

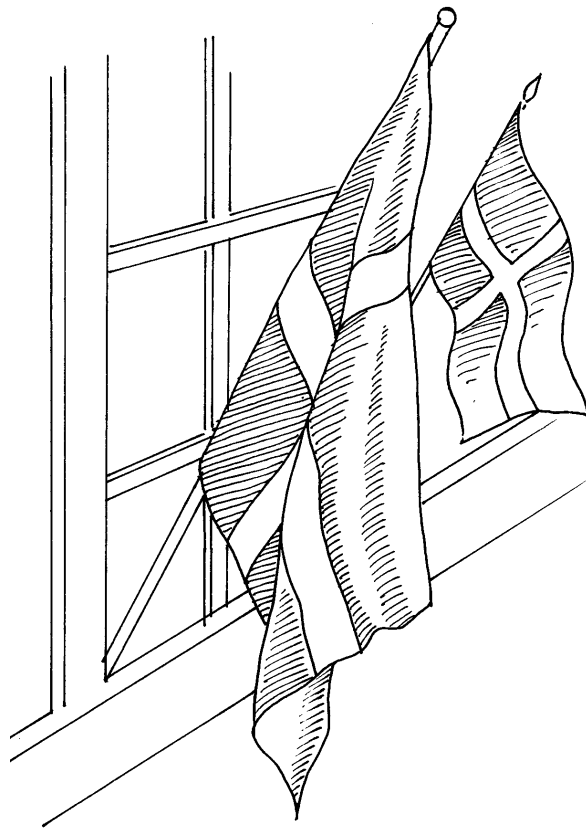
Literature Circle Guide:

Number the Stars

by Tara McCarthy

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Contents

To the Teacher	4
Using the <i>Literature Circle Guides</i> in Your Classroom	5
Setting Up Literature Response Journals	7
The Good Discussion	8
About <i>Number the Stars</i>	9
About the Author: Lois Lowry	9
Enrichment Readings: World War II and the Holocaust, Underground Movements, Historical Fiction	10
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Before Reading the Book	13
Group Discussion Reproducible: Before Reading the Book	14
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 1-2	15
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 1-2	16
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 3-4	17
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 3-4	18
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 5-6	19
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 5-6	20
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 7-8	21
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 7-8	22
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 9-10	23
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 9-10	24
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 11-12	25
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 11-12	26
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 13-14	27
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 13-14	28
Literature Response Journal Reproducible: Chapters 15-17	29
Group Discussion Reproducible: Chapters 15-17	30
Reproducible: After Reading	31
Reproducible: Individual Projects	32
Reproducible: Group Projects	32
Literature Discussion Evaluation Sheet	33

Name _____ Date _____

*Number the Stars***Chapters 1–2****Reading Strategy: Asking Questions**

As you're just getting into a good book, you usually find yourself asking questions about the characters, the setting, and the events. It's the search for answers that keeps you turning the pages. Write down your questions as you read and note the answers when you come to them later in the story. Jot down the questions you have so far about *Number the Stars*.

Writing in Your Literature Response Journal

A. Write about one of these topics in your journal. Circle the topic you chose.

1. Annemarie's sister, Lise, died three years before the story opens. What questions do you have about her death?
2. What are the differences between the reactions of Annemarie, Ellen, and Kirsti to the Nazi soldiers? How do you account for these differences?
3. Annemarie feels that "the whole world has changed." What does she mean? What specific aspects of her day-to-day life are different than they were a few years ago?

B. What were your predictions, questions, observations, and connections as you read? Write about one of them in your journal. Check the response you chose.

Prediction Question Observation Connection

Name _____ Date _____

Number the Stars

Chapters 1–2

For Your Discussion Group

- * Although members of the Danish Resistance probably would not answer you, discuss what questions you'd like to ask them anyway. What special qualities do you think Resistance members had to have?
- * Danes who were not members of the Resistance had to cope with the Nazi invasion in their own ways. Discuss how they had to alter their behavior.
- * Discuss the differences between life in Copenhagen and life in the fairy tale world that Annemarie tells Kirsti about. How might these fantasy stories help Annemarie as well as her sister?



Writer's Craft: Atmosphere

Atmosphere is the general feeling or mood in a work of literature. Writers create atmosphere by using imagery and descriptions. For example, the description of the Nazi soldiers as they stop the girls sets up an atmosphere of danger and fear.

In contrast, there's an atmosphere of happiness and pride in the descriptions of King Christian. In these two chapters, as in the rest of the book, you'll find many places in which the atmosphere changes very suddenly, for example, from comfort to menace. How might these sudden changes be an accurate picture of life during wartime?