

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 1-3**  
**Reading Comprehension**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why does Jess get up early?

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2. Why did the lower-grade boys start running?

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3. What has Jess been known as ever since first grade?

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4. How do Ellie and Brenda get five dollars from their mother?

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5. Why does Jess resent being called lazy?

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6. What does Jess like to draw?

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7. Which two people does he share his drawings with?

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8. What happens on Friday afternoons?

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9. What can May Belle do when their father comes home that Jess can't?

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10. Who interrupts Jess's morning run?

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11. Why does Leslie stand out on the first day of school?

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12. When does Mrs. Myers smile?

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13. Who organizes the running at recess?

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14. How does Leslie end up running?

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15. Who wins the heat when Jess runs?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 1-3**  
**Vocabulary**

**Find these vocabulary words as they appear in the text. Write the definition that matches the usage in the text.**

despise

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puny

---

nauseatingly

---

hippie

---

autoharp

---

peacenik

---

pandemonium

---

hypocritical

---

allotted

---

proverbial

---

cagey

---

postpone

---

quiver

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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
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**Chapters 1-3**  
**Writing**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. How do Jess's parents have different expectations for him than they do for his sisters? Is this fair?

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2. Why do you think Jess enjoys Friday afternoons so much?

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3. If Jess had known the consequence of having Leslie run, do you think he would still have stood up for her? Why or why not?

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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
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**Chapters 4-6**  
**Reading Comprehension**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why isn't running fun anymore?

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2. What causes Jess to smile at Leslie?

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3. Why did Leslie's parents move to the old farm?

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4. How does Jess react to Leslie's composition on scuba diving?

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5. Why can't Leslie complete the homework assignment?

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6. How does Leslie convince May Belle to leave her and Jess alone?

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7. What do Jess and Leslie create in the woods?

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8. How does Jess learn how things are in a magic kingdom?

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9. What does Leslie do during class when she's looking so angelic?

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10. Why doesn't Jess say much in front of Leslie's parents?

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11. What does Jess compare to the stillness in the pine forest?

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12. How do Jess and Leslie get even with Janice Avery?

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13. How does Leslie distract the teacher while Jess plants the note?

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14. What do Jess and Leslie give each other for Christmas?

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15. Why is Jess happy to milk the cow on Christmas?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
by Katherine Paterson  
Chapters 4-6  
Vocabulary

Find these vocabulary words as they appear in the text. Write the definition that matches the usage in the text.

melodic

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prissily

---

consolidated

---

ominously

---

gully

---

intoxicated

---

vigorously

---

siege

---

stronghold

---

insufficiencies

---

tyrant

---

verge

---

exhilaration

---

regicide

---

parapets

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 4-6**  
**Writing**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why do you think Jess and Leslie become friends?

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2. How are Leslie's family and Jess's family different? How are they the same?

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3. Why do you think the other students feel so strongly about Leslie not having a TV?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 7-9**  
**Reading Comprehension**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why don't Jess and Leslie go to Terabithia on the weekends?

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2. Why doesn't Leslie mind?

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3. Why does Jess mind, and what is Leslie's solution?

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4. What helps make Jess more comfortable around Bill?

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5. What must Jess and Leslie do when they return to Terabithia?

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6. Who is crying in the girls' bathroom, and why does Jess make Leslie talk to her?

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7. Why was she crying?

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8. What advice does Leslie give?

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9. What has May Belle found out?

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10. What does Jess threaten her with to keep her quiet?

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11. Why might the family not get new clothes for Easter?

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12. Why does Leslie want to go to church with the Aarons?

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13. Why does she enjoy it?

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14. Why does Jess become afraid of crossing the creek to Terabithia?

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15. What does Leslie think is causing the rain, and what solution does she propose?

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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
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**Chapters 7-9**  
**Vocabulary**

**Find these vocabulary words as they appear in the text. Write the definition that matches the usage in the text.**

garish

\_\_\_\_\_

romp

\_\_\_\_\_

dregs

\_\_\_\_\_

foe

\_\_\_\_\_

utterly

\_\_\_\_\_

alcove

\_\_\_\_\_

smirk

\_\_\_\_\_

vile

\_\_\_\_\_

sassy

\_\_\_\_\_

complacent

\_\_\_\_\_

flounce

\_\_\_\_\_

sodden

\_\_\_\_\_

sporadically

\_\_\_\_\_

vanquished

\_\_\_\_\_

beseech

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 7-9**  
**Writing**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why do you think Jess comes to enjoy spending time at the Burkes'?

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2. How is Jess's impression of church different from Leslie's?

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3. Why is Jess so disgusted with himself for being afraid of the creek?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 10-13**  
**Reading Comprehension**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why does Miss Edmunds call Jess?

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2. Why doesn't he want his mother to wake up all the way?

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3. What occurs to Jess on the drive?

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4. How does Miss Edmunds deal with lunch?

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5. How does Jess react to the miniature scene of Indians and buffalo?

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6. When he gets home, how does Jess know that something is wrong?

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7. What happened to Leslie?

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8. Why does he feel like he must keep running?

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9. What does his father do when he finds him?

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10. How do his sisters think he should be acting?

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11. What does he do with his paints?

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12. What offering does Jess make in Terabithia?

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13. How does Jess help May Belle?

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14. How does Mrs. Myers surprise Jess?

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15. What does Jess build?

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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 10-13**  
**Vocabulary**

**Find these vocabulary words as they appear in the text. Write the definition that matches the usage in the text.**

kinship

---

relentlessly

---

hurtling

---

dredge

---

cremated

---

piteously

---

commend

---

rhythmic

---

mourning

---

mob

---

gully

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Bridge to Terabithia***  
**by Katherine Paterson**  
**Chapters 10-13**  
**Writing**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. Why do you think Jess feels stranded?

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2. Why do you think Jess finds it hard to believe what has happened to Leslie?

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3. What does Jess learn about being afraid?

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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
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**ANSWERS**

**Chapters 1-3**

1. To run.
2. Because the older boys take all the balls at recess.
3. "That crazy little kid that draws all the time."
4. By telling her that their father promised it to them.
5. Because he gets stuck with all the chores when the girls leave.
6. Crazy animals with problems.
7. May Belle and Miss Edmunds.
8. A half-hour of music with Miss Edmunds.
9. Jump in his truck and hug and kiss him.
10. Leslie, the girl who moved in next door.
11. She's dressed in a t-shirt and cutoffs while the others are in their Sunday best.
12. The first and last days of school.
13. Gary Fulcher.
14. Jess dares him to let a girl run.
15. Leslie.

**Chapters 4-6**

1. Because Leslie always wins, and most boys have stopped trying.
  2. He catches her eye during music class and realizes there's no reason not to.
  3. They felt too hooked on money and success and wanted to think about what's important.
  4. He feels like he's being pulled under the water with her.
  5. Her family doesn't have a TV.
  6. By giving her a new set of paper dolls.
  7. A secret magic country that can only be reached by swinging across on the rope.
  8. From Leslie and the Narnia books.
  9. She imagines elaborate stories that she tells Jess at recess.
  10. He's afraid he'll sound dumb.
  11. The sound the moment Miss Edmunds has finished playing a song.
  12. They write her a fake love letter from the most popular boy in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
  13. She says she found a nest and wants to know what animal it belongs to.
  14. Jess gives Leslie a puppy; she gives him art supplies.
  15. It gives him an excuse to stop trying to make his new racing-car set work.
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***Bridge to Terabithia***  
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**ANSWERS**

**Chapters 7-9**

1. Leslie is helping her father fix up the house, and Jess doesn't enjoy it on his own.
2. She's happy helping her father and learning to understand him.
3. He doesn't think parents should try to be friends with their children and misses Leslie's company; her solution is for Jess to join in the fixing-up.
4. Knowing things about the work that Bill doesn't.
5. They must drive out the forces that have taken over during their absence.
6. Janice; because if she were an animal predator, Leslie would want to help.
7. Her friends told everyone at school that Janice's father beats her.
8. To pretend that her friends' story is a lie.
9. Where Jess and Leslie go.
10. He threatens to tell her friend that she still wets the bed.
11. Because Jess's father lost his job.
12. She's never been and it would be a new experience.
13. Because she thinks the Easter story is beautiful, like Lincoln or Socrates or Aslan.
14. The rain has caused the creek to rise to the top of the gully.
15. She thinks there is a curse on Terabithia; she asks the spirits of the grove to help them overcome it.

**Chapters 10-13**

1. To invite him to drive to Washington with her.
  2. Because if she's awake, she'll probably say no.
  3. That he could have asked if Leslie could come, too.
  4. She buys Jess's, saying she's a liberated woman who pays when she invites a man out.
  5. He feels a frightening kinship with it; it reminds him of his drawings.
  6. His family is sitting at the table, not eating and with the TV off.
  7. She died when the rope broke and she fell into the creek.
  8. He feels like it is the only thing that will keep her from being dead.
  9. Carries him like a baby to the truck.
  10. Crying or more upset, not eating.
  11. Throws them in the creek.
  12. A funeral wreath.
  13. He helps her across the branch when she gets stuck in the middle.
  14. She is sympathetic and tells him about when her husband died.
  15. A bridge across the gully.
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