the piano even though her hands hurt. Do you think she should keep trying? Why or why not?

Example answer: I think Billie Jo should keep trying, but she should be gentle with herself. Piano is a big part of who she is, so playing might help her feel strong again. At the same time, her hands and heart are still hurt, so she should not expect everything to be easy right away.

Chapter 13: After Billie Jo returns, what does the word home seem to mean to her? Use details from the story in your answer.

Example answer: To me, home means more to Billie Jo than just a house in Oklahoma. When she runs away, she finds out that leaving does not erase her sadness. Coming back shows that home is the place where she can face the truth, remember her mother, and try to rebuild her life with her father.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: What do you learn about Billie Jo, her family, and the Oklahoma setting? How does the dust make daily life harder for them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Chapter 14: How does Billie Jo's relationship with her father begin to change when they finally face their problems?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Chapter 13: After Billie Jo returns, what does the word home seem to mean to her? Use details from the story in your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: Billie Jo loves playing the piano. What does music seem to give her that she does not always get from the people around her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: The book shows how serious a drought can be. What do you think drought means, and what clues from the story help you understand it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Chapter 12: What does Billie Jo learn from her time away from home and from the people she meets?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Chapter 11: When Billie Jo thinks about running away, what do you predict she hopes to find somewhere else? What problems might follow her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: When Billie Jo's mother is expecting a baby, what hopes and worries do different family members seem to have?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: How does the terrible accident change Billie Jo's family? Describe at least two changes you notice.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Chapter 10: Many families in the story think about leaving their farms. What might make a person become a migrant, and what might be scary about leaving home?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Chapter 9: How does Billie Jo's father deal with sadness? How is his way of grieving different from Billie Jo's?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: Billie Jo feels guilty and angry after the accident. Why do you think she has such mixed-up feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7: How does the dust outside the house seem to match what Billie Jo is feeling inside?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Chapter 8: Billie Jo tries to play the piano even though her hands hurt. Do you think she should keep trying? Why or why not?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
