

Parents of Incoming 5th Graders,

Your child's summer reading novel is, "Number the Stars." This novel is a historical fiction about how the Danish citizens saved the Jews living in Denmark during the Nazi occupation of WW2.

Your child will answer questions that are focused on various story elements such as character, setting, and plot. The questions are to help monitor your child's understanding of the text, and to ensure they are ready to complete the graded in class assignment at the beginning of school. Responses should be written in complete statements.

Enjoy the summer, but don't forget to read.

Mrs. Debby Soileau



## Number the Stars - Reading Comprehension Questions

**Due: Monday, May 16th 2022.** Remember to answer in complete sentences or points will be deducted.

### **Chapter 1**

1. What advice did Mrs. Rosen give the girls about behaving outside?
2. How did Annemarie show her dislike of the German soldiers occupying her country?
3. Why isn't Kirsti afraid of the soldiers?
4. Why do you think the "Free Danes" newspaper was important in Denmark during the war years?

### **Chapter 2**

1. What happened to Annemarie's sister, Lise?
2. Why does Peter visit the Johansen's?
3. Why didn't the Danish army fight the Germans when they invaded Denmark?
4. Annemarie believes that ordinary people, like her, don't have to be brave. Do you agree or disagree with her?

### **Chapter 3**

1. What did Annemarie realize about her friend Ellen after Peter's visit?
2. What items were being rationed and why?
3. What happened to Mrs. Hirsch?
4. Why did the girls always take a different route to school?

### **Chapter 4**

1. Why was Kirsti so upset at the beginning of the chapter?
2. What made the Tivoli gardens close?
3. Kirsti said she remembered the "Tivoli fireworks", but what were the fireworks really?
4. Why do you think Ms. Johansen lied about the fireworks to Kirsti?

### **Chapter 5**

1. What was Annemarie told about the death of her older sister Lise?
2. Why did the German soldiers come to the Johansen's apartment looking for the Rosen's?
3. How did Mr. Johansen convince the German soldiers that Ellen was not a Jewish girl hiding?
4. Why was it important that Ellen remove her Star of David necklace?

### **Chapter 6**

1. Why were the girls kept home from school after the visit by the German soldiers?
2. Where did Mrs. Johansen, Annemarie, Kirsti, and Ellen travel? Why didn't Mr. Johansen go with them?
3. Why was Annemarie worried when the soldiers questioned them on the train?
4. Why did they travel to Uncle Henrik's house?

### **Chapter 7**

1. What did Annemarie do with Ellen's necklace?
2. Why did Mrs. Johansen tease her brother Henrik?
3. Why did Mrs. Johansen ask the girls if they saw anyone while playing near the shore?
4. What does the sea represent for Ellen and her family?

### **Chapter 8**

1. How did the girls spend their full day at the farm?
2. How did Annemarie make fun of the German soldiers?
3. Why was Annemarie surprised by Uncle Henrik's announcement that there was to be a funeral?
4. What is the old custom when someone dies? What did the family have to do to prepare for the funeral?

### **Chapter 9-10**

1. What did Annemarie learn about Aunt Birte?
2. Why didn't Annemarie tell Ellen the truth?
3. Why did the German soldiers come to Uncle Henrik's house?
4. How did Mrs. Johansen stop the German soldiers from looking in the casket?

### **Chapter 11-12**

1. Where were the Rosens and the other strangers going?
2. What was the purpose of Aunt Birte's funeral?
3. What promise did Ellen make to Annemarie?
4. What advice on walking the trail did Mrs. Johansen give the Rosens?

### **Chapter 13-14**

1. What happened to Mrs. Johansen on her way back from Uncle Henrik's boat?
2. What had Mr. Rosen dropped at Uncle Henrik's house?
3. What fairy tale did Annemarie remember on the trail to Uncle Henrik's boat?
4. Why did Annemarie have to be brave when she met the soldiers?

### **Chapter 15-16**

1. What was in the basket that helped fool the Germans into thinking it was Uncle Henrik's lunch?
2. Why did Annemarie behave like Kirsti when she was stopped by the German soldiers?
3. What did Annemarie learn about Peter from Uncle Henrik?
4. What do you think life will be like in Sweden for the Rosens?

### **Chapter 17/Afterword**

1. Why was everyone celebrating in Denmark?
2. What happened to Peter?
3. What did Annemarie learn about Lise?
4. What does Annemarie wearing Ellen's necklace show?