

Grades 4-6

97 Open-ended question cards  
for discussion and writing.

# WONDER

By R.J. Palacio

WONDER

August's parents often use humor to cope with difficult situations. Give an example of a time when they used humor and how it helped.

Part 1 August

WONDER

39

At the end of Part Four, Justin says, "the universe takes care of all its little birds." What did he mean by that? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Part 5 Justin



Why do you think the author chose to tell the story from several different points of view?

59

Book



## Question Cards

Rachel Lynette



# WONDER Discussion/Writing Prompt Cards

Here are 97 open-ended question cards to enhance your reading of the amazing novel, *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. There are three types of cards included:

- Cards 1-58 are meant to be used while reading the book. The cards are correlated with specific parts (narrators) which are noted at the bottom of each card.
- Cards 59-75 focus on characters, themes, and other elements that run through the whole book. These are best used after you have read the entire book.
- The final 12 cards are Mr. Browne's Precepts (10 months plus Summer and Auggie's precepts)

Because these cards are meant for discussion or as writing prompts, they are not simple comprehension questions. Rather, they require students to explain, infer, analyze and evaluate. Many of these cards require students to support their answers with evidence from the text. Others ask students to form an opinion about a character or event. A few ask students to put themselves in a character's shoes or to reflect on their own feelings.

The precept cards are also great for discussion. Or you could follow Mr. Browne's lead and discuss one each month and then have your students write an essay about what the precept means to them.

## Printing and Cutting:

These cards were made to be printed in color, but will print out fine in gray scale too. They should print out with even margins around the cards; however, because every printer is different, it is possible that you may need to adjust your printer settings. Selecting "actual size" or adjusting the size percentage should do the trick. Cut the cards apart using the dotted guidelines (discarding the bottom strip). Laminate if possible. Another option is to print on cardstock.

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Addresses every RL Common Core Standard

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Grades 3-8 Lit cards for any book, each with a different open-ended question!

## "LIT SPARKS"

Reading Response Question

### Task Cards

Grades 3-6 1/2 half-page story cards plus answer sheets for multiple choice or short answer responses

## Find the Theme

### Task Cards

## Minds in BLOOM

Task Cards & More to Make Learning Fun!

by Rachel Lynette

clip art and fonts:



# WONDER

1

What do you think August means when he says, "the only reason I'm not ordinary is that no one else sees me that way"?

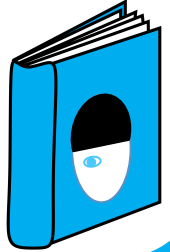


Part I: August

# WONDER

2

In the car, when his parents think August is asleep, his dad says that sending him off to school is "like a lamb to the slaughter." Why does he use that idiom and what does it mean?



Part I: August

# WONDER

3

Why do you think August makes such a big deal out of birthday parties?



Part I: August

# WONDER

4

Do you think August should go to school?

Why or why not?



Part I: August

# WONDER

5

August's parents often use humor to cope with difficult situations. Give an example of a time when they used humor and how it helped.



Part I: August

# WONDER

6

What does August mean when he talks about Mrs. Garcia's "shiny smile"?

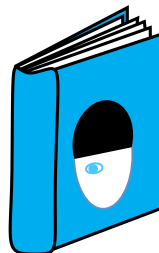


Part I: August

# WONDER

7

After reading about the school tour, what are your first impressions of Jack, Julian, and Charlotte?



Part I: August

# WONDER

8

Why do you think Mr. Browne selected the September precept, "When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind"?



Part I: August

# WONDER

9

Why do you think Summer decided to sit next to August at lunch?



Part I: August

# WONDER

10

Why did August have a Padawan braid and why do you think he cut it off?

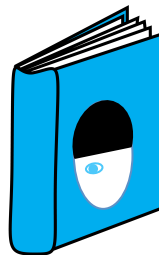


Part I: August

# WONDER

11

Why does August love Halloween so much?



Part I: August

# WONDER

12

Do you think that Jack Will meant what he said about August on Halloween? Why or why not?



Part I: August

# WONDER

13

How is Via's life different because her brother has special needs? How does Via feel about how August impacts her life?



Part 2: Via

# WONDER

14

Why doesn't Via see August the way that other people do?



Part 2: Via

# WONDER

15

Why do you think the author has Via describe what August looks like rather than August himself?

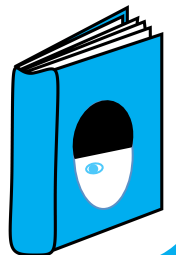


Part 2: Via

# WONDER

16

How did reading about how August looks make you feel?



Part 2: Via

# WONDER

17

Via thinks that now that August is ten, the family should stop babying him and that he needs to grow up. Do you agree or disagree? Why?



Part 2: Via

# WONDER

18

Things are not the same with Ella and Miranda on the first day of high school. How do you think Via feels? How would you feel?



Part 2: Via

# WONDER

19

Why do you think August agreed to go back to school after talking with Via?

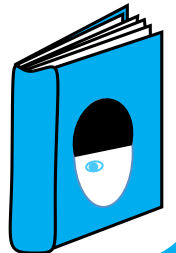


Part 2: Via

# WONDER

20

If you were August, would you go back to school? Why or why not?



Part 2: Via



# WONDER

21

Why do you think Summer is friends with August?

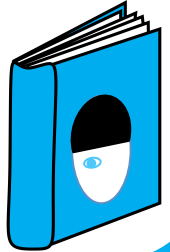


Part 3: Summer

# WONDER

22

Do you think the kids who were playing the Plague game were doing it to be mean to August? Why or why not?

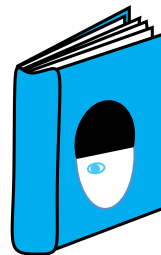


Part 3: Summer

# WONDER

23

Why did Summer leave Savannah's Halloween party early?

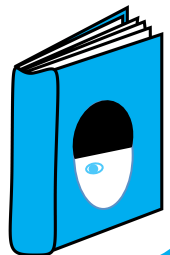


Part 3: Summer

# WONDER

24

Would you want to be friends with Summer? Why or why not?



Part 3: Summer

# WONDER

25

Why didn't Jack want to show August around the school at first? Why did he change his mind?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

26

What are some of the reasons that Jack wants to be friends with August?

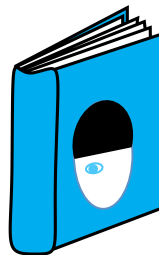


Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

27

How does Jack feel when August won't talk to him anymore?

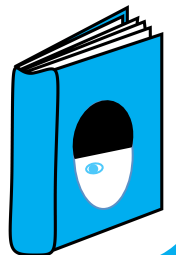


Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

28

Why was the part about Jack finding Lightning important to the story?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

29

Why did Jack punch Julian? Do you think it was the right thing to do? Why or why not?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

30

How do you think Mr. Tushman feels about Jack? What makes you think so?

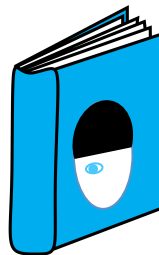


Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

31

Why do you think August forgave Jack?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

32

Do you think Jack should have sat with August at lunch on the first day of school? Why or why not?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

33

What do you think about the Boy War? Do you think this is something that would realistically happen at a middle school?



Part 4: Jack

# WONDER

34

Why do you think the author doesn't use upper case letters for Justin's part of the book?



Part 5: Justin

# WONDER

35

What are some of the differences between Justin's family and Via's family?



Part 5: Justin

# WONDER

36

Why do you think the author gave Justin tics? Why do you think they went away by the time he was finished eating dinner with Via's family?

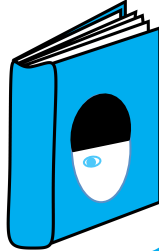


Part 5: Justin

# Wonder

37

After seeing Miranda through Via, August, and Justin's eyes, what do you think of her? How would you describe her?



Part 5: Justin

# Wonder

38

Why didn't Via tell her family about the show she is in?



Part 5: Justin

# Wonder

39

At the end of Part Four, Justin says, "the universe takes care of all its little birds." What did he mean by that? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

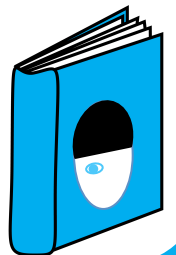


Part 5: Justin

# Wonder

40

Explain why August compares the way people react to him to dealing with rainy weather.



Part 6: August

# WONDER

41

What was the difference between the kinds of notes that Julian wrote and the ones that August and Jack wrote?



Part 6: August

# WONDER

42

Why do you think the other kids were getting tired of the Boy War?

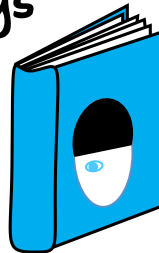


Part 6: August

# WONDER

43

By March, the other kids at August's school are being much nicer to him. Why do you think things have changed?



Part 6: August

# WONDER

44

Why do you think the author included Daisy? How was Daisy important to the story?



Part 6: August

# WONDER

45

Miranda believes she “kind of earned the right to think of August as her brother.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?



Part 7: Miranda

# WONDER

46

How do you think Miranda feels about hanging out with the popular kids? What makes you think so?

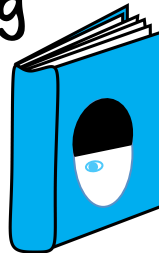


Part 7: Miranda

# WONDER

47

How do you think it made Miranda feel to know that no one she cared about would be at her opening night?

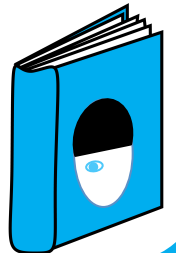


Part 7: Miranda

# WONDER

48

Why do you think Miranda pretended to be sick so Via could play her part?

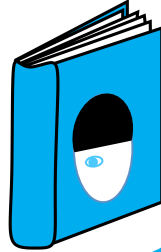


Part 7: Miranda

# WONDER

49

Why was August nervous about going to the nature camp?



Part 7: Miranda

# WONDER

50

Why do you think Amos, Miles, and Henry defended August and Jack against the 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the cornfield?

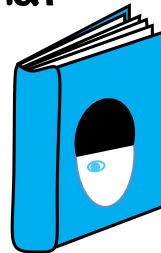


Part 8: August

# WONDER

51

What do you think would have happened if Amos, Miles, and Henry had not been in the cornfield that night?

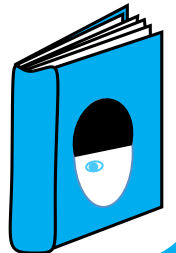


Part 8: August

# WONDER

52

What does August's mom say when he asks if he will always have to worry about jerks, even when he grows up? Do you agree or disagree with what she says? Why or why not?



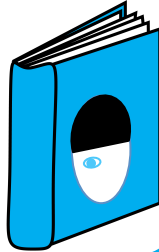
Part 8: August



# WONDER

53

How would you describe Mr. Tushman?



Part 6: August

# WONDER

54

What do you think about August's Dad throwing away his astronaut helmet? Was it wrong of him to do it? Why or why not?

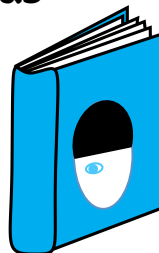


Part 6: August

# WONDER

55

In his speech, Mr. Tushman talks about being "a little kinder than is necessary." Give some examples from the book of when someone was a little kinder than was necessary.

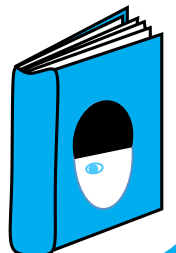


Part 6: August

# WONDER

56

Why do you think Mr. Tushman got chocked up while presenting the Henry Ward Beecher Award

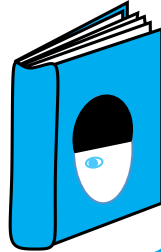


Part 6: August

# WONDER

57

August won the Henry Ward Beecher Award for being “the student whose quiet strength has carried up the most hearts.” Give some examples from the story that show why he deserved the award.



Part 6: August

# WONDER

58

Why do you think the author chose to end the book with August’s mom saying, “You really are a wonder, Auggie. You are a wonder”?



Part 6: August

# WONDER

59

Why do you think the author chose to tell the story from several different points of view?



Whole Book

# WONDER

60

All of the narrators are kids or teens. Why do you think the author did not include a chapter narrated by one of August’s parents, Mr. Tushman, or another adult?



Whole Book

# WONDER

61

Why do you think the author did not include Julian as a narrator? How would the story have changed if she had?



Whole Book

# WONDER

62

How does August help other people to feel more comfortable with how he looks? Give examples from the book.

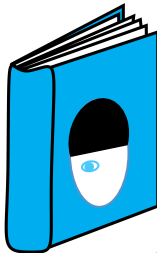


Whole Book

# WONDER

63

How do the members of August's family help him throughout the year? Give examples from the book.



Whole Book

# WONDER

64

Why do you think Julian was so mean to August?



Whole Book

# WONDER

65

Why do you think the other boys followed Julian's lead in being mean to August and later to Jack?



Whole Book

# WONDER

66

Both Summer and Jack had to choose between being August's friend and being a part of the popular group. Why did they choose August?

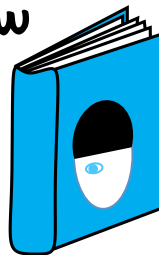


Whole Book

# WONDER

67

At the start of the book, Via felt that her family treated August too much like a baby. What are some ways that August grew up during the course of the story?



Whole Book

# WONDER

68

What parts of the story made you feel sad? What parts made you feel happy?



Whole Book

# WONDER

69

Which character do you relate the most to? Why?



Whole Book

# WONDER

70

Which precept can you most relate too? Why?



Whole Book

# WONDER

71

Select one of the Post Card Precepts and tell why you think that character wrote or selected it.

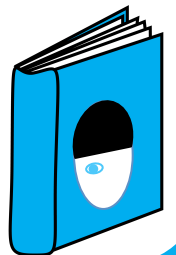


Whole Book

# WONDER

72

Why do you think people are often unkind to people who are different?



Whole Book

# WONDER

73

In what ways have you been, or could you be, "a little kinder than necessary"?

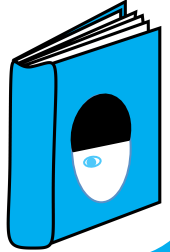


Whole Book

# WONDER

74

If August had gone to your school, how do you think you would have treated him?

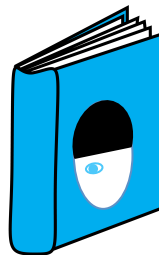


Whole Book

# WONDER

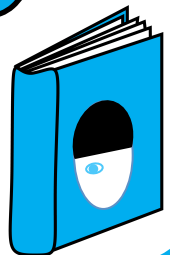
75

What was the most important thing you learned from this book?



Whole Book

# WONDER Question Cards



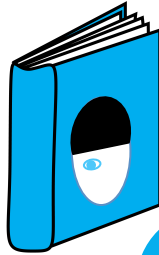
WONDER

## Precepts

September

*When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind.*

-Dr. Wayne Dyer



WONDER

## Precepts

October

*Your deeds are your monuments.*

-Inscription on ancient Egyptian tomb



WONDER

## Precepts

November

*Have no friends not equal to yourself.*

-Confucius



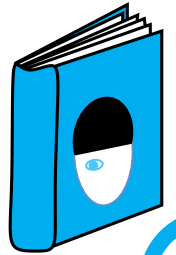
WONDER

## Precepts

December

*Fortune favors the bold.*

-Virgil



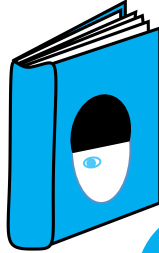
WONDER

## Precepts

January

*No man is an island,  
entire of itself.*

-John Donne



WONDER

## Precepts

February

*It is better to know some  
of the questions than  
all of the answers.*

-James Thurber



WONDER

## Precepts

March

*Kind words do not cost  
much. Yet they  
accomplish much.*

-Blaise Pascal



WONDER

## Precepts

April

*What is beautiful is good,  
and who is good will soon  
be beautiful.*

-Sappho





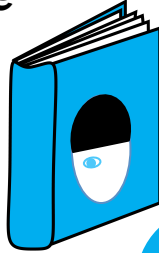
WONDER

## Precepts

May

*Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long you ever can.*

-John Wesley's Rule



WONDER

## Precepts

June

*Just follow the day and reach for the sun.*

-The Polyphonic Spree



WONDER

## Precepts

Post Card

*If you can get through middle school without hurting anyone's feelings, that's really cool beans.*

-Summer Dawson



WONDER

## Precepts

Post Card

*Everyone in the world should get a standing ovation at least once in their life because we all overcometh the world.*

-August Pullman

