# BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA Student Worksheet

# A. Story Details

## 1. What are Jess' passions?

- a. football and soccer
- b. Running and drawing
- c. writing and swimming

#### 2. How many brothers and sisters does Leslie have?

- a. three
- b. four
- c. none

#### 3. What was Leslie's essay about that she reads to the class?

- a. mountain climbing
- b. scuba diving
- c. snorkeling

## 4. Jess's little sister's name is \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Mary Ann
- b. May Belle
- c. Melissa

#### 5. What does Leslie give Jess for his birthday?

- a. markers
- b. crayons
- c. paints

#### 6. What is the giant troll's weakness?

- a. It is ticklish
- b. It likes candy
- c. It has a secret sadness

#### 7. What do Leslie's parents' do (what is their profession/job)?

- a. writers
- b. teachers
- c. painters

#### 8. Leslie tells Jess to keep his eyes shut and his mind \_\_\_\_\_

### 9. How do you get to Terabithia?

- a. Swing on a rope
- b. Climb under the house



c. Go out in a field

#### 10. All of the kids in the class laugh at Leslie because

- a. she looks like a boy
- b. she has no television
- c. she is the best writer in the class

### 11. Who takes Jess to the Museum in the city?

- a. his mom and dad
- b. Ms. Edmunds
- c. Janice Avery

#### 12. What color do the Burkes paint their living room walls?

- a. green
- b. gold
- c. white
- 13. How do Jess and Leslie "get back" at Janice (the girl bully) after she steals May Belle's Twinkies?
- 14. Why does Jess believe the tragedy is all his fault?

#### 15. What are the words that Jess puts on the sign over the bridge that leads to Terabithia?

- a. Nothing Crushes Us
- b. Forever Leslie
- c. Welcome to Terabithia

## **B. Quotations** - Which character says each of the following (and to whom?)

- 1 "Got a dollar?"
- 2 "Have you ever heard the story about the trolls who live under the bridges and collect tolls from unlucky travelers??"
- 3 "If any of you try to download an essay off of the internet, you will be downloaded into detention."
- 4 "You are dead meat!"
- 5 "Get your head out of the clouds and do what I say."
- 6 "You're supposed to beat her up, you're my brother!!"
- 7 "The best prize that life offers is to work hard at work worth doing."
- 8 "Mind like yours wide open, you could create a whole new world."



Ms. Edmunds & Jess at the museum

- 9 "Don't you dare follow us or I will tell that you still suck your thumb and sleep with Mr. Blankie."
- 10 "It's not your fault, Jess."

# **C. Vocabulary (Idioms)** - Choose the correct meaning of the underlined idioms. The context from the movie may help you.

## 1) <u>to pick on</u> (someone) Context: *Jess' Mom:* Girls, stop <u>picking on</u> your brother and eat your breakfast

- a. unfairly choose one person to tease and be mean to.
- b. Play with (someone)
- c. Hit (someone)

## 2) "<u>I rest my case</u>"

Context: Leslie: My dad says that TV kills your brain cells Classmate: Your Dad doesn't know anything. We watch TV every day. Leslie: <u>I rest my case.</u>

- a. My point is now proven because of what you just said.
- b. I give up. You win.

#### 3) to make (something) up

Context: Jess [talking about the Scuba essay]: I <u>made it up.</u> It's different than lying.

- a. Imagine (something)
- b. Put make up on (something)
- c. Build (something)
- d. Did (something)

#### 4) to <u>be all over</u> (someone)

Context: *Leslie:* [to Jess, after the bully throws ketchup on her on the bus] Can I clean up at your house? If my mom sees this, she'll <u>be all over</u> the principal and everybody.

- a. be very angry with (someone)
- b. visit (someone)
- c. apologize to (someone)

#### 5) to make (someone's) day

Context: Ms. Edmunds [to Jess when he helps her carry some boxes]: You just made my day

- a. do something to make (someone)happy
- b. Bother (someone)
- c. Greet (someone)in the morning

#### 6) <u>To stand up to</u> (someone)

Context: A girl who can <u>stand up to</u> a giant troll should not be afraid of a dumb 8th grader.

- a. To be afraid of/ mistreated by
- b. To not be afraid of/refuse to accept unfair treatment from
- c. To protect (someone)

# **D. Speech reductions** - Look at the underlined reductions. What are the full expressions?

- 1. "Get outta here!"
- 2. "I'm gonna eat my Twinkies, not lose <u>'em."</u>
- 3. "I don't wanna tell you."

# E. Think and Discuss

1) How do each of the following people try to comfort Jess after the tragedy occurs? In your opinion, who is the most comforting to him?

- a. His parents \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Leslie's father \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Mrs. Myers \_\_\_\_\_
- d. The bus driver \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Janice Avery \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Review the passage from Leslie's essay. Her topic is scuba diving, but can you find other meanings?

I'm moving gently forward ... floating in silence .. above me there is nothing but shimmery light, the place where I have come from, and where I will go back to when I am done here... I don't have as much time as I would like to see everything, but that is what makes it so special.

3) Discuss the different things that happen with the school bullies. How do Jess and Leslie change in their relationship with the bullies?

# **E.** Personal Reflections

- 1) Did you enjoy the movie? A little, somewhat, or a lot? Why or why not?
- 2) What was the best part?
- 3) Was there anything you did not understand, or didn't like at all?
- 4) What were the main messages of the movie?
- 5) Would you like to read the original book?
- 6) Describe a place that was special to you when you were young. Explain why it was so special. Did you share that place with anyone?
- 7) Have you ever experienced a sudden loss, as Jess did in the film? How did you manage?

# **References** – for more information about the movie and the book:

- Bridge to Terabithia Official Disney website: <u>http://disney.go.com/disneyvideos/liveaction/bridgetoterabithia/</u>
- <u>http://www.movietome.com/people/169359/josh-</u> <u>hutcherson/trivia.html</u>



#### BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA Student Worksheet ANSWER KEY

#### A. Story Details

1. 2. 3.	c b	9. a 10. b 11. b	14.	because he didn't invite her to the museum,
4. 5.	c	<ul><li>12. b</li><li>13. they write her a</li></ul>		so he wasn't there to protect
6. 7. 8.		fake love note from a popular boy in her class.	15.	her. a

#### **B.** Quotations

- 1. the girl bully, Janice Avery
- 2. Leslie says that to Janice Avery when Janice tries to make her pay to use the bathroom
- 3. the writing teacher (mrs. Myers)
- 4. the boy bully, and also some of the creatures at Terabithia
- 5. Jess' father
- 6. May Belle says it to Jess after the bully takes her Twinkie
- 7. Leslie's father says it to Jess, then Jess says it to his own father.
- 8. first, Leslie to Jess, then, Ms. Edmunds to jess, then Jess to may Belle
- 9. Jess to May Belle
- 10. Jess' father to Jess

#### C. Idioms

- 1. a
- 2. a
- 3. a
- 4. a
- 5. a 6. b
- **D.** Speech Reductions 1. out of 2. going to 3. want to

#### E. Think and Discuss (answers may vary)

#### 1. people comforting Jess -

- a. his parents do his chores for him. Also his father goes to Terabithia to find him and tell him it is not his fault
- b. Leslie's father tells him that he was the best friend she ever had
- c. Mrs. Myers tells about when her husband died.
- d. The bus driver says he is sorry (and looks very sad)
- e. Janice Avery is nice to him on the bus
- Leslie's essay it could also be about life and what happens when we die. She talks about the "shimmery light" where she has come from and where she will return that could be God or heaven. "I don't have as much time as I would like" it means life is short, and also it is a clue about her short life. "that makes it so special" explains when life is so special for Leslie but also for all of us.
- 3. <u>school bullies</u> at first they are both afraid of them. Then because they have learned to master the monsters in Terabithia, they are able to "stand up to them." And also "get back" at them. Finally, they make friends with Janice Avery and learn that she is mean sometimes because her father is mean to her but also that she is nice.

## **F. Personal Reaction** – Answers will vary

**Trivia** (minor details about the film and the people in the film) http://www.movietome.com/people/169359/josh-hutcherson/trivia.html

- This movie was filmed in \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Australia
  - b. The United States
  - c. New Zealand
  - d. Ireland

✤ It took \_\_\_\_\_\_ to film Bridge to Terabithia

- e. 2 months
- f. 6 months
- g. One year
- h. Two years
- ✤ At first, the actor who plays Jess Josh Hutcherson, did not want to be in the movie because he didn't like how Jess treated his younger sister May Belle. Josh felt that the character cruel to the little girl.
- $\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ In the scene where Jess says to May Belle, "Don't you dare follow us, or I'll tell Alexandra that you still suck your thumb and sleep with Mr. Blankie!" This line really upset young actress Bailee Madison (May Belle). At the time, she still sucked her thumb and slept with a baby blanket, and she thought that Josh was making fun of her. When Josh discovered this, he felt really bad about it.
- \* The author of the book, Katherine Paterson, wrote the story to help her young son, whose best friend was suddenly killed by lightning.