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Peter Pan

24 Chapters

Day 1-24

Q2 W09-W16

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 1: The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up

VOCABULARY Neverland, adults, lost boys, adventures

Peter Pan lived in Neverland where children stayed young forever. He could fly through the night sky and have exciting adventures every day. He fought pirates and played with mermaids and led the lost boys through the forest. Growing up meant leaving all of this behind and becoming serious and responsible. Peter had seen adults and found them dull and forgetful of what truly mattered. He refused to let that happen to himself no matter what anyone else said or thought.

★ **Peter Pan never wanted to grow up.**

THINK *Where did Peter Pan live?*

Chapter 2: Swords at Dawn

VOCABULARY adventure, wonder, growing, sword

Peter Pan knew exactly what growing up would take away from him forever. It would mean no more flying and no more midnight adventures across the rooftops of London. Adults had responsibilities and schedules and serious faces that Peter had no interest in at all. He preferred the smell of the Neverland sea and the sound of a sword fight at dawn every time. No warm bed or quiet life could ever compete with a sky full of stars and a good fight waiting. Peter had made his choice long ago and he had never once looked back with any regret.

★ **Peter Pan chose wonder and adventure over growing up.**

THINK *What would growing up take from Peter?*

Chapter 3: A Serious Choice

VOCABULARY wonder, responsibility, Neverland, adult

Most children dream about the day they will finally be old enough to make their own decisions. But Peter Pan looked at the adult world and saw nothing that he wanted or needed for himself. Adults had forgotten how to fly and how to play and how to believe in things that seemed impossible. They were too tired and too serious to notice the magic that was still all around them every day. Peter chose to remain in Neverland where every morning brought a completely new adventure waiting. He knew what his choice cost him and he made it anyway with his eyes completely open and clear.

★ **Peter Pan never wanted to grow up — he chose wonder over responsibility.**

THINK *What did most children dream about?*

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 4: The Girl Who Told Stories

VOCABULARY stories, brothers, pirates, Wendy

Wendy Darling was the eldest child in the Darling family in London. Every night she told her brothers John and Michael stories before they went to sleep. The stories were about pirates and fairies and magical islands far across the sea. Her brothers listened with shining eyes and begged her never to stop until morning. Wendy could make a cold dark bedroom feel like the deck of a ship in a storm. Every character she invented felt as real as anyone they had ever actually met. ★

Wendy loved telling stories.

THINK *Who were Wendy's brothers?*

Chapter 5: The Voice at the Window

VOCABULARY Peter, window, story, magic

Peter Pan came to the Darling house one night because he had heard something wonderful through the window. Wendy was telling her brothers a bedtime story about a brave boy who lived on a magical island. Peter had flown all over the world but had never heard anything that moved him quite like that story. He sat on the window ledge in the dark and listened without making a sound until she finished. The story made Neverland feel more real and more beautiful than living there had ever quite done. Peter knew immediately that he had found something more powerful than any fairy magic he had ever seen. ★ **Wendy told stories because they held the greatest magic.**

THINK *Why did Peter come to the Darling house?*

Chapter 6: Stories for the Lost Boys

VOCABULARY lost boys, stories, magic, powerful

In Neverland Wendy became the mother that the lost boys had always needed and never had before. Each night she tucked them into their underground beds and began the story that would carry them to sleep. She told them about brave children who did the right thing even when it was frightening and difficult. The lost boys had never had anyone who cared enough to shape their imaginations with beautiful words. Wendy understood that a story told at bedtime was a gift that would last far longer than morning. It would stay inside a child's mind and become part of how they understood the world around them. ★ **Wendy told stories because stories were the most powerful magic she knew.**

THINK *What did Wendy tell the lost boys each night?*

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 7: Fairy Dust

VOCABULARY fly, happy thoughts, fairy dust, Peter

Peter Pan stood on the Darling nursery window ledge and looked at the three children with bright eyes. Wendy and John and Michael all wanted to fly more than they had ever wanted anything in their lives. Peter told Tinker Bell to shake her golden dust over the children one by one very gently. The dust settled on their hair and their shoulders and sparkled softly in the lamplight of the room. Peter told them that fairy dust alone was not enough to lift a person off the ground and into the sky. You needed something inside your chest that was warm and full and completely without any heaviness. ★ **Happy thoughts help you fly.**

THINK Who shook the golden dust?

Chapter 8: Dust and Thoughts

VOCABULARY happy thought, flying, Peter, dust

The three Darling children stood in their nightclothes and looked up at the open window with wide eyes. Peter had explained that flying required two things and two things only — dust and the right kind of thinking. Tinker Bell circled the room crossly and shook her wings until golden dust covered all three children. Michael thought of his toy bear and his mother's goodnight kiss and lifted slowly off the nursery floor. Wendy thought of the stories she loved most and rose to join her brother at the level of the windowsill. John thought of a cricket match he had won and shot straight past both of them toward the open London sky. ★ **You only need happy thoughts and fairy dust to fly.**

THINK What two things did Peter say flying needed?

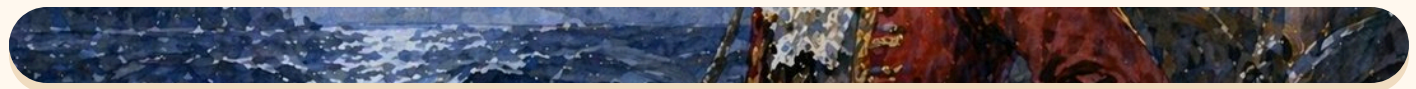
Chapter 9: Over the Rooftops

VOCABULARY fly, London, city, Wendy

That night three children left their bedroom and rose into the cold dark London sky above the rooftops. Wendy thought of the stories she loved and felt herself lift gently and steadily off the nursery floor. John thought of summer cricket and won examinations and joined her near the open window without hesitation. Little Michael thought of his stuffed bear and was suddenly higher than either of his older siblings combined. They flew over Big Ben and over the Thames and over the sleeping city spread out below them like a map. Peter led the way with Tinker Bell burning like a small bright star just a few feet ahead of them all. ★ **To fly, you only need happy thoughts — and just a little fairy dust.**

THINK What did the children fly over?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 10: Missing Mother

VOCABULARY Neverland, home, mother, Wendy

Wendy had wonderful adventures every single day during her time in Neverland with Peter. She told stories every night and helped the lost boys and swam with the mermaids in the lagoon. But as the weeks passed she began to think more and more often about the house in London. She thought about her mother's voice and her father's newspaper and the smell of her own room. She thought about the particular feeling of sleeping in a bed that belonged to her and only her. Neverland was extraordinary but it was not the place where she truly and deeply belonged. ★

Wendy knew home was important.

THINK What did Wendy miss?

Chapter 11: Peter Does Not Understand

VOCABULARY Neverland, home, wonderful, Wendy

Peter Pan could not understand at all why Wendy would ever want to leave Neverland behind her. He offered her more adventures and more pirates to defeat and more nights of storytelling under the stars. He said that London was cold and full of adults and that Neverland had everything anyone could ever want. Wendy listened carefully and agreed that Neverland was genuinely more exciting than almost anywhere else. But she also knew something with a quiet certainty that no amount of adventure could make her forget. A mother's worry and a father's goodnight could not be replaced by even the most magical island in existence. ★

Neverland was wonderful but Wendy knew home mattered most.

THINK What did Peter offer Wendy?

Chapter 12: The Last Night in Neverland

VOCABULARY home, known, Neverland, Peter

The night before Wendy left Neverland she sat with Peter for a long and quiet time under the stars. She tried to explain to him what it was that she was going back to London to find and hold onto. It was not just her bedroom or her mother's face or even the smell of familiar things in the morning. It was the particular feeling of being completely known by people who had always been there for her. Peter listened with his head tilted to one side but his eyes were already looking toward the next horizon. He would never quite understand what she meant and that was perhaps the saddest thing about him of all. ★

Neverland was perfect, but Wendy knew something Peter never did — home matters.

THINK Who sat under the stars?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 13: The Pirate Captain

VOCABULARY Hook, Peter Pan, hand, crew

Captain Hook was the most feared and the most dangerous pirate sailing the waters around Neverland. He wore a long dark coat and a wide hat and had a sharp iron hook where his right hand used to be. Peter Pan had cut that hand off in a sword fight long ago and thrown it to the waiting crocodile below. Hook had never forgotten that moment and had never stopped thinking about paying Peter back in full. Every single morning when he woke up his first thought was of Peter Pan and what was still owed to him. His crew was afraid of him because his anger never cooled down and his memory never faded even slightly. ★ Hook never forgave anyone.

THINK Who was the most feared pirate?

Chapter 14: A Memory Like Iron

VOCABULARY Hook, enemies, Peter, forgave

What made Captain Hook truly dangerous was not his iron hook or his sword or even his ruthless crew. It was the fact that he kept every insult and every defeat locked inside him like something precious and irreplaceable. Most people, after enough time has passed, allow their angers to soften and their grievances to fade away slowly. But Hook did not work that way and everyone who knew him understood this about him very clearly and very early. His obsession with Peter Pan had grown larger with each passing year rather than smaller as most obsessions do. A man who cannot release his grievances is a man who lets his worst moments control all of his best ones too. ★ Hook was dangerous because he never forgave his enemies.

THINK What made Hook dangerous?

Chapter 15: The List in His Mind

VOCABULARY Hook, Peter Pan, enemies, laughed

Captain Hook had fought many enemies in his long career as a pirate captain on the Neverland seas. He had beaten almost all of them, but the ones he had lost to he had never stopped thinking about. Peter Pan had beaten him again and again and had laughed each time as if it were all just a game. That laughter was the thing that Hook could not set aside no matter how many years went by after. His crew understood that the captain's mood could turn in an instant whenever Peter Pan was mentioned. To beat Hook was to make an enemy who would pursue you without rest until the very end of everything. ★ Hook was dangerous because he never forgot and never forgave anyone who beat him.

THINK Who beat Hook again and again?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 16: No One Left Behind

VOCABULARY lost boys, Peter, followed, brave

The lost boys had lived in Neverland for a long time before Wendy and her brothers arrived there. They had no parents and no home and no one to tell them bedtime stories or tuck them in at night. But they had Peter Pan and that had always been more than enough for them to get through each day. When Peter said to run they ran and when he said to fight they fought without asking any questions. He led them through dark forests and across open lagoons and right onto Captain Hook's own ship deck. None of them knew for certain they would survive but none of them thought for a moment about staying back. ★ **They followed Peter bravely.**

THINK What did the lost boys not have?

Chapter 17: Peter Gives Courage

VOCABULARY Peter, courage, lost boys, afraid

Before Peter Pan gathered them together each of the lost boys had been quite alone and very afraid. Neverland was beautiful and exciting but it was also genuinely dangerous in more ways than one. Pirates and wild animals and the unpredictable sea were not things small boys could manage on their own. Peter gave each boy a job and a name and a place in the group that only that boy could fill exactly. He spoke about them as if they were already the fiercest and the freest and the best of all possible boys. And because he said it with complete certainty and without any doubt, they began to believe it was actually true. ★ **The lost boys followed Peter because he gave them courage.**

THINK What were the boys before Peter?

Chapter 18: Brave and Free

VOCABULARY Peter, brave, free, lost boys

The lost boys had every reason to be frightened living in Neverland each and every dangerous day. Hook's pirates were always lurking nearby and the island had real dangers around every single corner. But when Peter was leading them none of those dangers felt as large as they actually and truly were. He ran toward trouble with a crowd of pure joy that made the boys want to run right there beside him. He told them constantly that they were the fiercest and the freest children anywhere in the whole world. Under his leadership even the most timid and uncertain boy found himself doing things he had thought impossible. ★ **The lost boys followed Peter because he made them feel brave and free.**

THINK What waited near the boys?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 19: Back to London

VOCABULARY Wendy, London, Neverland, magic

When Wendy and her brothers finally returned to London their parents held them close and wept. Everything in the house was exactly as they had left it and their rooms were waiting quietly for them. Life went quickly back to normal with school and mealtimes and proper bedtimes at the right hours. Wendy tried to describe Neverland to her classmates but the words came out sounding flat and ordinary. The feeling of flying and the smell of the sea were impossible to put into language that meant the same. As the weeks passed the sharp edges of her memories grew soft and less vivid every single day. ★ **Growing up means leaving magic behind.**

THINK Who held the children close?

Chapter 20: Jane Listens

VOCABULARY Wendy, daughter, stories, Neverland

Years after her return from Neverland, Wendy had grown up and had a daughter of her own named Jane. Jane listened to her mother's stories about Peter Pan and Tinker Bell with completely shining eyes. She asked the same questions Wendy had once asked and wanted the same adventures for herself too. Wendy realized while telling the stories that not all of Neverland had faded and disappeared from her. The magic had changed shape — it lived now in the stories she told and in her daughter's bright face. It was quieter and smaller than it had been but it was absolutely still there inside her after all. ★ **You leave Neverland when you grow up but keep its magic.**

THINK What was Wendy's daughter's name?

Chapter 21: The Window Opens Again

VOCABULARY Peter, Jane, window, Wendy

One night Peter Pan came back to the window just as Wendy had always secretly hoped he someday might. But it was not Wendy who heard him this time — it was her daughter Jane who was sitting up waiting. Wendy watched from across the darkened room as Jane flew away into the starlit London sky after him. She felt a small and unexpected ache that she had not quite prepared herself to feel that quiet night. But alongside the ache she also felt something warm — a gratitude for having flown when she had the chance. She understood at last that Neverland is not a place you stay but a place you carry away inside you always. ★ **Growing up means leaving Neverland — but you carry its magic inside forever.**

THINK Who heard Peter this time?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 22: Forever Young at Heart

VOCABULARY Peter, imagination, young, lost boys

Peter Pan had lived in Neverland for longer than anyone around him could clearly remember or count. He had never aged a single day and his eyes were still as bright and clear as they had ever been. He still crowed with pure delight when he won a fight and still laughed when things went against him. The lost boys around him grew taller each year and eventually left the island one by one for good. But Peter remained exactly and completely the same as he had always been from the very beginning. His secret was not the island's air or Tinker Bell's dust but something that lived entirely inside him. ★ **Imagination keeps us young.**

THINK What did Peter's eyes stay like?

Chapter 23: Grandmother Wendy

VOCABULARY Wendy, grandchildren, imagination, young

Wendy grew older as all children do and her hair slowly changed from brown to silver over the years. She had grandchildren now who sat at her feet each evening and begged for the old Neverland stories. Her body had aged but something in her voice had stayed exactly the same and completely unchanged. When she described flying over London her eyes brightened the way they had when she was only seven. When she talked about Peter Pan a smile arrived that belonged quite clearly to a much younger face. Her grandchildren asked why she looked so different when she was telling those particular stories. ★ **Imagination keeps us young no matter how old we are.**

THINK What changed in Wendy over the years?

Chapter 24: Why We Still Read Peter Pan

VOCABULARY Peter Pan, imagination, children, story

J.M. Barrie wrote Peter Pan more than one hundred years ago for some children he happened to know. But the story has never once stopped being read because it speaks to something that does not age with us. Every new generation of readers finds Peter Pan and recognizes something in him they do not want to lose. It is not the desire to avoid responsibility that draws readers back to this story again and again. It is the reminder that wonder and imagination are not things that must be surrendered along with childhood. They are daily choices — decisions to keep asking questions and to keep noticing the beauty of ordinary things. ★ **Peter Pan shows us that imagination keeps us young no matter how old we get.**

THINK When was Peter Pan written?