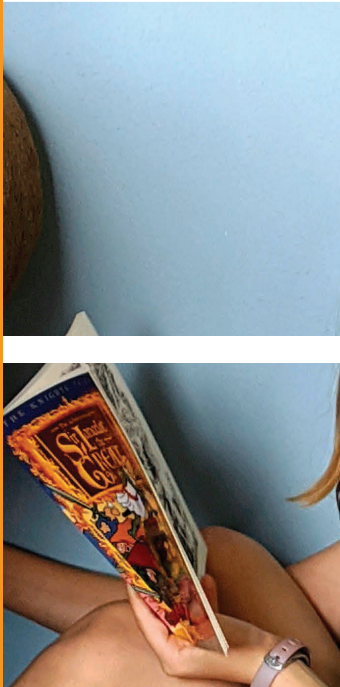


5 READERS

READERS GUIDE



The H. family, Sonlighters from Walnut Springs, TX



Reading (5-Day)

Reading for Content

Grade 5 Readers Schedule — Book List

How to Use This Guide

Place each week's schedule page behind the correct week's tab in your HBL Instructor's Guide. We provide a schedule because we believe beginning readers should read each day.

In this guide, you'll find general comprehension questions by chapter, cultural literacy notes, and map assignments for books where appropriate.

The cultural literacy notes add depth and context to the stories and help your children develop what E. D. Hirsch calls "cultural literacy"—a knowledge of those things children must know in order to be appropriately conversant about subjects they may encounter throughout their lives. You can find these terms in the notes under the heading "Vocabulary."

For instance, students read about "wigwams" in our Level D book *The Courage of Sarah Noble*. We explain what a wigwam is so you can share with your children. This adds a layer of understanding to your children.

If you think we've asked a particularly picky question, *please feel free to skip it!* To learn to answer questions is a skill your children will use. ■

*Train up a child in the way he
should go, And when he is old he
will not depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV)

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Week 1

Date:	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
The Candymakers	Pt. 1: Logan, chap. 1	chap. 2	chap. 3	chap. 4	chaps. 5–6

Things You Should Know

Q: What is the setting of the book?

A: *the Life is Sweet candy factory, for a candy making contest*

Day 1	Part 1: Logan, Chapter 1
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Cultural Literacy

nougat: is an aerated candy made from whipped egg whites and a boiled sugar syrup, much like marshmallows. It nearly always contains roasted nuts like almonds, walnuts, hazelnuts, and pistachios, and often candied fruit.

dumbwaiter: a small freight elevator specifically used for food.

To Discuss After You Read

Q: How does Logan begin his day?

A: *he smells candy and thinks about things he is grateful for*

Q: Why did Logan not have much experience with other children?

A: *no one lives near him, children don't come to the factory, and he is homeschooled*

Q: Why does Logan worry that he won't be a good candy maker?

A: *while he is exceptional at ingredients to include and their tastes, he couldn't follow a recipe, couldn't multiply, and he wasn't sure he could create a new candy*

Day 2	Chapter 2
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Cultural Literacy

tempering: to heat and cool chocolate to create a glossy smooth product.

panning: to place a food in a rotating drum with chocolate to coat it.

enrobing: to cover in chocolate.

To Discuss After You Read

Q: Why are the four children together?

A: *to prepare for a candy-making contest; the children will have access to all the supplies and expertise of the factory*

Q: What do you think Logan's quote from his mother means—"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares?"

A: *possibly--that we should let others into our lives because even those different from us might be exactly who we need to know*

Day 3	Chapter 3
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To Discuss After You Read

Q: Philip mocks Logan for wanting to work with the sapodilla tree when he is the heir to the entire candy factory. Have you thought about things you're interested in? How might you go about choosing what you want to do as a career? [chap. 3]

A: *answers will vary*

Q: Logan thinks to himself that "(H)is top priority, of course, was to create something that would bring people joy. But his motives weren't entirely unselfish either." What does he mean? Is it possible to have unselfish motives?

A: *he wants to create a good enough candy to follow in his dad and grandfather's footsteps and to prove that he is worthy of running the company one day; it is hard to be- have totally unselfishly; Jesus might have been the world's only successful person to do so*

Q: Why do the children tour the factory?

A: *to see where the ingredients come from that were used in the candy*

Day 4	Chapter 4
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Cultural Literacy

chrysalis: a phase in the life of a moth or butterfly, when the caterpillar encases itself in a case and transforms into a moth or butterfly.

paleontologist: one who studies fossils (often dinosaur bones).

To Discuss After You Read

"When his grandfather left a few years ago for that special part of heaven reserved for people who have made other people's lives sweeter..." The author holds a common misconception that nice people will go to heaven.

Q: A candy maker asks, "And what a nobler calling is there than inventing a new way to make people happy?" While candy may make people happy, other noble callings can include, bringing justice, mercy, and kindness, or teaching truth, or raising the next generation of leaders, or providing for one's family. Can you think of other nobler callings?

A: *answers will vary*

Q: Do you agree with Logan that everyone is strange in some way? What could be some positives of being “strange,” or maybe, unique?

A: *answers will vary*

Q: Logan thought that “He’d have to quiet that voice in his head that told him he wasn’t smart enough” in order to win the contest. What do you think? Is he smart enough? Do we all need to quiet the voices in our heads that tell us we’re not good enough?

A: *he seems to know a lot about candy and how it’s made, with a good sense of what people like; probably*

To Discuss After You Read

Q: Does Philip’s plan to keep his candy a secret so that no one will steal it surprise you? [chap. 5]

A: *no, based on his character, he seems hardened, like one who will win at any cost*

Q: Who seems to be having the most fun? Philip? Or the others? [chap. 6]

A: *the others; who seem to be glad to have friends, and to try new things* ■

Week 2

Date:	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
The Candymakers	chap. 7	Pt. 2: Miles, chap. 1	chaps. 2–3	chap. 4	Pt. 3: Daisy, chap. 1

Day
6

Chapter 7

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: Logan says, “Well, if you enjoy life while you have it, then it doesn’t matter how long you have it for.” Is this a good rationale for length of life?
- A: *while we often miss people who die, for Christians death is a chance for a new life*
- Q: Miles says about books that you never know what you “Learn when you open one. And if it’s a story, you sort of fall not it. Then, you live there for awhile, instead of, you know, living here.” How would you explain how books impact you?
- A: *answers will vary*

Day
7

Part 2: Miles, Chapter 1

To Discuss After You Read

The author uses an interesting technique. She re-starts the story with each character.

Philip says, “There’s no such thing as the after-life. This is your only life.” People who believe in a naturalistic theory of evolution believe this.

- Q: What do you learn about Miles?
- A: *he loves to read, he is fascinated by the afterlife, he doesn’t seem to have many friends, he has nice parents, and entering the contest was a last minute idea*

Day
8

Chapters 2–3

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: Why does Miles want to become Logan’s friend? [chap. 2]
- A: *Logan radiates something that felt like goodness; he made Miles feel peaceful*
- Q: When Miles mentions “the Girl he couldn’t save,” does that help explain why he is interested in the afterlife? [chap. 2]
- A: *it seems to*
- Q: How does Miles use books? Does this seem like a reasonable way? [chap. 2]
- A: *to gain help; he opens 5 books in random ways and writes down a sentence from each—“He knew that sometime soon at least one of those sentences would help him in some mysterious way.”; no, books have themes and build arguments; one shouldn’t pull sentences out of context as that does not produce wisdom*

- Q: Why does Miles not like rowboats or bees? [chap. 2]
- A: *he was out boating with his parents when bees swarmed a shore; a girl ran into the lake to escape and then disappeared*
- Q: Miles says that Max looked at Logan with “fierce loyalty, genuine affection, sympathy, and concern.” That Logan seemed to live in a “well-protected cocoon,” and that Logan didn’t seem to notice his massive scars on his face and arms “like they didn’t even matter.” Do you think these thoughts are interlinked? [chap. 3]
- A: *probably, Logan hasn’t had a lot of people looking at him oddly and therefore seems un-troubled by his scars*
- Q: Do you think people’s scars, or handicaps, or differences matter? Do you think they should? [chap. 3]

Day
9

Chapter 4

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: Why did Miles carry a life jacket and what impact did that have on him?
- A: *to be able to save the next person he found drowning; it forced him to focus on the afterlife, and it “weighed him down;” “He wished he could be more like Logan, accepting what came his way as just another part of life.”*
- Q: Miles wonders if it was possible to live without worry that terrible things could happen to yourself or people you care about. Can worry save people?
- A: *not even a little bit*

Miles would look for signs—“If he was successful in creating the winning candy, he could make the girl live forever.” If Miles had a clearer understanding of the after-life, he wouldn’t need to use such wrong thinking to guide his life.

Day
10

Part 3: Daisy, Chapter 1

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: What is Daisy’s story?
- A: *she works as a spy as part of a spy family; she is in the candy factory to steal the secret ingredient, she doesn’t know her parents well, doesn’t know her real last name, she lives in a mansion with other spies, her one aborted mission was connected to Philip, another contestant* ■

Week 3

Date:	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15
The Candymakers	chap. 2	chap. 3	Pt. 4: Philip, chaps. 1–2	chap. 3	chap. 4

Day 11 Chapter 2

Cultural Literacy

brown nosing: to curry favor by “sucking up.”

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: Do you think Daisy likes her life?
 A: *yes and no; she loves spying and being on assignment, but she doesn't like being prepped, her handler, or reading background files*
- Q: “She'd (Daisy) been taught not to question the motives of the client. After all every story had two sides. Who was she to decide right from wrong?” What do you think? Should people do jobs just for the money?
 A: *answers will vary*

Day 12 Chapter 3

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: What hard decision does Daisy make and why does she do so?
 A: *to sabotage the secret ingredient so the thief will not win; she has never spoiled a job before; because she loves the people, their mission, and the food the factory makes*

Day 13 Part 4: Philip, Chapters 1–2

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: Why did Philip enter the contest? [chap. 1]
 A: *as revenge for getting kicked out of the factory years ago, to prove he could win a contest his brother hadn't already won; and “to get back at the kid for what he did to me”*
- Q: Why did Philip and Andrew win often? [chap. 1]
 A: *Andrew had written instructions “for cheating and lying his way through every contest he had participated in”*
- Q: Philip's brother claims, “the ends justified the means.” What does that mean? Do you agree? [chap. 1]
 A: *it doesn't matter how you behave as long as you achieve what you want; no, God's moral code tells us how to live*
- Q: Why did Philip think it was “Time to ramp up the obnoxiousness”? [chap. 2]
 A: *to keep the workers from remembering him; he needed privacy to cheat, and he didn't need any friends—“the more people dislike you, the more they stay away from you and the more you can get away with”*

- Q: What does Philip think about the other competitors? [chap. 2]
 A: *Daisy is pretty but not smart, Miles has no backbone and is spacey, Logan is spoiled, worshiped, and “a few cards short of a full deck”*

Day 14 Chapter 3

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: What lessons has Philip learned from his father and brother? Are these good lessons?
 A: *to win at all costs; that it's okay to use people; to lie, manipulate, and cheat are all okay as long as you win; no*
- Q: What surprising thing does Philip discover in the storage room?
 A: *a priceless violin, a Stradivarius*
- Q: What does Philip's dad plan to do?
 A: *steal the secret ingredient to put the company out of business so he can acquire (steal) it*
- Q: Based on what you know of Philip and his family, who would you prefer as a boss of the company you worked for?
 A: *under the Candymaker's leadership, the workers are happy, creative, and hardworking; Philip's dad would be less nice to work for (and good leadership in a company is important)*
- Q: What does Reggie do and why?
 A: *he brings Philip to the place where Philip's mother grew up, “Because your mother wanted more for you than she had. But not at a price. When she got sick she made him (Philip's father) promise to teach you boys about art and music and about being grateful for what you have, not just how to compete and make money.”*

Day 15 Chapter 4

To Discuss After You Read

- Q: What revelation does Philip have during his talk with Henry and what does it change?
 A: *he realizes he was never banned from the factory, that his father has pitted him against Logan, that he inadvertently caused Logan's burns, and he decides he wants to save the factory by winning*

Q: What deal does Philip make with his father?

A: *that if he won the contest, his father would drop his plans to take over the factory*

Q: "(Philip) chose a few screwdrivers and a pair of pliers. Usually he had these sorts of tools in his briefcase, since he never knew when breaking and entering would be necessary in the course of a contest..." "It wouldn't be the first time he'd sabotaged a competitor's project." What do these quotes tell you about Philip?

A: *that he could gladly cheat to win*

Q: "The end would justify the means, right?" We often hear this phrase. Should we behave wrongly to gain something? Does wrong behavior impact our soul?

A: *answers will vary* ■

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