

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:

Small steps : the year I got polio

Author:

Peg Kehret

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 4: What is Peg's first impression of the hospital or ward, and how does the setting affect her feelings?

Example answer: Peg's first impression is that the hospital feels strange, serious, and a little frightening. She is away from her family and surrounded by sick children and medical routines she does not understand yet. I think the setting makes her feel lonely and worried because she cannot just go home when she wants to. At the same time, it helps the reader understand how brave she has to be.

Chapter 20

Chapter 20: After finishing the book, what lesson do you think Peg Kehret wants readers to remember, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

Chapter 19: The title Small Steps has a special meaning. How does this chapter connect to that theme?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Chapter 12: How does Peg show determination during therapy or exercises, even when things are painful or frustrating?

Example answer: Peg shows determination by keeping on trying even when her body does not do what she wants it to do. She has to work hard at exercises that may seem small to other people, but they are huge for her. I think she feels frustrated sometimes, but she does not give up. Her effort shows that courage can mean practicing again and again.

Chapter 19: The title Small Steps has a special meaning. How does this chapter connect to that theme?

Example answer: This chapter connects to the title because Peg's recovery happens little by little instead of all at once. Each small improvement, like moving better or doing something more independently, is important. I think the title reminds readers that big goals can be reached through many small steps. Peg's story shows that even tiny progress can be worth celebrating.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1: What do you learn about Peg's ordinary life before she gets very sick, and why is that important to the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Chapter 18: What does this chapter show about the importance of patience when someone is healing?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Chapter 17: How does coming home or thinking about home bring both happiness and new challenges for Peg?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Chapter 2: How do Peg's first symptoms change the mood of the story, and what clues show that her illness may be serious?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Chapter 3: How does Peg react when she learns more about what is happening to her body, and what would you have wondered if you were in her place?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Chapter 16: What sad, scary, or surprising event happens in this chapter, and how does Peg respond to it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

Chapter 15: How does Peg's idea of a normal life change during this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Chapter 4: What is Peg's first impression of the hospital or ward, and how does the setting affect her feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Chapter 5: Choose one new or important word from this chapter, such as a medical word. What does it mean, and how does knowing it help you understand the chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Chapter 14: What problem does Peg face as she tries to become more independent, and how does she work toward solving it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Chapter 13: How does Peg deal with homesickness or missing her family, and what does this reveal about her personality?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Chapter 6: How do the treatments Peg receives challenge her, and what do they show about her courage?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Chapter 7: How do Peg's relationships with other patients help her handle being away from home?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Chapter 12: How does Peg show determination during therapy or exercises, even when things are painful or frustrating?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Chapter 11: What prediction can you make about Peg's recovery after the events in this chapter? Use details from the chapter to support your prediction.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Chapter 8: Which adult in this chapter makes a difference for Peg, and what actions show that person's character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Chapter 9: What does Peg learn about polio or recovery in this chapter, and how does that knowledge affect her attitude?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Chapter 10: Peg's progress is not always easy or fast. What is one small success or setback in this chapter, and why does it matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
