



RUNNING PRESS KIDS STUDY GUIDE

Lexile Measure: 680L
Created by Joie Formando



THE BATTLE OF JUNK MOUNTAIN *by Lauren Abbey Greenberg*

Take a look at the cover - what are some of the objects Shayne is carrying? Would you consider any of these things to be “junk?” What’s your definition of “junk” and how is it different from what your parents and friends see as “junk?”

CHAPTERS 1-4

1. Shayne spends every summer with her best friend, Poppy on Cedar Island. Do you have a summer vacation spot? If not, describe your ideal summer vacation. What would make it “the best summer ever?”
2. Draw a picture of Bea’s Junk Mountain. What kind of items would you find among her piles of “stuff?”
3. Poppy gets a job right at the start of summer and Shayne’s grandmother has also returned to waitressing, which would leave Shayne by herself for long stretches of time. How do you think Shayne is feeling?
4. Shayne is prepared to help Bea sort through her treasures in preparation for the flea market, but does it seem like her grandmother is prepared? Do you think she’s avoiding this project?
5. The author gives us a few clues about Cranky’s family. What do we already know about them?
6. Shayne tidied up one section of the couch and her grandmother magically put all of her junk right back. Using the descriptions of what the inside of Bea’s house looks like, predict how long it will take Shayne to get everything ready for the flea market.
7. Why do you think Shayne’s grandmother is having a hard time getting rid of her “treasures?”

CHAPTERS 5-10

1. Shayne’s first day on the job is a bit of a disaster. Write about an embarrassing moment you have experienced. What happened? How did you feel afterwards? Did you have someone like Gio around to make you feel less embarrassed?
2. “It gets me thinking. If I lost everything in a fire, maybe I’d be cranky, too.” We’re slowly learning more things about the new neighbor. Predict a few other reasons why Cranky is so cranky!
3. What do you think is hiding in Linc’s blue cloth?
4. What do you know about Devil’s Den at Gettysburg? Look up three facts about the battle.
5. Why do you think Bea was unable to sell her treasures? Why did she purchase even more things at the Flea Market?
6. Have you even been to a flea market or a yard sale? Describe some of the items you found.

CHAPTERS 11-15

1. Have you even been given a job that you absolutely did not want to do? What was it and why was it so terrible? How do you think Shayne’s first day with Cranky will go?

2. “Nothing good ever comes from rumors.” (p.86) What do you think the author means by this? Think of a time when you heard a rumor about someone. Did you spread that rumor? What happens when rumors spread?

CHAPTERS 16-20

1. Have you ever lost something valuable? How do you think Linc must be feeling?

2. Shayne’s friendship with Poppy is changing. Have you ever experienced a change like this with one of your friends? What was that like? What advice would you give Shayne?

CHAPTERS 21-25

1. Shayne’s Civil War bullets were worth one whole dollar. If you had a metal detector, where would you go to look for treasures? Write a short story about your adventure - what did you find? How long did it take you to find it? Tell the treasure’s story!

CHAPTERS 26-30

1. “Change sucks,” I blurt.

Linc wipes the grit from his hands as he stands. “Sometimes. But sometimes it can surprise you in a good way.”
In what ways do you think change is a good thing?

2. Have you ever had an argument with a friend? Do you think Shayne and Poppy should still be friends after their fight?

CHAPTERS 31-34

1. How was change a good thing in *The Battle of Junk Mountain*?

2. What do you think will happen to Shayne’s summers in Thomas Cove? Will Bea still have too many treasures? Will she still see Poppy?

3. In what ways would this story be different if it were told from another character’s perspective? Bea? Poppy? Linc?

4. In one sentence, what has Shayne learned by the end of *The Battle of Junk Mountain*?

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

CHAPTERS 1 - 4 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1

CHAPTERS 5 - 10 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.7
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1

CHAPTERS 11 - 15 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.7
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1

CHAPTERS 16 - 20 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.7

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3

CHAPTERS 21 - 25 ASSIGNMENT:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3

CHAPTERS 26 - 30 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1

CHAPTERS 31 - 34 QUESTIONS:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.9
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.3

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