

Skinnnybones by Barbara Park is a chapter book. This book is comical and contains humorous characters. It is great for guided reading or read aloud. This comprehension packet includes vocabulary, comprehension questions, and allows for questions and comments after each chapter. It also includes a quiz for the end of the book, a crossword puzzle, wordsearch, and a key.

Skinnybones (O)

By: Barbara Park

Name: _____

Chapter 1

Vocabulary

frustrated (5)-

sifted (5)-

annoyed (6)-

ridiculous (8)-

fib (10)-

Questions

1. What did Alex tell his mom about the Kitty Fritter's all over the kitchen floor?
2. Why does he do this?
3. Does she believe him?
4. Why not?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 2

Vocabulary:

panicked (13) -

motioned (15)-

Questions

1. How would you describe Alex's personality?
2. Why do you think Alex likes to make people laugh?
3. Who is TJ Stoner?
4. Does Alex like him?

5. Why or why not?

6. What might you have in common with Alex?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 3

Vocabulary

promenade (20)-

sportsmanship (22)-

figured (22)-

applause (23)-

Questions

1. Do you think that Alex secretly wishes that he and TJ were friends?

2. Why didn't Alex want to get the Most Improved Player award again?

3. What did he do when they announced he won the award?

4. How did he feel about winning again?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 4

Vocabulary

arranged(30) -

relieved (30)-

rushed (31)-

Questions

1. Why did Alex order a shirt that was too big for him?
2. Why does he wish he were bigger?
3. What happened when the shirts came in?
4. Have you ever wished you were different? How?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 5

Vocabulary

impressed(35)-

beaned (36)-

official (37)-

Questions

1. What sport does Alex play?
2. Is he good?

3. What kind of contest are TJ and Alex going to have?
4. Who do you think will win?
5. How do you think Alex is feeling about the contest?
6. Have you ever felt that way? Why?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 6

Vocabulary

insulting(42)-

perfect (43)-

interference(47)-

squinty (47)-

embarrassed (50)-

Questions

1. Why does Alex see if he can help Mrs. Grayson clean the boards and erasers after school?
2. He does TJ pitch in the contest?
3. What happens when Alex pitches?
4. Why do you think Alex says, "I wouldn't want to walk home with me either." How is he feeling?

Questions or Comments

Chapter 7

Vocabulary

snapped (56)-

tremendous (57)-

decided (58)-

ignored (59)-

accidentally (60)-

pounced (60)-

Questions

1. Why do you think Alex always bunts?

2. How is Alex feeling about the game on Saturday?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 8

Vocabulary

usually (61)-

humiliating (62)-

confused (63)-

dragged (65)-

Questions

1. What are some differences between TJ and Alex's baseball teams?
2. How does Alex feel about his whole class coming to watch his game on Saturday? Why?
3. What does Alex do to try and get his parents attention?
4. Why does he do this?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 9

Vocabulary

packed (68)-

important (69)-

doomed (69)-

grounder (72)-

Write the above vocabulary words in sentences on the lines below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Questions

1. Why is there a news team at the baseball game?

2. How does that make Alex feel?
3. What does Alex do to try to get the news team to leave?
4. Does it work?
5. How did Alex do warming up?
6. How does this make him feel?

Questions or Comments?

Chapter 10

Vocabulary

confused (75)-

huddle (76)-

concentrate (78)-

encourage (78)-

recognize (79)-

suddenly (79)-

panicked (79)-

whizzed (84)-

Questions

1. How does TJ's team do in the first inning?

2. What does Alex do to try to motivate his team?
3. Does it work?
4. What does Alex do when the ball comes to him?
5. What would you have done?
6. Why was Alex nervous when it was TJs turn to bat?
7. What did he say when the ball came?
8. Why did he say that?
9. How does Alex's coach react to this?
10. What happened when it was Alex's turn at bat?
11. What did he do so he could make it to first base?
12. Did you agree with what Alex did?
13. What did Alex do to embarrass TJ?
14. Why did he do this?

Chapter 11

Vocabulary

hermit (91)-

flattened (92)-

aroma (94)-

Questions

1. What does Alex do when he gets home?
2. Why does he do this?
3. How do Alex's parents react to this?
4. What finally caused Alex to come out of his room?
5. Do you think there might have been any other reasons he might have come out of his room?

Questions or Comments

Chapter 12

Vocabulary

spare (100)-

fortunate (101)-

popular (101)-

allergic (103)-

proud (107)-

puzzled (110)-

Questions

1. What does Alex do hoping he won't have to go to school?
3. Does it work? Why not?
4. Why doesn't Alex want to go to school?
5. Why does Alex's fish die?
6. Why do you think this has happened more than once?
7. What happens when Alex gets to school?
8. What was announced over the loudspeaker to Alex's class?
9. How does Alex feel about this?
10. What is Alex afraid might happen when he does the commercial?
11. What does Alex want to be when he grows up?
12. Do you think he would be good at that? Why or Why not?

Name: _____

Skinnybones Quiz

1. Who is Skinnybones?

2. Which sentence most describes Skinnybones?
 - a. a boy who just wants to be liked
 - b. an angry boy who gets into trouble
 - c. a boy who is a great athlete

3. Which of the following words best describes an anxious feeling?
 - a. sad
 - b. happy
 - c. nervous

4. Write a retell of Skinnybones?

SKINNYBONES KEY

Chapter 1

Vocabulary

frustrated- angry

sifted- went through

annoyed- irritated

ridiculous- absurd or silly

fib- lie

Questions

What did Alex tell his mom about the Kitty Fritter's all over the kitchen floor?
Alex said the cat did it.

Why does he do this?
Alex doesn't want to get in trouble.

Does she believe him? No.

Why not? The cat was with her.

Chapter 2

Vocabulary:

panicked- a sudden scared or anxious feeling

motioned- a movement with your hands or body to show something

Questions

How would you describe Alex's personality?
Alex has a sense of humor, he likes to be funny, etc.

Why do you think Alex likes to make people laugh?
He likes positive attention, etc.

Who is TJ Stoner?
TJ Stoner is a classmate of Alex's. He also plays baseball.

Does Alex like him?
No.

Why or why not?
Alex thinks TJ thinks he is better than him.

What might you have in common with Alex?
Answers vary.

Chapter 3

Vocabulary

promenade- a way to dance formally

sportsmanship- your attitude towards sports such as playing fair, being happy for winners, not being a sore loser

figured- concluded

applause- clapping

Questions

Do you think that Alex secretly wishes that he and TJ were friends?
Answers vary.

Why didn't Alex want to get the Most Improved Player award again?
Because it would mean that he went from stink-o to smelly again.

What did he do when they announced he won the award?
He tried to hide.

How did he feel about winning again?
He didn't want to win. He had already won that award and it mean that he went from being really bad to a only a little bad.

Chapter 4

Vocabulary

arranged(30) – put in an order

relieved (30)- calmed

rushed (31)- hurried

Questions

1. Why did Alex order a shirt that was too big for him?
Alex ordered a shirt that was too big for him because he wishes he were big. He is embarrassed to order a small.

2. Why does he wish he were bigger?
He wishes he were bigger so people would respect him.

3. What happened when the shirts came in?
The coach had ordered Alex a small. Alex took a large shirt and then had to switch shirts.

4. Have you ever wished you were different? How?

Answers will vary.

Chapter 5

Vocabulary

impressed(35)- did well

beaned (36)- get hit with the ball

official (37)- authoritative position

Questions

1. What sport does Alex play?
Alex plays baseball.

2. Is he good?
No.

3. What kind of contest are TJ and Alex going to have?
TJ and Alex are going to have a pitching contest.

4. Who do you think will win?
Answers vary.

5. How do you think Alex is feeling about the contest?
Scared, nervous, etc.

6. Have you ever felt that way? Why?
Answers vary.

Chapter 6

Vocabulary

insulting(42)- hurt or offended

perfect (43)- nothing wrong with it

interference(47)- get in the way of something

squinty (47)- eyes are partly closed like the sun is shining into them

embarrassed (50)- feel nervous about something

Questions

1. Why does Alex see if he can help Mrs. Grayson clean the boards and erasers after school?
So he won't have to go to the contest.

2. He does TJ pitch in the contest?
TJ pitches perfect in the contest.

3. What happens when Alex pitches?
Alex first pitch doesn't make it. His second ball landed behind him.

4. Why do you think Alex says, "I wouldn't want to walk home with me either." How is he feeling? Alex is feeling bad about himself. He feels like he is a "loser".

Chapter 7

Vocabulary

snapped (56)- cracked in two

tremendous (57)- very big or amazing

decided (58)- made a decision about something

ignored (59)- give no attention to

accidentally (60)- not on purpose

pounced (60)- jump on

Questions

1. Why do you think Alex always bunts?
Alex always bunts because it is safe.

2. How is Alex feeling about the game on Saturday?
Alex is feeling nervous or scared.

Chapter 8

Vocabulary

usually (61)- happens regularly

humiliating (62)- embarrassing

confused (63)- unsure, things don't make sense

dragged (65)- pulled unwillingly

Questions

1. What are some differences between TJ and Alex's baseball teams?
TJ's team always wins and Alex's team always loses.

2. How does Alex feel about his whole class coming to watch his game on Saturday? Why?
Alex is feeling scared and nervous because he doesn't want his class to see him lose.

3. What does Alex do to try and get his parents attention?
Alex pretends he can't walk.

4. Why does he do this?
Alex pretends he can't walk so he won't have to go to the game.

Chapter 9

Vocabulary

packed (68)- full

important (69)- valuable or significant

doomed (69)- no way out of trouble

grounder (72)- ball that rolls on the ground

Sentences: Answers vary.

Questions

1. Why is there a news team at the baseball game?

There is a news team at the game because it will be TJ Stoner's 125th win.

2. How does that make Alex feel?

That makes Alex even more worried.

3. What does Alex do to try to get the news team to leave?

Alex tries to make a deal with god because he doesn't want the whole world to see him lose.

4. Does it work?

No.

5. How did Alex do warming up?

Alex did really good warming up.

6. How does this make him feel?

Great!

Chapter 10

Vocabulary

confused (75)- unsure

huddle (76)- crowded together in a group

concentrate (78)- focus your thoughts or movements

encourage (78)- give hope or confidence to

recognize (79)- see someone or something you know

suddenly (79)- happens right away

panicked (79)- sudden feeling of anxiety or nervousness

whizzed (84)- goes by quickly

Questions

1. How does TJ's team do in the first inning?

TJ teams does very well.

2. What does Alex do to try to motivate his team?

Alex starts yelling words of encouragement to motivate his team.

3. Does it work?

No, Alex's team starts to get angry.

4. What does Alex do when the ball comes to him?

Alex catches the ball, then drops it and it rolls back.

5. What would you have done?

Answers vary.

6. Why was Alex nervous when it was TJs turn to bat?

Alex was nervous because he knew the ball would come to him.

7. What did he say when the ball came?

He says, "He hit it, let him get it!"

8. Why did he say that?

Alex says that to try to be funny so people would laugh and forget that he didn't catch the ball.

9. How does Alex's coach react to this?

Alex's coach is angry.

10. What happened when it was Alex's turn at bat?

The ball hit the corner of his bat and started rolling towards 1st base.

11. What did he do so he could make it to first base?

He yelled "booga booga" at the 1st baseman.

12. Did you agree with what Alex did?

Answers vary.

13. What did Alex do to embarrass TJ?

Alex went up to him yelled "booga booga" and started tickling him.

14. Why did he do this?

To embarrass TJ because he was angry that TJ was laughing at him.

Chapter 11

Vocabulary

hermit (91)- a person who lives along and has no communication with the outside world

flattened (92)- has no bumps

aroma (94)- a smell

Questions

1. What does Alex do when he gets home?

Alex goes and locks himself in his bedroom.

2. Why does he do this?

He is embarrassed about what happened.

3. How do Alex's parents react to this?

Alex's parents ignore it.

4. What finally caused Alex to come out of his room?

He was hungry and had to go to the bathroom.

5. Do you think there might have been any other reasons he might have come out of his room?

Yes, perhaps he knew he would have to come out sooner or later, or just wanted to get it over with.

Chapter 12

Vocabulary

spare (100)- extra

fortunate (101)- lucky

popular (101)- likeable

allergic (103)- have a reaction to

proud (107)- feel pleased about

puzzled (110)- confused

Questions

1. What does Alex do hoping he won't have to go to school?

Alex pretends he got food poisoning.

2. Does it work? Why not?

It does not work because he gets distracted when he finds out his fish died and forgets to keep acting like he has food poisoning.

3. Why doesn't Alex want to go to school?

Alex doesn't want to face his classmates who saw or heard about Saturday's game.

4. Why does Alex's fish die?

Alex's fish died because he overfed it.

5. Why do you think this has happened more than once?

Alex can be careless and get distracted. He thought are focused on other things, etc.

6. What happens when Alex gets to school?

Everyone starts to make fun of Alex when he gets to school.

7. What was announced over the loudspeaker to Alex's class?

Over the loudspeaker, it was announced that Alex won the Kitty Fritters Commercial contest.

8. How does Alex feel about this?

Alex is surprised, he entered the contest as a joke.

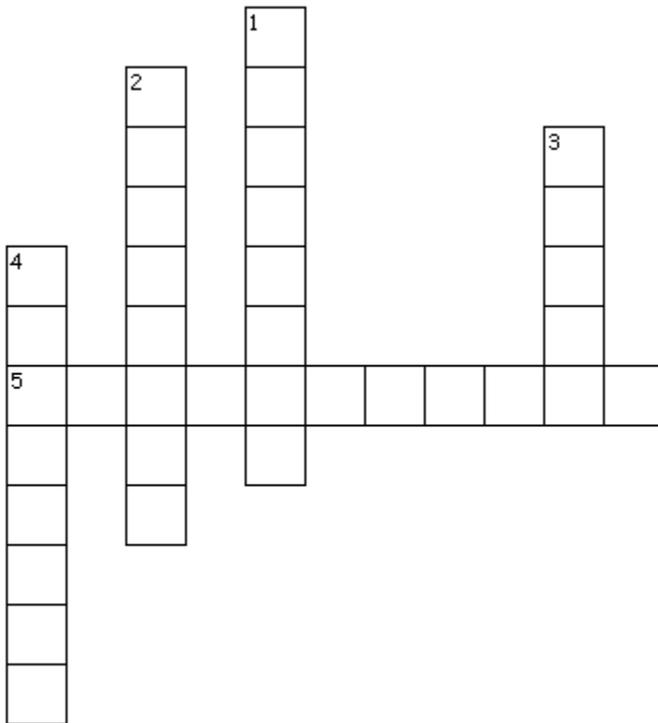
9. What is Alex afraid might happen when he does the commercial?

Alex is afraid they will make him dress up like a Kitty Fritter and dance or do something that will make him look stupid.

10. What does Alex want to be when he grows up?
Alex wants to be a comedian.

11. Do you think he would be good at that? Why or Why not?
Answers vary.

Skinnybones1



Across

5. What is Alex's nickname?

Down

1. What contest to Alex and TJ have?

2. Alex wants to be a _____.

3. What size shirt does Alex order?

4. What sport does Alex play?

Skinnybones 1-2

E M B A R R A S S E D G P T P
D V C D P P O T U D C I D R X
E A S O R O D W E K H Y O E F
S I C O N R U G W S K M F M Q
I L U L X C N N N G E O I E Y
R D K L E A E A C N V G M N U
P K S Q R T M N A E V D N D O
R J W R J S A D T C D Q S O G
U M A T T U E N E R P W B U B
S M O R O Q D N U B A G K S E
V F O V R G N O S T P T H B A
Z P S N A P P E D P R E E W N
S G X B B P A M O R A O M W E
G K E G A R U O C N E D F Z D
W W I V K P J I J M O H B X Z

AROMA
CONCENTRATE
FORTUNATE
PROUD
SURPRISED

ARRANGED
EMBARRASSED
POUNCED
SNAPPED
TREMENDOUS

BEANED
ENCOURAGE
PROMENADE
SPORTSMANSHIP