

OLD SCHOOL

BY GORDON KORMAN

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16-20

Review the vocabulary words.
Read the chapters together.
Discuss the comprehension questions.
Choose what extras you want to enjoy on the next page.

MONDAY, CHAPTERS 1-2

VOCABULARY

Oversight- An unintentional failure to notice or do something.
Reluctance- Unwillingness, hesitation, or disinclination to do something.
Eccentric- Unconventional, unusual, or slightly strange in style or behavior.
Ambition- A strong desire and determination to achieve success or distinction.
Intriguing- Arousing great curiosity or interest, fascinating.
Ridicule- Mockery, mockery-filled language, or behavior intended to make fun of someone.

COMPREHENSION

How do the adults at The Pines feel about Dexter? How do readers know this?

How do the students in Wolf's Eye Middle School feel about Dexter?

TUESDAY, CHAPTERS 3-4

VOCABULARY

Idealistic- Believing that things can be perfect or super positive, even if that is not how real life usually works.
Resentment- A bitter, angry feeling you get when you feel like a situation is unfair.
Intervention- Stepping into a situation to help fix a problem or stop something bad from happening.
Provocation- Pushing someone's buttons on purpose to try to make them mad or get a reaction.
Antagonism- Openly acting mean, hostile, or like an enemy toward someone else.

COMPREHENSION

Who is Ms. Napier and what kind of character is she? Find evidence from the text to support your answer.

What is Dexter's experience in his new school? How do you know?

WEDNESDAY, CHAPTERS 5-6

VOCABULARY

Retaliation- Doing something unpleasant to someone because they did something mean to you first; getting revenge.
Hostility- Unfriendly, aggressive, or mean behavior toward someone.
Strategic- Carefully planned out to reach a specific goal or solve a tricky problem.
Manipulate- To cleverly control or influence a person or situation, usually to get what you want in an unfair way.
Undermine- To secretly weaken or damage someone's confidence, success, or status.

COMPREHENSION

What do we learn about Jackson Sharpe in Chapter 5? What type of character is he?

What does Dexter fix and how does he fix it? Do you think the way he fixed it may cause any issues? Why or why not?

THURSDAY, CHAPTERS 7-8

VOCABULARY

Composure- Staying calm, cool, and in control of your emotions, even when you are stressed or annoyed.
Defective- Broken, faulty, or not working.
Plausible- Seeming believable, reasonable, or likely to be true.
Plausible- Seeming believable, reasonable, or likely to be true.
Solidarity- Unity and mutual support among a group of people who share a common goal or feeling.
Rectify- To fix, correct, or put right a mistake or bad situation.

COMPREHENSION

What does Jackson Sharpe do in Chapter 7 that is devious?

Who is Teagan and how does Dexter feel about her? How do you know?

FRIDAY

CATCH UP DAY!
Use today to catch up on your chapters you missed OR choose to do the quick write, game time, or family connection!

QUICK WRITE

IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE DEXTER. WRITE A JOURNAL ENTRY TO YOURSELF ABOUT THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF SCHOOL.

GAME TIME

FIND A BINGO GAME SET AND PLAY WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

FAMILY CONNECTION

HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH AN ELDER IN YOUR FAMILY AND HAVE THEM TELL YOU ABOUT LIFE WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG (INTERESTS, HOBBIES, SCHOOL).



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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23-27

Review the vocabulary words.
Read the chapters together.
Discuss the comprehension questions.
Choose what extras you want to enjoy on the next page.

MONDAY, CHAPTERS 9-10

VOCABULARY

Authentic- Real, genuine, and not a fake or copy.
Decipher- To figure out the hidden meaning of something, like solving a secret code or reading messy handwriting.
Vulnerable- Easily tricked, hurt, or taken advantage of because you lack experience or protection.
Perspective- A specific point of view or way of looking at a situation.
Integrity- Doing the right, honest thing.

COMPREHENSION

Describe Ronny Greco. What kind of character is he and how do we know?

Describe Gianna's experience at The Pines. What does she see? How does she feel? What does she hear? What does she taste?

TUESDAY, CHAPTERS 11-12

VOCABULARY

Subtle- Quiet, gentle, or clever in a way that is hard for people to notice right away.
Compromise- An agreement where both sides give up a little bit of what they want so they can meet in the middle.
Skeptical- Feeling doubtful, suspicious, or unsure about whether something is true or will actually work.
Persistence- Refusing to give up and continuing to work hard, even when a job gets tough or people doubt you.
Cooperate- Working together with others as a team to reach a shared goal.

COMPREHENSION

What is *The Eyeball* and why is it so important?

According to the reading so far, what are some of Dexter's strengths?

WEDNESDAY, CHAPTERS 13-14

VOCABULARY

Alienated- Feeling left out, disconnected, or like an outsider around someone you used to be close with.
Deceptive- Tricking or misleading someone into believing something that is not true.
Elaborate- Highly detailed, complicated, and planned out with a lot of careful thought
Relentless- Refusing to give up, slow down, or stop doing something.
Impulse- A sudden, strong urge to do something without thinking about what might happen next.
Perception- The way you notice, think about, or view someone or something.

COMPREHENSION

How does Dexter feel about Leo being part of the Bunker Boys and breaking codes?

What does Jackson Sharpe do in Chapter 14, and what effect does it have on Dexter?

THURSDAY & FRIDAY



FAMILY CONNECTION

FIND THE RECIPE OF YOUR FAVORITE DESSERT AND MAKE IT WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

THINK ABOUT ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE PLACES TO BE IN YOUR COMMUNITY. GO THERE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND DESCRIBE WHAT YOU SEE, HEAR, TOUCH, TASTE, AND SMELL?

CREATIVE WRITING

YOU ARE THE EDITOR OF YOUR SCHOOL'S NEWSPAPER. CREATE A NAME FOR THE NEWSPAPER AND WRITE YOUR FIRST FRONT PAGE STORY!

ART PROJECT

IF YOU COULD DESIGN YOUR OWN T-SHIRT, WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE?
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE!
DESIGN AND COLOR A T-SHIRT THAT REPRESENTS YOU AS A PERSON.



OLD SCHOOL

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30- DECEMBER 4

Review the vocabulary words.
Read the chapters together.
Discuss the comprehension questions.
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MONDAY, CHAPTER 15

VOCABULARY

Infraction- A violation or breaking of an official rule or law.
Confiscate- To take an object away from someone, usually as a penalty or because it is against the rules.
Distort- To twist or change the facts so that a story is no longer true or accurate.
Advocate- To publicly support, defend, or speak up for someone or something you believe in.

COMPREHENSION

Summarize the WWII story that Leo tells Dexter.

Explain the major event that happens in this chapter. What effect does it have on Dexter?

TUESDAY, CHAPTER 16

VOCABULARY

Unjust- Not fair, right, or deserved
Policy- An official rule or set of guidelines that a school, government, or group strictly follows.
Petition- A formal document signed by a group of people asking someone in charge to change a rule or fix a problem
Outrage- A strong feeling of anger and shock caused by a situation that seems unfair or wrong.

COMPREHENSION

What is the conflict between Gianna and Traci?

How do others in this chapter react to Gianna?

WEDNESDAY, CHAPTER 17

VOCABULARY

Rally- To bring a group of people together to support a common cause or goal.
Mobilize- To organize a group of people to quickly take action and work toward a specific purpose.
Momentum- The strength or energy that keeps a movement or activity growing and moving forward.
Defiance- Open resistance, bold disobedience, or standing up against authority figures and rules you feel are wrong.

COMPREHENSION

How has Dexter's experience at Wolf's Eye Middle School changed since the start of the book?

Do you feel like Dexter's suspension was justified? Why or why not?

THURSDAY, CHAPTER 18

VOCABULARY

Acknowledge- To admit that something is true, or to officially recognize someone's actions.
Overturn- To officially change, cancel, or reverse a previous decision or rule.
Unify- To bring different people or groups together so they work as one team.

COMPREHENSION

In what ways has Dexter positively contributed to Wolf's Eye Middle School?

Why do you think students call Dexter the Ancient One?

FRIDAY, CHAPTER 19

VOCABULARY

Integration- Combining different groups of people or things so they can work and interact together smoothly.
Camaraderie- A feeling of warm friendship, trust, and team spirit shared among members of a group.
Reciprocate- To return a favor, action, or positive feeling to someone who showed support for you first
Transformation- A complete change in the way someone acts, feels, or thinks, or in how an overall situation turns out.

COMPREHENSION

How does Dexter help Ronny?

How does Ronny end up supporting Dexter?

How do the people at The Pines react to Ronny's presence?

GAME TIME

FIND YOUR FAVORITE BOARD GAME, EXPLAIN THE RULES TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND HAVE FUN!

QUICK WRITE

DESCRIBE A PEP RALLY YOU'VE BEEN TO AT YOUR SCHOOL. WHAT WAS IT LIKE? WHAT ACTIVITIES DID THEY HAVE? WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ADDED THAT WASN'T THERE ALREADY?

SHOW YOUR TALENT

THINK OF SOMETHING YOU ARE REALLY GOOD AT AND SHARE YOUR TALENT WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. THIS COULD BE ANYTHING FROM SINGING TO DANCING TO DRAWING TO BAKING AND SO MUCH MORE!

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

TRAVEL TO A LOCAL PLACE THAT HAS HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS. TAKE A TOUR, GO TO A MUSEUM, OR WALK THE GROUNDS WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.



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WEEK OF DECEMBER 7-11

Review the vocabulary words.
Read the chapters together.
Discuss the comprehension questions.
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MONDAY, CHAPTER 20

VOCABULARY

Resolution- Finding an answer, solution, or peaceful ending to a problem or conflict.

Apprehensive- Feeling nervous, anxious, or worried about what might happen next.

Validation- Proof or recognition that your actions, feelings, or hard work were right and worthwhile all along.

Transition- The process of changing or moving from one state, environment, or condition to another.

COMPREHENSION

How has Leo changed from the beginning of the book to now? How does the reader know?

How have the students at Wolf's Eye Middle School changed their view of Dexter? How does the reader know?

TUESDAY, CHAPTER 21

VOCABULARY

Advocacy- Publicly speaking up, taking action, or showing support for a cause, person, or group of people.

Precedent- An earlier decision or event that serves as an example

Collaborate- To work together with other people or groups to reach a shared goal or finish a project.

Influence- Having the power to affect or change how someone thinks, behaves, or acts.

COMPREHENSION

Why does the author begin Chapter 21 with the phrase, "with liberty and justice for all?"

Why are the students at Wolf's Eye Middle School getting loud and advocating during the antibullying assembly? What's their argument?

WEDNESDAY, CHAPTER 22

VOCABULARY

Superficial- Only concerned with what is on the surface or how things look, rather than real, deep feelings or meaning.

Prioritize- To decide which tasks, goals, or people are most important so you can give them your time and attention first.

Motive- The underlying reason or purpose behind why someone does a specific action.

Significant- Important, meaningful, or having a major effect on a situation.

COMPREHENSION

What do readers learn about Teagan Santoro?

How have things changed since the last time Teagan was at *The Pines*?

THURSDAY, CHAPTER 23

VOCABULARY

Complicity- Being involved with others in a sneaky trick, wrongdoing, or rule-breaking plot.

Investigation- A careful, detailed search to find out the truth or facts about a secret, problem, or crime.

Implication- A possible result or because of an action or event.

Vindicate- To prove that someone was right, innocent, or justified all along after people doubted them.

COMPREHENSION

Why does Jackson Sharpe sign the petition? What is different about how he signs it?

What is happening to the students after they've been spending lots of time at *The Pines*? How are they changing?

FRIDAY, CHAPTER 24

VOCABULARY

Intercept- To catch, receive, or stop something while it is on its way from one place to another.

Intervention- Stepping in or getting involved in a situation to influence the outcome or prevent something bad from happening.

Renovate- To repair, restore, and update an old or damaged building so that it is safe and in good condition again.

Commendable- Deserving praise, respect, or approval for doing good, honorable work.

COMPREHENSION

Why have copies of the *Eyeball* been, "flying off the table?"

How does Gianna feel about Teagan and how do readers know?

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS ABOUT WAYS TO SUPPORT/VOLUNTEER AT AN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY LIKE THE PINES. CONSIDER AN ACT SUCH AS CREATING CARDS TO BRING JOY TO THE RESIDENTS.

QUICK WRITE

AT THIS POINT IN THE BOOK, DO YOU SIDE WITH DEXTER, OR DO YOU FEEL THE ADMINISTRATION WAS RIGHT TO SUSPEND HIM? MAKE YOUR ARGUMENT BY USING EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT TO SUPPORT YOUR POSITION.

ART PROJECT

CREATE AN AD FOR THE BOTTLED WATER, SODA, GATORADE, AND HOT TEA THAT IS BEING SERVED AT SCHOOL IN CHAPTER 23.



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WEEK OF DECEMBER 14-18

Review the vocabulary words.
Read the chapters together.
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MONDAY, CHAPTER 25

VOCABULARY

Culmination- The highest point, climax, or final result of a long period of effort or planning.

Mutual- Shared, felt, or done equally by two or more people toward each other.

Legacy- Something valuable or meaningful passed down from the past that continues to inspire or help people in the future.

Triumph- A major victory, success, or achievement after overcoming difficult obstacles.

COMPREHENSION

How does Dexter react to the news about Leo? What happened?

What made this "Teagan's favorite [trip] since Nana and Poppy moved here?"

What is the connection between Dexter and Ronny? What does Teagan offer Dexter? How does he feel about this offer?

TUESDAY, CHAPTER 26

VOCABULARY

Commemorate- To honor, remember, or officially celebrate the memory of a person or past event.

Sincerity- Being honest, genuine, and real in your feelings or actions, without pretending or playing games.

Closure- A sense of peace and understanding that comes after a difficult, sad, or stressful experience ends.

Unanimous- Fully agreed upon or supported by every single person in a group.

COMPREHENSION

Reading the latest edition of the *Eyeball*, what words are powerful in getting Traci's point across about the school board meeting?

What are Principal Dinkins' feelings about the school board meeting? How do readers know?

Based on the last lines of the chapter, what do you think is happening to Leo?

WEDNESDAY, CHAPTERS 27-28

VOCABULARY

Accountability- Accepting responsibility for your own actions and mistakes instead of trying to hide them or blame someone else.

Authentic- Being real, genuine, and true to who you are, rather than acting fake or trying to copy everyone else.

Reconcile- To restore a peaceful relationship or find a way for two different ideas or lifestyles to work together.

Enduring- Continuing for a long time; strong, lasting, and durable.

COMPREHENSION

What is Dexter's conflict at the beginning of Chapter 27?

What do readers learn about Archie's driving in Chapter 27? Would you want to ride with him? Explain.

What is Dexter prepared to do at the school board meeting in Chapter 27? What is Dexter's reaction when he learns the letter from the board is a forgery?

How does Gianna come through for Dexter in Chapter 28? Why do you think the FBI flies in at the end of Chapter 28?

THURSDAY, CHAPTER 29-30

VOCABULARY

Redemption- The act of making up for past mistakes, bad choices, or poor behavior to regain trust and respect.

Coexist- To live, work, or exist together peacefully in the same space despite having major differences.

Invaluable- Extremely useful, precious, or important; having worth too great to be measured.

Harmony- A state of peaceful agreement, balance, and positive cooperation

Resilience- The ability to bounce back, recover, and stay strong after facing difficulties or setbacks.

COMPREHENSION

Why does the FBI come to the school board meeting? How does the situation with the FBI end?
What is Dexter's answer to Ms. Napier's question, and how does the student body react?
How does Dexter feel about Jackson once he realizes he sent the fake letter?
What news does Dexter get at the end of Chapter 29 and what does he discover?
What is the relationship between Dexter and Teagan in Chapter 30?

FAMILY CONNECTION

THINK ABOUT A FAMILY MEMBER WHO MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO YOU. EITHER TALK WITH THEM AND TELL THEM, OR WRITE THEM A LETTER TO LET THEM KNOW HOW MUCH THEY MEAN TO YOU AND WHY YOU VALUE THEM.

REFLECT

CONSIDER WAYS THAT YOU HAVE CHANGED IN THE LAST YEAR. HOW DID YOU CHANGE AND WHAT CAUSED THE CHANGE?

BOOK TRAILER

SKETCH A STORYBOARD AND CREATE A BOOK TRAILER THAT ENCOURAGES OTHERS TO READ OLD SCHOOL. CONSIDER WHAT YOU'D POINT OUT TO POTENTIAL READERS WITHOUT GIVING AWAY THE ENDING.

ART PROJECT

CREATE A TIMELINE OF DEXTER'S GROWTH ACROSS THE BOOK, BEGINNING AT THE PINES AND ENDING WITH ATTENDING WOLF'S EYE MIDDLE SCHOOL. TRACK HIS CHANGES.