

Name \_\_\_\_\_

6th Grade Required Summer Reading Packet for Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

CHAPTERS 1-5

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. How did Jeffrey Magee become an orphan?
- A. his parents gave him away because they couldn't afford to raise him.
  - B. his parents were killed in an airplane crash
  - C. his parents were killed in a trolley went off the trestle and into the river
  - D. he was left as an infant on the steps of an orphanage
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. How many years did Jeffrey live with his aunt and uncle before he ran away?
- A. 10
  - B. 8
  - C. 7
  - D. 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Why did Jeffrey run away?
- A. his aunt and uncle did not get along
  - B. his aunt and uncle didn't want him anymore
  - C. he turned 18 years old
  - D. he wanted to tour the world
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. What was the time Jeffrey was gone between Hollidaysburg and Two Mills called?
- A. The Slowest Year
  - B. The Long Year
  - C. The Lost Boy
  - D. The Lost Year
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. How many miles are there between Two Mills and Hollidaysburg?
- A. 150
  - B. 200
  - C. 52
  - D. 100
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Who was the first person to talk to Jeffrey?
- A. Arnold Jones
  - B. John McNab
  - C. Amanda Beale
  - D. Brian Denehy
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Why did Jeffrey stand out in East End?
- A. he wore glasses
  - B. he dressed funny
  - C. he was dirty
  - D. he was white
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. What did Amanda have in her suitcase that Jeffrey loved?
- A. books
  - B. CD's
  - C. candy bars
  - D. clothes

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. What was special about Jeffrey catching Brian Denehy's pass and then punting the ball back to Hands Down?

- A. he was just a little kid
- B. he was as talented as the high school boys
- C. he did it running backwards
- D. he did it with a book in one hand

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. The high school boys thought Jeffrey was cool times 10 because:

- A. he saved the boy from Finsterwald's yard
- B. he sat down on Finsterwald's steps and reads
- C. he takes on some of the high school boys
- D. he takes the boy home with him

## CHAPTERS 6-16

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. After Jeffrey eats at the Pickwell's, the children follow him outside to find him running:

- A. the cinders along the track
- B. the wooden ties
- C. the steel rails
- D. the side of the road

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. McNab had the greatest fastball. Jeffrey hit every ball he threw to him, so McNab went and got a \_\_\_\_\_ to pitch.

- A. mouse
- B. turtle
- C. baby chick
- D. frog

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. Which one of the following did not help Jeffrey become known as "Maniac"?

- A. intercepting the Denehy pass and punting back
- B. rescuing Arnold Jones from Finsterwald's back yard
- C. yelling "Talk, Talk" and running away
- D. hitting McNab's fastball and bunting frogball

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. Where is Maniac living?

- A. moose shed at Elmwood Park Zoo
- B. deer shed at Elmwood Park Zoo
- C. oxen shed at Elmwood Park Zoo
- D. fox shed at Elmwood Park Zoo

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. John McNab got so mad, he wanted to punish Maniac. He and his gang, "The Cobras" did what?

- A. chased him into the east end of town
- B. chased him into the west end of town
- C. threw him in Finsterwald's backyard
- D. beat him up

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. Mars Bar Thompson confronted Maniac. He offered him a bite of his candy bar. When Maniac took a bite, there was dead silence on the street. Why?

- A. Maniac dropped the candy bar
- B. Maniac was white and Mars Bars was black
- C. Mars Bar was white and Maniac was black
- D. Maniac ate the rest of the candy bar in one gulp.

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Amanda sees Mars Bar with Maniac and her torn book. Why is she so upset?

- A. Amanda's little brother and sister already ruin everything of hers
- B. Mars admits that he tore the pages and asks Amanda to forgive him
- C. She thinks Maniac tore the pages in her book on purpose
- D. Mars and Maniac got chocolate all over the page

\_\_\_\_\_ 18. The Beale's invite Maniac to stay. Before he can sleep, he must:

- A. go for a run
- B. call his aunt & uncle
- C. watch TV
- D. go to the front door to look at the address

\_\_\_\_\_ 19. What was Maniac allergic to?

- A. eggs
- B. pizza
- C. milk
- D. fish

\_\_\_\_\_ 20. Everybody called him "Maniac," but he didn't want to lose the only thing he had left from his parents. So, he would reply, "My name is \_\_\_\_\_. You know me."

- A. Lester
- B. Beale
- C. Jeffrey
- D. James

\_\_\_\_\_ 21. What did Mrs. Beale do when Maniac started "talking his trash" to her?

- A. She laughed
- B. She fainted
- C. She dropped the meat loaf
- D. She slapped him

\_\_\_\_\_ 22. Maniac figured that the most boring color of all was\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. white
- B. gray
- C. black
- D. green

## CHAPTERS 17-21

- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. At the block party, an old man yells at Maniac. Who rescues him?
- A. Hands Down
  - B. Mars Bars
  - C. Hester and Lester
  - D. Mrs. Beale
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. What is written on the side of the Beale's house?
- A. Whitey go home.
  - B. Fishbelly go home
  - C. Lion go home.
  - D. Loser go home
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. Amanda was so angry with Maniac that she told him he couldn't get a library card because...
- A. he wasn't old enough
  - B. he didn't have enough money
  - C. he didn't have an address
  - D. the library was closed
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. Amanda thinks that untangling Cobble's Knot will make Maniac popular with everyone in East End. What was the prize?
- A. sixty seconds alone at the candy counter
  - B. a new bike
  - C. unlimited soda refills
  - D. one large pizza per week for a year
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. How long did it take Maniac to untangle Cobble's Knot?
- A. before lunchtime
  - B. around dinnertime
  - C. early the next morning
  - D. not until the next night
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. What had Hester and Lester torn up for confetti?
- A. encyclopedia A
  - B. Amanda's new magazine
  - C. the dictionary
  - D. Mr. Beale's newspaper
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. Where did Maniac walk when he left town?
- A. On the east side of the street
  - B. On the west side of the street
  - C. Down the middle of the street
  - D. On the train tracks

## CHAPTERS 22-26

- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Where did Maniac run to?
- A. Bridgeport
  - B. Elmwood Park Zoo
  - C. Aunt Dot
  - D. Mrs. Beale
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. Grayson found Maniac and brought him to the band shell. Where had Maniac been living?
- A. In the snack bar
  - B. In the gopher tunnels
  - C. In the gift shop
  - D. In the buffalo pen
- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. Why would Maniac not go to school?
- A. he didn't have a ride to school
  - B. he didn't know anyone
  - C. he didn't have a home
  - D. he didn't know where it was
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. Why wouldn't Maniac go stay at the YMCA with Grayson?
- A. he thought he was bad luck to people around him
  - B. he didn't like Grayson
  - C. he did not like the YMCA
  - D. kids weren't allowed to sleep at the YMCA
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. Why didn't Grayson ever make it to the major leagues?
- A. he was washing dishes to pay for his meal during the game
  - B. he struck out Willie Mays
  - C. he pitched his worst game in front of the scout
  - D. he injured his arm
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. What did Manic do with the money Grayson gave him?
- A. saved it for Christmas
  - B. put it in the bank
  - C. bought Krimpets
  - D. bought books
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. What did Grayson want Maniac to do for him?
- A. teach him to how to pitch
  - B. teach him to read
  - C. teach him Spanish
  - D. teach him how to untie knots

## CHAPTERS 27-32

- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. What letter gave Grayson the most trouble day in and day out?
- A. the letter, p
  - B. the letter, z
  - C. the letter, c
  - D. the letter, k
- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. What was the first book Grayson read?
- A. The Story of Babar
  - B. Mike Mulligan's Steam Shovel
  - C. The Little Engine That Could
  - D. Make Way for Ducklings
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. After Thanksgiving dinner, what did Maniac paint on the outside of their door?
- A. the numbers, 101
  - B. a picture of a buffalo
  - C. a baseball mitt
  - D. a butterscotch Krimpet
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. What did Grayson build as a Christmas decoration for use inside the band shell?
- A. a fireplace
  - B. a reindeer
  - C. an angel
  - D. a sled
- \_\_\_\_\_ 41. What was the name of the book Maniac gave Grayson for Christmas?
- A. The Little Engine That Could
  - B. The encyclopedia
  - C. The History of Polka Music
  - D. The Man Who Struck Out Willie Mays
- \_\_\_\_\_ 42. While it was still dark on Christmas morning, Maniac and Grayson visited ...
- A. the outdoor zoo animals
  - B. the Beale family
  - C. the YMCA
  - D. Hands Down and Mars Bars
- \_\_\_\_\_ 43. What was the last thing Grayson gave Maniac for Christmas?
- A. a new sweater
  - B. butterscotch Krimpets
  - C. his baseball glove
  - D. a video game
- \_\_\_\_\_ 44. Why did Grayson leave Maniac?
- A. he moved back to the YMCA
  - B. he moved in with his son
  - C. he got sick
  - D. he died

- \_\_\_\_\_ 45. What was the last book that Maniac read aloud to Grayson?
- A. The Story of Babar
  - B. Mike Mulligan's Steam Shovel
  - C. The Little Engine That Could
  - D. Make Way for Ducklings

## CHAPTERS 33-36

- \_\_\_\_\_ 46. After Grayson's death, where did Maniac live?
- A. In the band shell
  - B. Under the P & W trestle
  - C. In a Log Cabin at Valley Forge
  - D. With Aunt Dot and Uncle Dan
- \_\_\_\_\_ 47. Where were Screacher and Missing Tooth running away to?
- A. Texas
  - B. Mexico
  - C. Las Vegas
  - D. California
- \_\_\_\_\_ 48. How did Maniac get Piper and Russell to return to Two Mills?
- A. He told them that he was a cop.
  - B. He told them that he was a famous baseball pitcher
  - C. He told them that he was an Olympic Track star
  - D. He told them that he was a pizza delivery boy
- \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Who was Piper and Russell's big brother?
- A. Lester
  - B. Mars Bar
  - C. John McNab
  - D. Hands Down
- \_\_\_\_\_ 50. What did Maniac say was "Giant John's" secret pitch?
- A. the stopball
  - B. the spitball
  - C. the knuckleball
  - D. the whiffleball
- \_\_\_\_\_ 51. What was unusual about Piper and Russell's house?
- A. It had a hole from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> story
  - B. It had a steel front door
  - C. It had a cellar
  - D. It had a spiral staircase

\_\_\_\_\_ 52. Russell and Piper now went to school and had become famous in their own right. Why?

- A. their brother was coming for show and tell
- B. Maniac lived in their house
- C. they had been to Mexico
- D. they were making good grades

\_\_\_\_\_ 53. In order to get Russell and Piper to stay in school for two more weeks, what did Maniac agree to do?

- A. Eat a whole large pizza
- B. Let them borrow his baseball mitt
- C. Read them the encyclopedia
- D. Knock on Finsterwald's front door

## CHAPTERS 37-46

\_\_\_\_\_ 54. In order to keep Russell and Piper in school during February and March, Maniac had to perform a new feat each...

- A. month
- B. week
- C. hour
- D. day

\_\_\_\_\_ 55. What was the most perilous challenge Russell and Piper gave Maniac to do?

- A. dared him to go into the East End
- B. dared him to go into the West End
- C. jump off the trestle into the river
- D. sneak into the ball park after dark

\_\_\_\_\_ 56. At the start of the race with Mars Bars, who shouted encouragement to Maniac?

- A. Russell
- B. Piper
- C. Amanda
- D. Hands Down

\_\_\_\_\_ 57. After the race, Mars Bar now hated Jeffrey Magee. Why?

- A. Maniac beat him by running backwards
- B. Maniac beat him by skipping the last yards
- C. Maniac tripped him and made him fall down
- D. Maniac let Mars Bars win

\_\_\_\_\_ 58. Maniac returns to the McNab house to find them building a(n) ...

- A. tornado shelter
- B. garage
- C. pill box
- D. deck

- \_\_\_\_\_ 59. Maniac couldn't help thinking how alike the Beale and the \_\_\_\_\_ families were.
- A. McNab
  - B. Pickwell
  - C. Finsterwald
  - D. Magee
- \_\_\_\_\_ 60. Why did Maniac finally get mad at Russell and Piper?
- A. They tore one of Amanda's books
  - B. They built a raft
  - C. They were playing with Grayson's glove
  - D. They stomped on worms
- \_\_\_\_\_ 61. Who did Maniac bring to the birthday party?
- A. Hester and Lester
  - B. Hands Down
  - C. Mrs. Pickwell
  - D. Mars Bars
- \_\_\_\_\_ 62. Why did Maniac feel it was important to take Mars Bars to the Pickwell house before going to the birthday party?
- A. To see the best the West End had to offer
  - B. To pick up the birthday present
  - C. To scare the little Pickwells
  - D. To borrow a new book
- \_\_\_\_\_ 63. What did Maniac give to Piper for his birthday?
- A. a watch
  - B. a compass
  - C. a gun
  - D. a book
- \_\_\_\_\_ 64. What part of the day did Maniac call, "his special time with the town"?
- A. midnight
  - B. before sunrise
  - C. at noon
  - D. after dinner
- \_\_\_\_\_ 65. In July, Maniac was running and felt as if someone was following him. Who turned out to be running at the same time?
- A. John McNab
  - B. Mars Bar
  - C. Amanda Beale
  - D. Hands Down

- \_\_\_\_\_ 66. Russell was in danger because he was ...
- A. buried under a mountain of coal
  - B. stuck in the mud
  - C. on the trestle in front of trolley
  - D. in deep water in the river
- \_\_\_\_\_ 67. Why did Mars Bars save Russell?
- A. Because he wanted to get his picture in the paper
  - B. Because Maniac was afraid of heights
  - C. Because he was Russell's brother
  - D. Because Maniac walked away
- \_\_\_\_\_ 68. After he rescued Russell, where did Mars Bars take the boys?
- A. To their house
  - B. To the Pickwell's home
  - C. To his house
  - D. To the hospital
- \_\_\_\_\_ 69. How does Maniac react when Mars Bars asks him to come to his house to visit?
- A. Maniac says he can't
  - B. Maniac begins to cry
  - C. Maniac agrees to go
  - D. Maniac starts laughing
- \_\_\_\_\_ 70. Amanda changes Mars Bars' name to
- A. Snickers
  - B. Butterfingers
  - C. M & M's
  - D. Twix
- \_\_\_\_\_ 71. At long last, Maniac has a home...
- A. in the buffalo pen
  - B. with Mars Bars
  - C. with Amanda's family
  - D. with the McNab's

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Maniac Magee Vocabulary

Write the letter of the word that best matches the definition.

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| ___ 1. hollering  | A. perilous    |
| ___ 2. wild uproar; chaos   | B. jackal      |
| ___ 3. moving with a violent twist  | C. repertoire  |
| ___ 4. someone who watches an event or a game                                 | D. pandemonium |
| ___ 5. to stick out   | E. filigreed   |
| ___ 6. argue  | F. instinct    |
| ___ 7. strong and healthy   | G. trestle     |
| ___ 8. a structure of wood or steel that supports a railroad over a low place | H. protrude    |
| ___ 9. a low, concrete holder for machine guns                                | I. feat        |
| ___ 10. automatic reaction  | J. babble      |
| ___ 11. highly decorative   | K. ecstatic    |
| ___ 12. to begin gathering at one common area                                 | L. wrenching   |
| ___ 13. a reproduction or copy of something                                   | M. converge    |
| ___ 14. to confound with amazement  | N. spectator   |
| ___ 15. a notable act or achievement  | O. bellowing   |
| ___ 16. the accomplishments or skills of a person                             | P. robust      |
| ___ 17. the state of intense joy or delight                                   | Q. replica     |
| ___ 18. not caring not showing concern  | R. pillbox     |
| ___ 19. dangerous   | S. desolate    |
| ___ 20. to talk or say fast or foolishly                                      | T. bicker      |
| ___ 21. to be left alone; lonely; forlorn                                     | U. dumbfounded |
| ___ 22. a wild dog of Asia and Africa, smaller than a wolf                    | V. nonchalant  |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Maniac Magee Vocabulary: Fill-in-the-Blank**

Using the list of words from the previous page, choose the one word that best completes the following sentences. Some words will NOT be used. Be sure to have correct spelling!

1. Since the street was covered with ice and snow, it was very \_\_\_\_\_ and we had to drive slowly.
2. My grandmother has a beautiful piece of \_\_\_\_\_ jewelry which she only wears on special occasions.
3. My mother says that my brother and I \_\_\_\_\_ too much and we must stop arguing NOW!
4. When I am excited, I tend to \_\_\_\_\_ and then it is hard for anyone to understand what I am saying.
5. When Mrs. York announced that school was being let out early because of snow, there was \_\_\_\_\_ in the classrooms.
6. Animals act because of their \_\_\_\_\_ rather than because of sound reasoning abilities.
7. If I were to climb a mountain peak, it certainly would be a great \_\_\_\_\_.
8. After the football game, everybody began to rush the field and \_\_\_\_\_ at the fifty yard line to celebrate their victory with the players.
9. It is against the law for anyone to damage the tracks on a railroad \_\_\_\_\_.
10. When the band was introduced, the people in the audience were \_\_\_\_\_ and began to jump up and down and scream with excitement.
11. When we visited a souvenir shop in St. Louis, we bought a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Arch.
- 12 The soldiers stored their weapons in the \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the fort.
13. I enjoy being a \_\_\_\_\_ at basketball games, but I would rather play the game than watch it.
14. After the big storm, we were a shocked to see a tree limb \_\_\_\_\_ from the side of the shed.
15. Drinking milk and eating protein will surely make you strong and \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Maniac Magee: Who Said That?**

Who said the following lines in the story? Write the letter of the matching character's name on the blank. Some letters may be used MORE THAN ONCE.

**CHARACTER LIST**

- |                      |               |            |               |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| A. Arnold Jones      | B. Amanda     | C. Grayson | D. Mrs. Beale |
| E. Russell and Piper | F. John McNab | G. Maniac  | H. Mars Bar   |
| I. Hester and Lester | J. Mr. McNab  |            |               |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. "Mom, there's a boy I loaned one of my books out to!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. "You'll be nothing but Jeffrey in here."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. "Them black people, they eat mashed potatoes, too?"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. "I ain't talkin' to you, Magee. I'm talking to sonny here."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. "No! No! Please! Pleeeeeeeeese!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. "If you untie Cobble's Knot...you'll be the biggest hero ever around here..."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. "John! You owe me one. I brought the boys back."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. "Jeffery! Jeffery! Get a bath with us! Will ya?"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. "Let me know when *it* leaves!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. "Wasn't me he beat. Was my brother, Milky Way."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. "Wha'd you bring, Dad? Whoppers? Yeah—Whoppers!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. "I just like to run."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. "I knew you wasn't scared."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. "So why don't you go ahead and teach me how to read?"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. "Maniac! You're alive! We thought they got ya!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. "I – live —at – seven – twenty – eight —Sy —ca—more. I—do."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. "Don't tell me *can't*. I didn't come all the way down here...so I could hear you tell me *can't*!"

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Maniac Magee: Short Answer Questions**

Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Use a separate piece of paper if needed.

1. Make a timeline listing at least 8 different places where Jeffrey Magee lived. Be sure to write them in the order in which Jeffery lived at each place. Write the address (house number and street name) with the places that had one. Be creative when making the timeline (ex.: Draw houses, the band shell, animal pens at the zoo...)

2. Homes and homelessness are very important to the plot of *Maniac Magee*.

A. If Jeffrey loves being with the Beales so much, why doesn't he stay there from the beginning?

B. How does the author, Jerry Spinelli, make us understand Jeffrey's search and needs?

C. How does Jeffrey define home?

D. Notice his determination to have an address, even painting a number on the band shell. When does he erase it?

**Maniac Magee: Short Answer Questions cont.**

Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Use a separate piece of paper if needed.

3. There's a subplot in *Maniac Magee* about the importance of learning.

A. When Amanda first meets Jeffrey, she is carrying a suitcase to school. What is in the suitcase?

B. What does Jeffrey do with the book Amanda lends him? What happens to the book?

C. While living with the Beale's, Jeffrey reads to Hester and Lester and reads most of Amanda's "library." Which book does Amanda think she is keeping Jeffrey from reading?

D. Jeffrey also teaches Grayson to read. How does he do it? What books does he use?

E. Later, Jeffrey is determined to keep Russell and Piper McNab in school. Why? What tricks does he use? Which ones work best?

F. So, why isn't Magee himself in school if it's so important? Do you think that he'll ever go to school? What type of student would he be?