

I SURVIVED

BOOK CLUB

Name: _____

I Survived Hurricane Katrina, 2005



LITERARY-ELEMENT ACTIVITY AND CONTEXT REVIEW

THEME: One of the themes of this book is learning to rely on yourself, also known as self-reliance. Answer the questions below to explore how the author develops this theme.

1. What do you think Akivo represents to Barry? Why is this important to him?

2. What happens to Barry's drawing of Akivo?

3. What does Barry learn about himself during the hurricane? How does he learn this?

4. How does Akivo look different when Barry draws him again in New York City? Why is this important?

CONTEXT REVIEW: Use the information at the back of the book to answer the questions below.

1. What happened when the levees failed?

2. Why were many people unable to evacuate New Orleans?

ANSWERS

LITERARY-ELEMENT ACTIVITIES:

THEME:

1. Akivo represents courage to Barry. This is important to him because he doesn't feel like he has courage.
2. It gets ruined inside Barry's house during the hurricane.
3. Barry learns that he does have courage, because he takes care of himself and Cruz.
4. Akivo now looks a little like Barry, which shows that Barry now thinks of himself as having courage.

CONTEXT REVIEW:

1. Billions of gallons of water gushed into New Orleans, causing flooding and trapping tens of thousands of people.
2. Many were unable to evacuate because they didn't have cars or couldn't afford the costs, or were too old or sick to make the trip.

GRAPHIC NOVEL QUESTIONS:

1. There is no one in the other lane. In other words, everyone is leaving New Orleans; only the Tuckers are heading back.
2. The illustrator uses a whole page to show the water coming into the house and knocking Barry off his feet because he wants readers to realize that it's an important moment in the story and to feel how scary it must have been for Barry.
3. The illustrator shows Barry and Cruz looking small and alone on the roof as they gaze out at the flooded neighborhood, which is how Barry is feeling—small and alone.