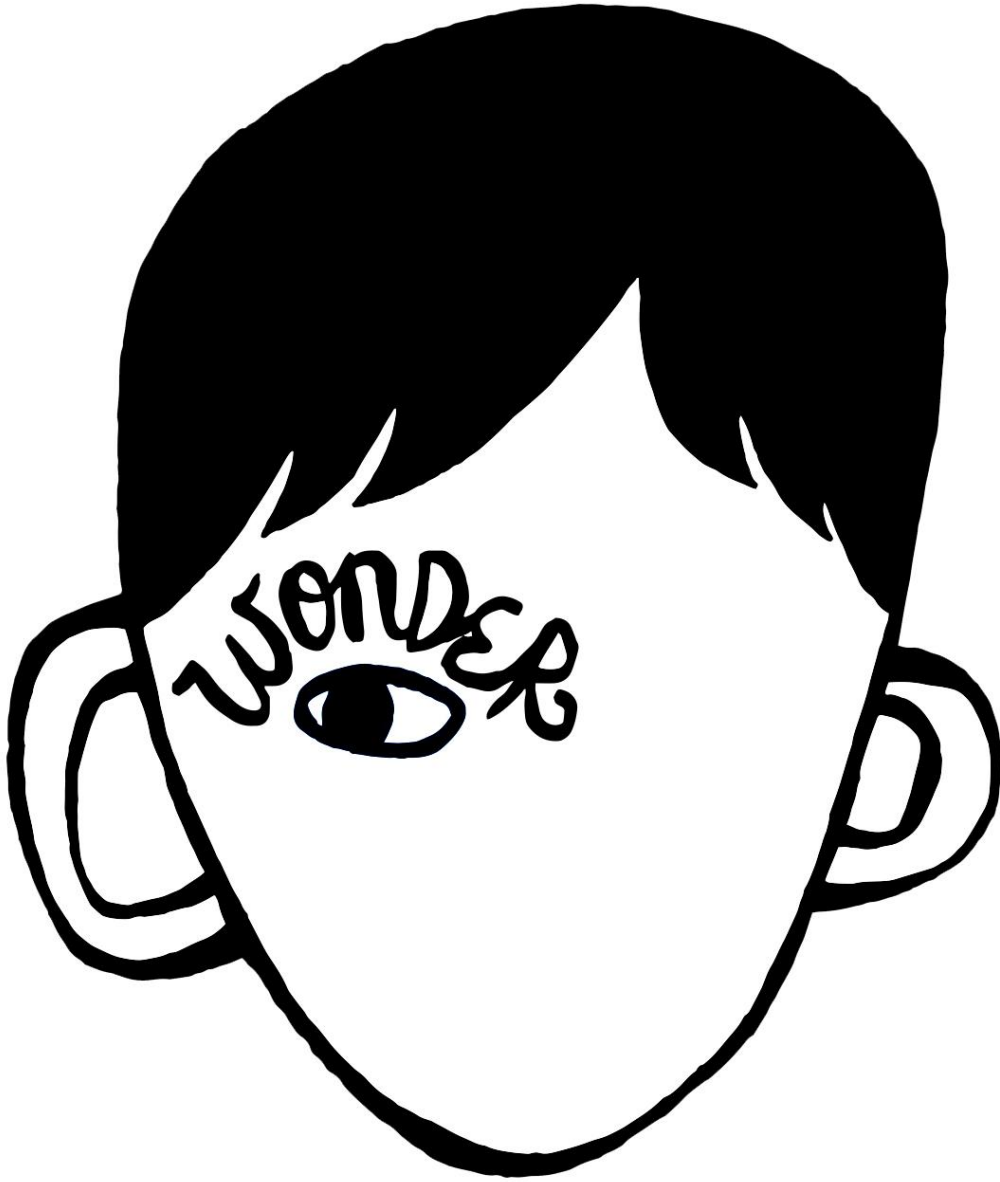
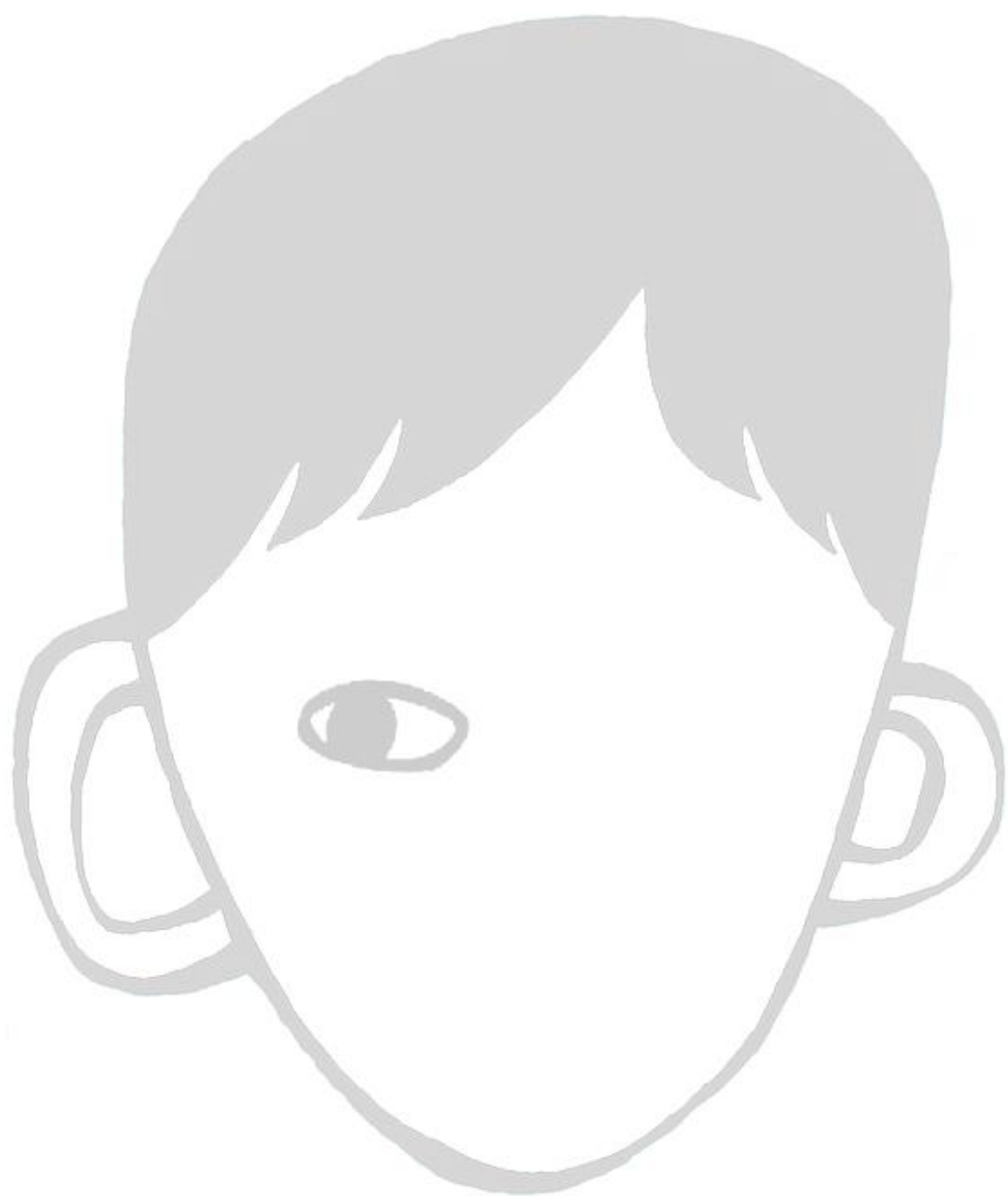


Study Guide for students





Lesson overview:

Lesson 1 – Pre reading activity: Guessing game The Odd One Out and class discussion.

Homework: read part one, August. Prepare the study questions for this part.

Lesson 2 – While reading activities: new student debate.

Homework: read part two, Via; and part three, Summer. Prepare the study questions for these parts.

Lesson 3 – While reading activities: DNA game and class discussion.

Homework: read part four, Jack; and part five, Justin. Prepare the study questions for these parts.

Lesson 4 – While reading activity: watching a video about bullying and class discussion.

Homework: read part six, August; part seven, Miranda; and part eight, August. Prepare the study questions for these parts.

Lesson 5 – after reading activity: Paint Auggie.

Lesson 1 activity - Guessing Game: The Odd One Out

You were asked to judge people by their appearance only. How useful was it to know what they looked like when you had to guess who the odd one out was.

"I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse."

What do you think when you read this statement? Does it affect how much you want to read the story?

Study questions with part 1



August says he feels ordinary. In what ways is he as ordinary as all other boys?

How does August feel about going to middle school? How do his parents feel about it?

August

August's mom

August's dad

No one explains "lamb to the slaughter" in the beginning. What do you think that expression means?

August mentions some of his behaviours when he hears about going to school. Name two ways he behaves toward his parents.

Why do you think August behaves this way?

Describe how the kids at the school react toward August. How is this different from the way the adults act toward him?

Jack:

Julian:

Charlotte:

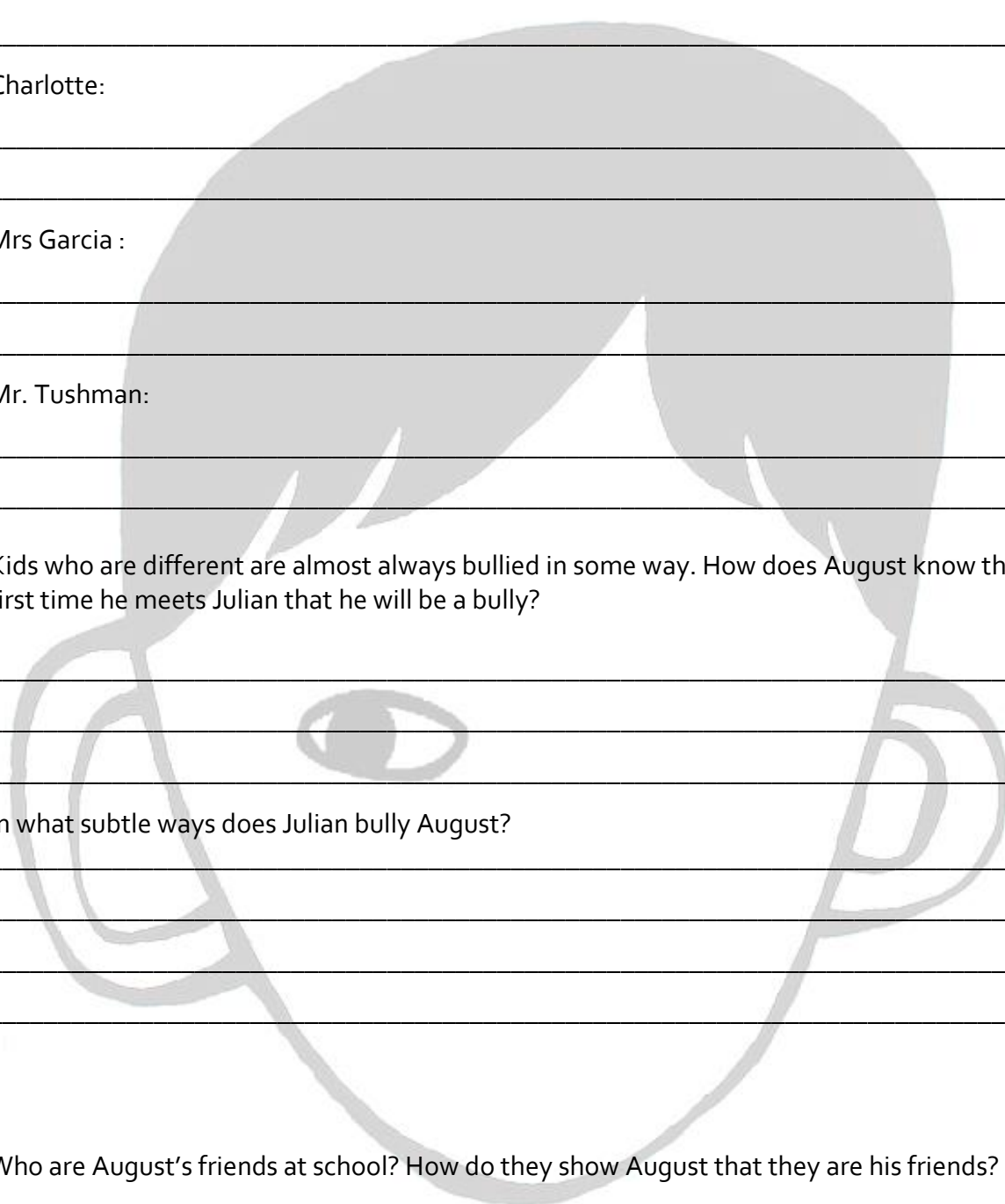
Mrs Garcia :

Mr. Tushman:

Kids who are different are almost always bullied in some way. How does August know the first time he meets Julian that he will be a bully?

In what subtle ways does Julian bully August?

Who are August's friends at school? How do they show August that they are his friends?



August and Jack laugh together, they talk about anything and everything, and they feel comfortable together. So why does Jack betray August by talking badly behind his back?

How does August feel when he hears what Jack has said?

Do you think you could forgive a friend for saying bad things about you behind your back? What would you do?



Lesson 2 activity – New Student Debate

Write down your arguments below before discussing them with your group

Study questions with parts 2 and 3



What do you think of Via as a character? Write down two things you think about Via.

What sacrifices does Via have to make in her relationship with her parents?

How could her parents help Via's life to be more normal even though August's isn't?

Do you think Via's attitude towards her brother changes throughout the story?

Via feels betrayed by Miranda and Ella. How do Miranda and Ella betray Via? How does Via respond?

August's face isn't fully described until the chapter titled "August: Through the Peep Hole." How close was this description to your own visualization of August? Did you have a picture

of his face in your mind while reading this book? How has Via's description changed your mental picture?



What are some qualities of a good friend?

When Summer attends Savanna's party, Savanna tries to influence Summer to choose a side in regards to August. What is Summer's response? What do you think you would do if you were pressured to choose a side?

How does August's ability to be comfortable in his own skin make it easier for his family and friends to relate to him? Write down two examples of how he does this from what you have read so far.

Lesson 3 activity – DNA Game

For this activity you need to use another worksheet (to be handed out).

Study questions with parts 4 and 5



What are two kind things Jack says when he describes August?

What kind of friend does Jack think that August is?

There are consequences for Jack because of his friendship with August. What is one consequence?

What do you think of the e-mail sent by Mr. Tushman to Jack? Do you think that Mr. Tushman understands the situation?

What was your reaction to Julian's mom's e-mail to Mr. Tushman? What do you think Julian's mom thinks about August?



Justin approached Julian and his friends and warned them to stay away from Jack. The way he defends Jack against the bullies is spontaneous and doesn't benefit Justin at all. This can be described as a **random act of kindness**.

Random acts of kindness

Examples:

- stopping whatever you are doing to give someone help or assistance
- paying a bill anonymously for someone
- using your own talents or skills to help someone without asking for anything in return

Have you ever done a random act of kindness?

If you haven't, can you think of a situation in your own life in which you could?

Lesson 4 activity: watching a video and class discussion

Does the video tell you anything about bullying that you didn't know already? Have you ever helped anyone who was bullied, or stop someone from bullying?

Study questions with parts 6,7 and 8



August becomes angry with Via for not wanting him at her school play. Do you think this is reasonable or selfish? Explain your answer.



How is Miranda's family different than August and Via's family?

What do you think makes Miranda decide not to perform in the play at the last minute?

Lesson 5 activity: Paint Auggie



After reading this book you probably all have different ideas of what Auggie looks like. Make a painting to be displayed in class.

Does knowing about August's character and thoughts change how you portray him?

Throughout *Wonder*, August describes the way that many people react to seeing his face for the first time: by immediately looking away. Have you ever been in a situation where you have responded like this to seeing someone different? Having read *Wonder*, how do you feel about this now?

Lesson 5 activity: Mr. Browne's precepts

Part 1 Sign up for one of the following precepts and with your group discuss what it means.

Communication and Teamwork

Asking good questions is more important than knowing the right answer.

— Cheryl Scott Williams

Be willing to listen to people who disagree with you. You might learn something new.

— Michele Hancock

Build a team, because more brains are better than one. — Tom Vander Ark

None of us is as smart as all of us. — Charlene Gaynor

To go fast, go alone. To go far, go together. — Tim Waters

We need to work together to get results. — JD Hoyer

Family and Community

Everyone is a teacher and everyone is a learner. — Melany Reeves Stowe

My grandchildren are the best teachers I have ever had. — Sally Ann Zoll

Within a group lies the wisdom to solve its own problems. — Dan Cardinali

Experience and Practice

Comfort leads to laziness. Always challenge yourself to learn more.
— Rushton Hurley

Each of us is the hero of our own story right here and right now.
— Andrew Slack

Everything we do well, we first must love. — Pam Allyn

Failure often allows for opportunity. — Marguerite W. Kondracke

Great potential exists in every child. — Naila Bolus

We learn by doing. — Claudine K. Brown

I love being proven wrong. — Anne L. Bryant

Success is never final, and learning is never finished. — Jeb Bush

The harder I work the luckier I get. — Ewan McIntosh

The more I know, the more I know I don't know. — Rushton Hurley

The most satisfying work requires continual learning. — Cheryl Scott Williams

There is strength in humility (Know that you don't know everything.).
— Rushton Hurley

Thinking is not optional. — Charlene Gaynor

We all have gifts and should look for a way to make a difference (My Marble Theory!).
— Marguerite W. Kondracke

Whatever I think I know now, in five more years I'm sure I'll think some of that was foolish.
— Michael B. Horn

Learning and Student Achievement

All children can learn. — Tony Jackson

Be better today than you were yesterday. — Melany Reeves Stowe

Success comes from learning to solve problems. — Fernando Reimers

Failure is not an option—it's a requirement. — Rob Lippincott

Intelligence is not limited to reading, writing, and mathematics.
— Melany Reeves Stowe

Part 2 Think of (or select) your own precept and write it on a post card. Then, on the back of the card, write a short explanation of why you chose it.

Useful links:

<http://www.brainyquote.com>

<http://www.quotationspage.com>

<http://www.goodreads.com/quotes>

<http://www.quotegarden.com>

