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#### **Judy Blume**

Judy Blume is a popular children's author who has also written for adults. She has mor than 65 million copies of her books in print. Her work has been translated into 20 languages. She has received more than 90 awards for her books including the ALA Notable Book Award.

Judy Blume was born Feb. 12. 1938 in Elizabeth, New Jersey. She matried an attorney, John Blume, in 1959 (the same year her father died). They had two children. They were divorced in 1975. In 1976, she married Tom Kitchens but divorced him in 1979. Judy now lives in New York City with her writer husband George Cooper. She has one grandchild.

Judy's mother loved to read. When Judy would come home from school, she would find her curled up in her favourite chair reading. Judy wasn't as avid a reader as her mother. She felt there weren't any books with characters with whom she could identify. Judy's favourite childhood book was "Madeline". That is why she currently writes the kind of books she would have liked to have read as a child.

After her second child was born, she felt she could try to write. She tried to write pop songs but gave up because she felt they were imitations of ones she heard. Reading bedtime stories to her children, she felt she could write as well, if not better, than the ones she was reading. She took a course on writing for children. She enjoyed the course so much, she took it again!

After two years of having publishers reject her works, she decided to write novels about real life. Her first book to get published was "The One in the Middle is the Green Kangaroo." It was published in 1969. This was the start of over 20 books being published.

Judy writes in the morning and afternoon. At night she reads over what she wrote during the day. She rewrites sometimes three drafts before she mails the manuscript to the publisher.

Judy has tried with all her novels to write honest, realistic stories of kids so that feelings, emotions and situations of life could be dealt with openly.



Find out more about Judy Blume and her work by visiting her own web site on the Internet. Go to:

#### http://www.judyblume.com/home-menu.html

Here you will find a message from Judy Blume, announcements, lists of her books, photos and more!!

Find out what Judy Blume has to say about the story "Freckle Juice".

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### **Story Summary**

Andrew Marcus desperately wanted freckles like his classmate, Nicky Lake.

Andrew's opportunist classmate, Sharon, offers him her secret freckle juice recipe for 50 cents. After some doubt, Andrew relents and gives Sharon the money for the recipe.

After concocting the recipe from ordinary household items, Andrew swallows it quickly. His mother comes home to find him sick with a stomach ache and a fever. She gives him some medicine and puts him to bed.

After an evening of him having nightmares and another day to recover, Andrew's mother announced that he was fit to return to school. Andrew didn't want to return to school and face Sharon, allowing her to get away with her trickery.

Andrew took blue magic marker and gave himself freckles. His teacher, Miss Kelly, allowed him to wear it all day. Finally, she offered him her secret formula for removing freckles for free. Andrew took it to the washroom and washed off his freckles. Miss Kelly made him feel better by telling him that he looked better without freckles. She consoled Nicky by saying his freckles were a part of him when Nicky admitted he hated his freckles.

As the class lined up at home time, conniving Sharon was trying to sell Nicky a freckle removing recipe



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#### Fact Sheet on Freckles

Some people are fair-skinned, others are dark. Some people have freckles, others do not. Why are there these differences? What causes freckles? To understand why some people have freckles, you must know something about your skin.

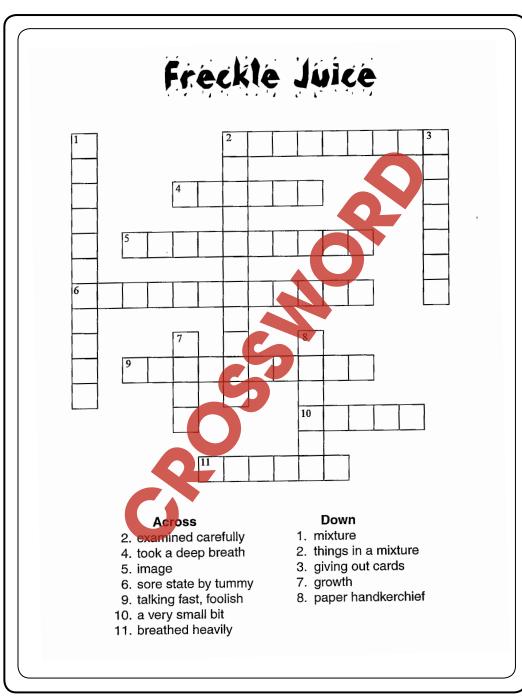
Your skin is made up of two layers. The top or outer layer is called the epidermis. The inner layer is called the dermis. The word "dermis" is from the Greek meaning "skin". "Epi" is Greek, meaning "over". So the epidermis is the top layer over the dermis.

In the epidermis there are tiny grains of colouring called melanin. We get our skin colouring from the pigment melanin. Skin colour depends on how much melanin the skin makes. The amount of melanin produced by each person's skin is different.

The amount of melanin produced by each person's skin is mostly determined by heredity. If your parents have lots of melanin in their skin, they would be darker-skinned and so would you!

However, being exposed to sunlight increases the production of melanin. That is why people from hotter countries usually have more melanin than people in cooler countries and so their skin is darker. That is also why light skin tans.

Sometimes the melanin builds up in small spots, forming freckles. Exposure to sunlight can increase the number of freckles a person has on the skin because the melanin in the skin responds unevenly to the sun's rays.

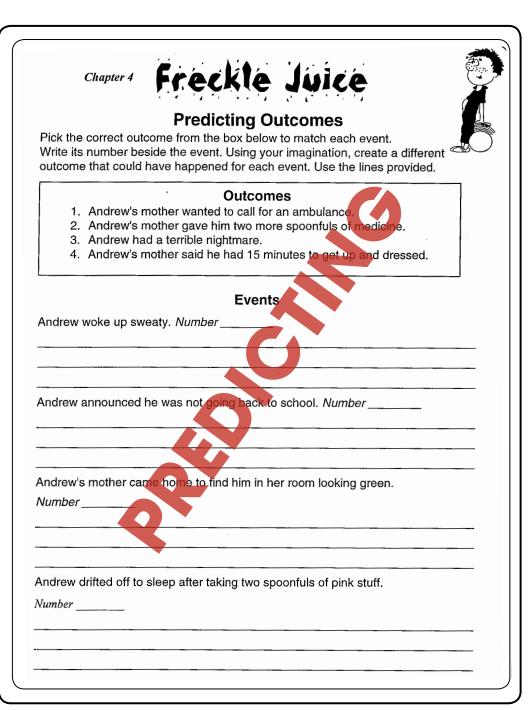


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١.	Why did Andrew want freckles?
2.	Some people are glad that they have freckles. Others are not. Tell how you feel about your freckles giving reasons for feeling as you do.  OR
	If you do not have freckles, express whether you would like freckles or not, stating your reasons.
<b>3.</b>	How do you suppose Miss Kelly knew that Andrew was not paying attention?
١.	How does your teacher react when somebody is not paying attention?
•	If you were Miss Kelly, how would you react to Sharon's giggling at Andrew?
	How did Sharon try to convince Andrew that she knew a recipe for freckle juice?
	Skim Chapter One. Write as many words as you can find that name a part of the

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Chapter 1 Freckle Juice Draw a line to match the CAUSE in the first column with the EFFECT in the second column. CAUSE **EFFECT** Andrew was counting Nicky's Andrew didn't know how to freckles. ckles except that you were born with them. Nicky Lake was no help. Sharon was giggling at Andrew. Andrew and Sharon were leaders Miss Kelly caught Andrew not in line at home time. paying attention. Sharon could know a recipe Sharon heard Andrew ask Nic how to get freckles. for freckle juice. Andrew couldn't find page 64 in his Sharon was able to whisper to Andrew that she knew how reader. to get freckles. Sharon told Andrew that she Sharon had 6 freckles on her nose. had a secret recipe for freckles.

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Freckle Juice **Character Study** Draw a line to match the characteristic with the characteristic Character Characteristic Andrew sympatheti Miss Kelly unhelpf Nicky envious Sharon Tell one thing from the story to prove your me Miss Kelly Nicky Sharo

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# Freckle Juice

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