



Activity One

Genetics 101

August Pullman has **mandibulofacial dysostosis**. It is also called Treacher Collins Syndrome. In the book, we learn about Auggie's condition. In *Part Two: Via*, the chapters *August Through the Peephole* and *Genetics 101* tell us a lot. There are still a lot of big words to read. This makes it hard to understand what Auggie's disorder is really about.

Research ONE topic. Write down 5-10 points on the topic. Share your notes with someone with the same topic. Together tell the class about your topic so that everyone learns about Auggie's disorder.

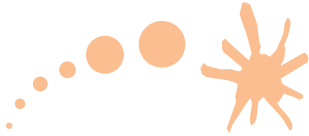
Topics

- What are genes?
- What is DNA?
- What does genetic inheritance mean?
- What is a genetic mutation?
- What is genetic counseling?
- What are recessive genes?
- What are dominant genes?
- What is a congenital disorder?
- What is mandibulofacial dysostosis/Treacher Collins Syndrome?



DNA carries genetic instructions for all living things.

NAME: _____



Activity Two

New York, New York



Setting is the time and place where an event occurs. It helps set the mood and affects the characters in many ways. *Wonder* is set in New York City in 2012. The characters tell us that they live in a suburb of New York City called North River Heights. New York City is a real place, but North River Heights and Beecher Prep are fictional.

Do some research on New York City so you have a better sense of the novel's setting. The characters travel on the New York City transit system and visit real places like Carvel's ice cream. Choose TWO topics to research and take notes on.

Research Topics

1. Central Park
2. Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island
3. The 5 boroughs
4. Manhattan harbors
5. Broadway
6. Times Square
7. Staten Island Ferry
8. NYC Museums
9. Prospect Park
10. New York City Subway
11. Coney Island
12. Brooklyn Bridge

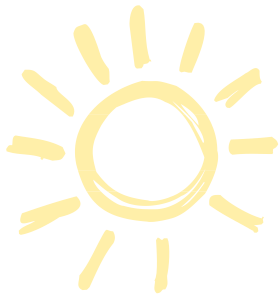
Then, think about how the setting of New York City matters to the novel.

Things to think about:

1. How would it change the mood if the story was set in a small town?
2. How does the setting influence the way characters behave?
3. How does the setting affect what the characters say?
4. Does the setting create an emotional response? Does it make you excited? Sad?
5. In what ways does the setting reflect the society in which the characters live?
6. Does the setting have its own part in the story?

Get into partners with a classmate and discuss your findings. Then, share your information and thinking with the whole class.

NAME: _____



Activity Three

Yearbook Entries



Auggie's class graduates at the end of the year. Look at the *Take Your Seats, Everyone* chapter.

Choose THREE characters from the novel. Create a yearbook entry for each of them.

For each entry include:

- picture
- nickname
- hobbies, clubs, sports they like
- important quote
- favorite things
- favorite book or movie
- class award
- plans for the summer and next year

Place one entry on one page.

The final work should be neat, organized and colored. It may be done by hand or on the computer.

	<p>Name: Jessica Douglas</p> <p>Nickname: Jess</p> <p>Hobbies, Clubs Sports: Volleyball, Soccer</p> <p>Important Quote: "The best things in life are free."</p> <p>Favorite Things: Sports.</p> <p>Favorite Book or Movie: Matilda</p> <p>Plans for summer: sports camp with my friends</p>
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NAME: _____



Activity Four

Found Poems



Pick a chapter from *Wonder* that you consider interesting and important. Pick words, lines, and phrases that you think create powerful images and show the importance of the Chapter. Arrange this material into a **poem of 10-20 lines**. The result is a found poem! Try putting these words together in different ways.

Found poetry turns non-poetic writing into poetry. Think of a collage! Instead of taking scraps of magazines and other found material, you will use words. Be inspired by the words and images that you find and use your imagination to make your final product. You may end up with more than one found poem.

Step 1: Make a list of words, phrases, and quotations.

Pick at least 15-20 words or sections from the book. You can write these on paper or post-its.

Step 2: Determine a theme and message.

The theme is the main idea of your poem. The message is what you want your readers to get out of the poem.

Step 3: Pick additional language.

You'll be using the words you found in the book. But as you make your poem you'll need to add some of your own words so that everything fits together.

Step 4: Compose your poem.

Don't forget to think about how you want to break up your poem, in terms of lines and stanzas. Your poem may also be accompanied by an image.

Step 5: Share.

Step 6: Discuss.

Variations:

1. Create group found poems.
2. Write poet's statements (explain your poem).
3. Organize a poetry reading.

NAME: _____



Activity Five

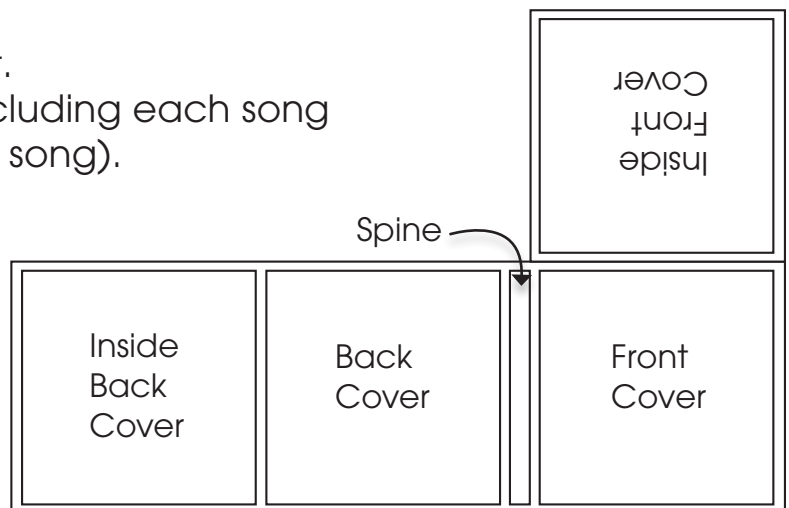
A Character's Playlist



Create a mix playlist and CD insert for a character from *Wonder* that you understand.

1. Pick a character.
2. Pick TEN songs that you think represent your character.
 - The music should express different aspects of the character.
 - Think about the overall message that these songs tell about the character.
3. Design a cover for your playlist.
 - The artwork should follow the format of an album cover.
 - It should include a title and an image.
 - The image should represent the overall message.
 - The artwork will be the cover for your **square CD Insert**.
4. Write the content of the CD Insert.
 - Explain your motivation for including each song in the playlist (1 sentence per song).
 - CD Insert Format:

- a) Front Cover – Cover Art
- b) Middle Areas – Motivation
*Song Title, Artist, Date,
Short Explanation*
- c) Back Cover – Song List



5. Create the final product.
 - The final product should be professional looking.
 - Look at different examples of CD Inserts.

NAME: _____



Activity Six

Movie Adaptation



Imagine you are making *Wonder* into a movie!

Part 1

Think about other books that have been successfully turned into movies.

For example: *Harry Potter*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Twilight*, *The Hunger Games*, etc.



In small groups or as a class, talk about what makes these successful adaptations. What parts were different from its novel counterpart? What parts were similar? Do you agree with the changes?

Part 2

Then, in partners, brainstorm how you would make *Wonder* into a movie. Decide on the cast of characters and think about which actors would play each character. Where would you film the movie? What parts would you change or not include? Why? Make sure you explain all of your choices.

Part 3

Finally, you will design a movie poster with your partner. Look at different examples of successful movie posters with your class. Think about the features that make these posters appealing to you.



What kind of font do they use? Is it big? Bold? Easy to read?

What kind of image do they use? Is there a lot going on? Is it colorful?

What information is included on the poster? Title? Actors?

The final product should be polished and professional looking.