

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Parvana's Journey, Week 1



PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason, not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

You may have already read *The Breadwinner*. This is the sequel. There is a glossary of terms in the back of the book. Additionally, read the bio of the author.

Research the history of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

Research current statistics about life in Afghanistan and what it is like to live there.

How are women treated in Afghanistan? What are their rights?

How can positive thinking make you more resilient? Research the psychology behind this theory.

What are the Five Basic Needs of Life?

What are Time Capsules?

Research news on child involvement in the war in Afghanistan.

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

haphazard	resolved	urged	parcel	scruff
recited	fury	barren	glimpse	wailing
eerie	grime	scrape	squawking	stale
scavenged	long-handled	cooking oil	whisk	bundle
glowered	matted	taunted	fistfuls	fussed

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far.

- Mention the setting and main character.
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it.

Read Read the selection.

Read p. 9-54

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Courage Chart

Start a Courage Chart. Title the chart “Courage”. During this unit, write examples of courage from the novel.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Open Mind Portrait

Complete your OMP for Parvana. What do you think she is thinking and feeling in this chapter? Add 5-7 thoughts to your OMP.

Map

Draw a rough map of Afghanistan and the bordering countries. Label areas that Parvana has been in the past or is presently. If the text isn’t specific, that’s intentional...because Parvana herself does not know. Talk about how that feels.

Storyboard

Create a storyboard of the chapter’s major events.

Cartoon

Even at times of great sorrow and hardship, we can find humor in life. Draw a cartoon of Parvana trying to catch the chickens and Hassan laughing.

Poster

Create a missing ad poster for Parvana or for Parvana’s Mother and siblings.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 9-22)

1. What is Parvana doing at the beginning of the novel?
2. Why was there “no reason to hurry?”
3. How does she feel about burying her father?
4. Why would someone dig up her father?
5. What has happened to all the young men in her country?
6. How are men affected if their country is fighting in a war?
7. Who takes her in?
8. Why does the man rebuild his house five times?
9. Why does she need to leave?
10. How does Parvana show courage in this chapter?

Key Questions (p. 23-29)

1. Why is Parvana stating her math facts?
2. Why do you think Parvana’s father waited until they were alone to teach Parvana English?
3. What does her father tell her about her mind being a muscle?
4. What kind of food is Parvana eating?
5. What does Parvana find that is making all the noise?
6. Where do you think the women came from?
7. What happens when Parvana tries to help?
8. Why is Parvana so mad at the women?
9. How can people be dead before they die?

Key Questions (p. 30-37)

1. Why does Parvana wait before entering the village?
2. Predict what you think had happened to the baby’s family?
3. How does the author describe the setting?
4. What conflict has arisen for Parvana and how does she resolve it?
5. What does she do to feed the baby?
6. What are two languages of Afghanistan?
7. What are the differences between the women and the baby?
8. Why would Parvana take care for the baby but leave the women?

Key Questions (p. 38-44)

1. How do you think it feels for Parvana to think of someone else other than herself?
2. Would you consider Parvana stealing, why or why not?
3. Why do you think she cleaned the house?
4. Do you think there is comfort in doing things you used to do?
5. What does Parvana take for the rest of her journey?
6. In what way is Parvana showing responsibility?
7. Explain how flowers can symbolize peace.

Key Questions (p. 45-54)

1. How is Parvana trying to help and what response does she get?
2. How does this make her feel?
3. Why do you think Asif is acting unkind?
4. How would you compare and contrast Asif and Parvana?
5. How is Asif similar to Nooria (Parvana's sister)?
6. Why do you think Parvana mentions France?
7. Why do you think Asif knows how to change a diaper?

EXTEND

Write Write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Key Paragraph

"‘You must leave now,’ the girl said once they were outside. ‘I heard the old men talking. They are going to turn you over to the Taliban. Some soldiers are coming by here any day, and the men think the Taliban will pay them money for you’"

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are Parvana and **write a letter to your mother and siblings informing them of Father's funeral. Use transitional words to convey a sequence. Describe the surrounding environment. Include 2-3 reflective sentences to express Parvana's feelings on this event.**

Key Paragraph, p. 28

"The eyes were dead. There was no life left in them. Parvana had seen that look before, in the camp for internal refugees. She had seen people who had lost everything and had given up hope that they would ever have love or tenderness or laughter again" (p. 28).

Writing Prompt

Parvana's father taught Parvana many lessons before he died. He taught her how to speak a little English, history lessons, and about people who have given up on hope. **Write a narrative dialogue between Parvana and her Father about why it is important to remain hopeful. In one paragraph establish the context of the dialogue. The dialogue should be between 25-40 lines.**

Key Paragraph, p. 32

"‘Did they leave you all alone? Come on, you poor thing.’ She lifted the little creature into her arms. ‘Did your people get scared and forget about you?’...Parvana took the baby to the least damaged of the houses..." (p. 32).

Writing Prompt

Describe how Parvana demonstrates responsibility. **Provide three examples in chronological order from this chapter. For each example, explain how that shows Parvana is responsible.**

Key Paragraph, p. 38

“‘I don’t like taking other people’s things,’ she said to Hassan, ‘but if I’m going to take care of you, your village will have to help me.’ Parvana looked at everything she had scavenged and carefully chose what she could carry with her” (p. 38).

Writing Prompt

Write a letter to your family. Narrate the events of Parvana’s experience at the abandon village. Describe the steps Parvana takes to take care of the baby. Explain how Parvana problem solves and is resourceful given her circumstances.

Key Paragraph, p. 53-54

“Dear Shauzia:

I met a strange creature today. He’s part boy and part wild animal. One of his legs is missing, and he’s been hiding in a cave...(read the rest of the letter)” (p. 53).

Writing Prompt

Parvana has mixed emotions about the cave boy. Explain how Parvana is able to persuade the cave boy into doing what she wants. Narrate the interactions between Parvana and the cave boy. Use the following

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Parvana's Journey, Week 2



PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason, not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

Why is it important to practice appreciating the life we have?

1. Write a list of ALL the people and things you are thankful for.
2. Make a list of things you've always wanted to do.
3. Photograph memories; try taking one photo per day.
4. Talk to your loved ones.

Who is Alexander the Great?

How does reverse psychology work?

Why does singing make you happy?

What is Ramadan?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

sarled	lousy	annoying	swill	faintest
encrusted	adjusted	emerged	grunt	insisted
grateful	superior	soiled	patience	flicker
dwindled	urn	sloshing	realized	grant
uncomfortable	complain	flung	foolish	jutted

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far.

- Mention the setting and main character.
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it.

Read Read the selection.

Read p. 55-100

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline.

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why.
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Courage Chart

Start a Courage Chart. Title the chart “Courage”. During this unit, write examples of courage from the novel.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Postcard

Write a postcard from Parvana to her father. What do you think she would tell him? Ask him?

Venn Diagram

In what ways are Parvana and Asif alike and different?

4g6: Character Profile Chart

Create a Character Profile Chart of Parvana or Asif

Song

Create a song to help you forget that you are hungry, tired, cold, or just uncomfortable.

Open Mind Portrait

Parvana doesn't want to steal eggs. How do her thoughts and feelings shift? Write her conflicting thoughts and feelings in two different colored pens.

Sketch

Draw what you think Green Valley looks like.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 55-61)

1. In what ways are Asif and Parvana helping each other?
2. What did Parvana find on Asif's back?

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3. What do you think caused those marks?
4. Predict how Asif got scares on his back?
5. What would happen if you did not show for years?
6. What do you think the crutches symbolize?
7. Why do you think Asif is so angry?
8. What does Parvana miss about the way her live use to be?

Key Questions (p. 62-70)

1. List three reasons why the cave is a good shelter.
2. How do Alexander the Great and Father's books have in common?
3. What do Parvana and Asif say they will each do with their part of the treasure?
4. Do you think there is any symbolism in the fact that the boy with only one legs doesn't want to stop moving?
5. Why does Parvana want a house?
6. What part of the house is Parvana missing the most?
7. What do you think bullets symbolize?
8. Why do you think someone would bury bullets?
9. In what ways can bullets be valuable?

Key Questions (p. 71-77)

1. Does Parvana really want Asif to go with her?
2. What was Asif reason for deciding to travel with Parvana?
3. What were some of the underlying motives behind Asif wanting to go with Parvana?
4. What challenges would a disable person face while traveling during a time of war?
5. Why couldn't Parvana leave Asif behind?
6. Rice and bullets were spilled on the ground, why was the rice more important to pick up.
7. What are the challenges of traveling with three people?
8. What are the benefits of traveling with three people?
9. How might it be particularly difficult to travel with Hassan and Asif?

Key Questions (p. 78-89)

1. Why does Asif drink the water last?
2. Predict what happened to Asif's family.
3. What do you think Parvana would wish for if she had three wishes?
4. Why are Parvana and Asif more willing to trust children than adults?
5. What does the village man make Parvana do for food?
6. Does the man treat the children well?
7. What is he afraid of?
8. Does stealing the eggs have any ill effect if he hadn't seen them anyway?
9. How does singing help ease the fear and uncomfortable circumstance?

Key Questions (p. 90-100)

1. What did Parvana's father mean by, "if we stop, we die" ?
2. What does Parvana have to remember about pond water? Why is it important?
3. Describe Hassan's conditions?
4. What do you think Hassan would say if he could talk?
5. Why does Parvana have to wash Hassan's clothes all the time?
6. Describe the Green Valley.
7. What power does Green Valley have for Parvana?
8. What are land mines?
9. What impact did the juxtaposition of this paradise called Green Valley and the mine exploding have on you as a reader?

EXTEND

Write Write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Key Paragraph, p. 61

"It's hard to remember that I used to sleep in a bed and had to do homework before I could watch television and play with my friends. It's hard to remember that we used to have ice cream and cakes to eat. Was that really me? Did I really leave a big piece of cake on my plate one day because I didn't feel like eating it? That must have been a dream. That couldn't have been my life" (p. 61).

Writing Prompt

Before conditions got so bad, Parvana had many luxuries that she took for granted. Imagine you were suddenly living in a war zone with Parvana, Hassan, and Asif. **Write a letter to your family describing your living conditions. Explain what you might have taken for granted (food, shelter, hot water, TV, etc.).**

Key Paragraph, p. 66

"'Horses,' he answered. 'I'll buy lots of horses, fast ones. I'll ride and ride, and when the horse I'm riding gets tired, I'll buy another one, then another. I'll never have to stop moving'" (p. 66).

Writing Prompt

Describe how Parvana's story compares to the factual story of Alexander the Great. **Explain what part is factual and what is fiction. Why do you think the author mentioned this person in history? How does it relate to Parvana's story? Use the Internet to gather information about Alexander the Great.**

Key Paragraph, p. 77

"Dear Shauzia: I hate it when I make things worse. Why do I behave so badly? Why can't I be nice?" (p. 77).

Writing Prompt

Describe the turning point between Parvana and Asif. **Explain how they went from being unkind to each other to deciding to continue their journey together. What happened first, second, and third?**

Key Paragraph, p. 86

“But she couldn’t do it. Her father would not be proud of her if she stole. They were often hungry when they were traveling together, and although the opportunity to steal came up, her father wouldn’t hear of it. ‘Our bellies would be full tonight,’ he would say, ‘but could we live with ourselves in the morning?’” (p. 86).

Writing Prompt

Parvana is in a bit of a dilemma about whether or not to take the eggs. **Describe what would have happened to Parvana if she was caught taking the eggs. What would happen to her? Asif and Hassan? How would this punishment change the rest of her life?**

How is this scene different from when she was gathering pots and things from the bombed out town to help her and Hassan survive?

Key Paragraph, p. 97-98

“Green Valley is full of food....Maybe Asif’s leg will even grow back” (read entire passage p. 97-98).

Writing Prompt

Describe the Green Valley and all of its riches. **In 1-2 paragraphs write about your own “Green Valley.” Where is it located? What foods are of unlimited supply? Who lives there? What does everyone do?**

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Parvana's Journey, Week 3



PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason, not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

What are landmines?

What is proper hygiene? What are ways to maintain proper hygiene?

What are worms and parasites? Research how they impact human health.

How are elderly people treated around the world? Research Korean, Japanese, the U.S., the U.K., France, Mediterranean, and Latin cultures for how they treat their elderly.

What are the 5 stages of coping with death?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

shielded	subsided	stunned	sluggish	bangles
rusty	peddler	thermos	flask	hobbled
carcass	fetches	forehead	realize	wiggling
tattered	debris	vibrate	writhed	clamped
landscape	entwining	vowed	mimic	satisfied

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far.

- Mention the setting and main character.
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it.

Read Read the selection.

Read p. 101-147

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline.

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- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Courage Chart

Start a Courage Chart. Title the chart “Courage”. During this unit, write examples of courage from the novel.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Prop

If you were going to make this chapter into a one act play, what props would be essential and why?

Recipe

Create a recipe for pigeon soup. What are all the ingredients? What are the cooking directions? Draw a picture of the soup.

2g6: Beginning-Middle-End Chart

Walk through the events of the chapter, especially noting improvements to Green Valley.

Open Mind Portrait

Create an OMP of Leila’s grandmother.

Poster

How do you envision the minefield? How is it like a spider’s web? Draw the scene as you see it in your mind’s eye.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 101-111)

1. Why isn’t Leila afraid of the landmines?
2. Why does Leila talk so much?
3. What is wrong with her grandmother?
4. Provide two examples that show Leila is not afraid of death.

5. How long has Leila been alone?
6. What does Leila feed them?
7. Why do you think Leila buries some of the stew?
8. What do you think happened to Leila's mother?
9. How has Leila been resourceful?

Key Questions (p. 112-117)

1. Why do you think Leila is not bothered by death?
2. What are Leila's treasures?
3. How does Leila and the landmines symbolize a spider and spider's web?
4. How are Leila and Parvana dreamers?
5. In what ways are people who aren't related to us still our 'brothers and sisters'?
6. What do you think Parvana finds comforting here?
7. Does Asif really want to stay?
8. What were some of the motives behind Parvana's decision to stay?

Key Questions (p. 118-128)

1. How did Leila get worms in her sore?
2. Why is hygiene so important?
3. What is a latrine?
4. What are the children doing to Green Valley?
5. What improvements have they made?
6. How does it feel for Parvana when Asif assumes control sometimes?
7. How is she getting better at appreciating his unique gifts?
8. What has happened to Asif's family?
9. How did Asif get the scares on his back?
10. How long do you think they have been living in Green Valley?

Key Questions (p. 129-138)

1. In what ways do Leila and Parvana take care of Grandmother?
2. How does she respond to the sunshine?
3. What does Parvana vow to do?
4. Why won't the war reach Green Valley?
5. Why does Parvana insist that the grandmother go outside?
6. What changes do you see in Grandma in this chapter?
7. How are elders and babies similar?
8. Why would her father be pleased with her actions?

Key Questions (p. 139-147)

1. Why do you think Leila feels bad about killing the pigeons?
2. In what ways is it ironic that the minefield provides them with food?
3. Can you think of a better solution in getting the goat from the minefield?
4. How would you answer Leila when she asks questions about war and dead children?
5. What did the dinner party, flowers, and singing represent?

6. What would happen if Parvana let Leila grab Grandma?
7. Why do you think it was only a matter of time until their paradise was destroyed?
8. Predict what will happen next?

EXTEND

Write Write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Key Paragraph, p. 110

"Leila talked non-stop as she put some food on a plate, lifted her grandmother's head cover a little and placed the plate underneath it. Parvana watched closely. Eventually she saw slow movements under the cover as the old woman lifted morsels of food from her plate to her mouth" (p. 110).

Writing Prompt

In two narrative paragraphs, explain why Leila is a hero and how has she displayed courage. Provide three examples of Leila's courage. How has she lived for purposes greater than herself? How is she selfless?

Key Paragraph, p. 115

"'Let's be sisters,' she said. Being sisters sounded fine to Parvana.
'All right. We'll be sisters.'
'Can your brothers be my brothers?'
'You mean Asif and Hassan? They're not my brothers. We sort of just found each other.'
'That makes them your brothers,' Leila said" (p. 115).

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are Asif and write a letter to your family telling them you are safe and staying at a girl's house. Describe Parvana, Hassan, Leila, and her grandmother. Describe the surrounding environment using a quote from this chapter.

Key Paragraph, p. 120

"'I can take over,' Parvana said.
'Why? We don't need you.' Asif finished with the worms and gently dabbed at the wound with a cloth soaked in hot water. 'You need to keep your face clean,' he said to Leila. 'In fact, you need to keep your whole self clean'" (p. 120).

Writing Prompt

In two narrative paragraphs, describe how Asif taking on more and more responsibility? How does it feel to Parvana not to be the only one 'in charge' anymore?

Explain how it can be challenging when there are two strong leaders? How do Parvana and Asif manage that? Is she getting better at appreciating his unique

gifts? *In what ways does it take courage to let someone else lead when you are used to leading?*

Key Paragraph, p. 138

“‘I have a present for you, Grandmother,’ Parvana said, sliding the book onto the mattress. She placed the old woman’s hand on the book’s cover. ‘It’s a book, for your very own. And I will teach you how to read it’” (p. 138).

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are Grandma. **From her point of view, write 2-3 narrative paragraphs to describe the changes of the house. Explain the changes of the outside and inside of the house. How has everyone become more hygienic and clean? How has the food become healthier? Describe the new routines and rules the children have created. Include 2-3 reflective sentences about Parvana’s gift.**

Key Paragraph, p. 143

“They each took hold of one of the dead goat’s legs and dragged it back across the minefield. Parvana thought again about a spider snatching a fly that flew into its web” (p. 143).

Writing Prompt

It is very ironic that the minefield—something so violent—is their source of food. We don’t often think about it, but when we eat, something has to die in order for us to eat it. This is the cycle of life.

In two explanatory paragraphs, describe how the minefield has been like a spider’s web for the children? Include the sequence of events that must take place in order for them to eat. What steps must take place first, second, and third?

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Parvana's Journey, Week 4



PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason, not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

Why did the author reference the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* in this chapter?

What are Internally displaced persons (IDPs)?

What is malnutrition?

What is emergency food aid?

How do people find peace in tough times?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

mockingbird	reassuring	sluggish	concentrate	cringed
recover	yanks	craters	agony	huddling
lavender	filtered	hovering	malnutrition	dehydration
surged	convoy	shawl	jostled	comforting
clinic	nanny	eventually	organized	eased

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

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- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it.

Read Read the selection.

Read p. 148-197

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline.

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Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Courage Chart

Start a Courage Chart. Title the chart “Courage”. During this unit, write examples of courage from the novel. Finish the Courage Chart. Write 1-2 paragraph reflection on the examples of courage from Parvana’s Journey.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Rap

Create a rap to keep your spirits up in such dire circumstances. What would you need to remind yourself of? What would take your mind off of things?

Sequel

Before we get to the end of the book, write an ending. How would *you* end the book?

Flipbook

Create a flipbook of Leila shouting at the airplanes.

Orchard Drawing

Using the orchard description, draw out what the orchard looks like. Find images of orchards on the web to help create the drawing.

Open Mind Portrait

A lot is happening in this chapter, between losing Leila and finding her mother. What do you think Parvana is thinking and feeling?

K-W-L

After reading the book and the Author’s note at the end, what questions do you still have about Afghanistan and what is currently going on there? Perhaps this would be a great opportunity to do a bit of personal research online or in the newspapers to find out the current situation in Afghanistan.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 148-157)

1. What would you do in their situation?
2. How would you decide which way to walk?
3. Explain why eating was normal.
4. List two reasons why Leila was crying.
5. What would you do for food?
6. Would you have eaten the book just to try it?
7. How is life more difficult for Hassan?
8. What happened when Parvana tried to clean Hassan? What were the challenges?
9. Why would the author use the book "To Kill A Mockingbird" in this story?
10. Explain why it was a good idea to follow the stream.

Key Questions (p. 158-170)

1. What would it be like to be surrounded by bombing day and night?
2. How are the children dealing with it?
3. Is Leila still angry?
4. How has Leila changed in this chapter?
5. What does she now understand?
6. How does Parvana help Leila cheer up instead of being sad about her grandma?
7. Why didn't the family help?
8. What kind of relief do you think the children had when they saw the camp?
9. Without using words, what do you think Parvana was telling the women under the Burqa?

Key Questions (p. 171-180)

1. Why is it positive or good to see other people? How does survival become more competitive?
2. Describe the scene after the bomb hit the ground. How does it make you feel? How does Parvana feel?
3. Why is keeping hope important?
4. How does Asif help Parvana keep home in his own way?
5. How would it feel to wait in line for food all day and then have them run out by the time you were in front?
6. Why doesn't the nurse give everyone blankets and food?
7. Why would it be dangerous to tell others of receiving special privileges?
8. Why would the enemy bomb medical supplies?
9. Explain Parvana's argument that she should be the one to get the food.

Key Questions (p. 181-189)

1. How are conditions getting worse?
2. Why would some men want Parvana to cover up?
3. Describe the people living in the refugee camp.
4. What are examples of desperation?
5. How do you think people felt when the food was dropped?

6. Why was it dangerous to get food?
7. Why did Leila race into the field?
8. What misperceptions did she have about her own safety?
9. How do you think people would have reacted if Leila was able to bring back the food?
10. How did Parvana recognize her mother?

Key Questions (p. 190-197)

1. Why did Parvana place rocks over Leila's grave?
2. What happened to Ali?
3. Why was Mother in the medical clinic?
4. What do Mother and Nooria do in the camp? How is it courageous?
5. Why does Parvana think complaining a good thing?
6. Who is bombing Afghanistan?
7. How did Asif decide to stay with Parvana's family?
8. Predict what will happen next? What do you think happened to Shauzia?
9. What does Parvana have to be thankful for?

EXTEND

Write Write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Key Paragraph, p. 157

"If it doesn't matter where we go, why don't we follow the stream?' Leila suggested. 'At least we'll have something to drink that way.' Parvana sat up and looked at the girl with admiration.

'At least one of us is thinking,' she said...

'There are some trees up this way,' Asif said. 'Maybe we'll find something to eat'" (p. 157).

Writing Prompt

Describe the children's new plan. How did they decide on this plan? What were the pros and cons? Explain why it is courageous for Parvana to travel without being covered.

Or

Describe the similarities between *Parvana's Journey* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Use the background information provided and previous knowledge of the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird*. How do both books use children characters to explore good and evil?

Key Paragraph, p. 168

"Parvana would never know how she found the strength. She picked Leila up and ran with her to the side of the road, then lay on top of her to keep her from rushing out again. Her free hand found Asif's. They stayed like that until the planes finished their bombing" (p. 168).

Writing Prompt

Under extraordinary circumstances, many people find extraordinary strength. **In two paragraphs, explain Parvana's strength in the beginning of the novel and in the last few chapters. Use transitional words to describe Parvana's growth. Where do you think she found the strength? Does everyone have this kind of emotional and physical strength?**

Key Paragraph, p. 179

"She looked out the flap of the lean-to. Inches away was the neighbor's tent. The man and his wife were arguing loudly in a language Parvana didn't understand. Is this it? She wondered. Have I come so far, just to be here? Is this really my life?" (p. 179).

Writing Prompt

In what way does reading this novel help you appreciate what you have? The novel is written based on factual accounts. **Pretend you are a foreign aid worker in the refugee camp and write a three-paragraph letter to your family about your helping people during the war. Describe the bombs, starvation, lack of hygiene and so forth. Provide one quote from this chapter.**

Key Paragraph, p. 184

"'There's lots more parcels over there,' Leila said, pointing toward the minefield. 'They look like flowers.' Parvana looked. The field was dotted with yellow" (p. 184).

Writing Prompt

In 2-3 paragraphs, describe the important events at the end of this chapter. What happened first, second, and third? Explain why Leila thought she would be sage in the land mine. Conclude your second paragraph with a reflection of Leila's death.

Key Paragraph, p. 196

"The Taliban militia, an Afghan army, took control of the capital city of Kabul in September 1996. They imposed extremely restrictive laws on girls and women. Schools for girls were closed down, women were no longer allowed to hold jobs, and strict dress codes were enforced. Books were burned, televisions smashed, and music in any form was forbidden" (p. 196).

Writing Prompt

After reading the Author's note, reflect on your reaction to the situation in Afghanistan. Use technology, including the Internet, to support that the events in "Parvana's Journey" are based on history and facts. **In one paragraph, describe one event that took place in the novel (landmines, children of war, refugee camps, bombings in Afghanistan). In a second paragraph, support your description of the event using your Internet search findings.**