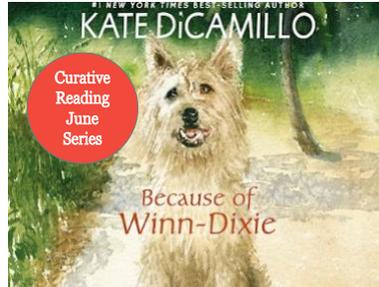


**Curative Reading**  
***Because of Winn-Dixie*, By Kate DiCamillo**  
**Week Two Questions**  
**Reading Chapters 7-13**



***Special Note For Answering Week Two Questions:*** *One of the many benefits of reading, and especially reading aloud, is that it calms our central nervous system and activates our parasympathetic healing mode enabling us to return to a state of rest and restore. Practice reading aloud and see how it feels to you. How does your body feel before, during and after reading aloud? The research shows that reading silently or aloud for just six minutes reduces stress up to 68%, more than listening to music, taking a walk, or having a cup of tea!*

**Chapter 7**

Imagine yourself as ten-year-old child in present day 2022 being told you could have *anything you wanted* for your birthday. *Anything at all.* Write a line or two about what you would ask for.

**Chapter 8**

“All of a sudden, I felt happy ... I didn’t feel so lonely anymore.” What are the things that changed for Opal in this chapter to make her feel less lonely?

Is there a time you can recall in your past (or something you can imagine for your future) that has helped (or could help you) to find happiness and connection? If so, write a line or two about the things that changed (or could change) for you.

### **Chapter 9**

Opal tells us a story in this chapter about how Winn-Dixie introduced her to Gloria Dump. Write down the names of all the characters in the story she tells us in this chapter? What storytelling techniques stand out to you? How well do you think Opal/Kate DiCamillo tells this story to us as readers?

### **Chapter 10**

Opal says this at the opening of the chapter... “I told Gloria Dump everything.” Think of a time when you have been either Opal or Gloria Dump telling or listening deeply with another person, and then write a line or two about it. If you can’t think of a time, open yourself up to this experience happening for you in the month of June.

### **Chapter 11**

We learn in this chapter that Winn-Dixie has a fear of thunderstorms that goes beyond normal fear. The preacher tells Opal, in order to keep Winn-Dixie safe they will have to keep an eye on him during summer storms to make sure he does not get out. Think of someone in your own life who has an extraordinary fear. What is that fear about and how do you (or can you) keep them feeling safe?

### **Chapter 12**

Opal is collecting stories for her mama in this chapter, the kind she would like, that would make her laugh out loud. Pick one person in your own life who you can collect a good story for this week and do this. Be on the lookout for a story. Pay attention to how you feel as your story comes your way. Notice all the details as it unfolds in the present moment. Maybe even make some notes about your story so that you can share it with your person at the end of the day or sometime during the week.

### **Chapter 13**

Why does Opal say she feels like a soldier who had been fighting a hard battle by the time she got to Gloria Dumps yard each day?